Arts Residency Grants Programme 2023 – 2024

FAQs

Eligibility

**Which organisation needs to be the lead partner?**

The lead applicant must be a Pakistan-based organisation. The lead applicant will be responsible for partnering with a UK entity and jointly submitting an application to apply for the grant

**Does the Pakistani partner need to be of Pakistani nationality?**

No – however, the applicant must be based in Pakistan and have a registered organisation in the same jurisdiction.

**Is it necessary to apply with a partner / collaborator in the UK?**

Yes - the proposal submitted must be co-developed by at least one Pakistan-based partner and one UK-based partner.

**What if I do not have any leads in the UK to collaborate and apply with?**

Applicants will need to partner with a UK-based collaborator and will have to identify and establish a partnership before submitting their application.

**Can I apply for this open call if I have previously received funds from the British Council?**

Yes - you can apply to this grant if it is distinct from any previous funding received from the British Council. You will need to include a brief about any current or previous funding from the British Council in your application. Please note, retrospective activity or costs are ineligible.

**Can I apply for this grant if I have recently applied for another British Council fund, but I haven’t heard back yet or was unsuccessful?**

Yes - you can apply for this open call if you haven’t heard back yet or have been unsuccessful. However, please note that you will not be able to receive funding for the same or a similar project from other British Council sources.

**If I work for more than one organisation, can I apply as a representative from both?**

No - we will only accept applications that demonstrate a partnership between one organisation in Pakistan and one organisation in the UK. You may choose which organisation you wish to represent in your application.

**Is there a maximum number of partners that can apply as part of one proposal?**

The proposal submitted must be co-developed by at least one lead Pakistan-based partner and one UK-based partner who will be contracted directly by the British Council. You can have additional partners in either country which you will need to list, detailing the different roles and expertise in the application. Please note, these additional partners can be subcontracted, work as consultants or external experts for the lead applicant in Pakistan and / or the UK applicant.

**As the Pakistani partner, do I need to have a registered organisation to apply?**

Yes - all organisations / companies must be registered and have a linked bank account and an active National Tax Number in Pakistan to apply for and be eligible for the grant.

**Proposals**

**Are we permitted to submit more than one proposal and apply for more than one grant?**

No - each applicant can submit only one application. However, organisations or individuals can be involved in more than one application as additional partners, not as lead grant recipients, as we will not be able to fund the same organisation more than once.

Can all art forms / practices apply?

Yes – grants are offered to applicants in all art forms: theatre, dance, visual arts, literature, film, music, design, fashion, architecture, craft, tech art and new media art. Partnerships across disciplines and organisations are encouraged, including new models of exchange between art, research, science and other fields.

Can British Council support with additional funding?

No - British Council will not be able to support with any additional funding.

Can British Council help with access related costs?

We want to ensure people with access needs (for example, those who have a physical disability or mental health condition) can apply. If you need the application in a different format, please contact us so we can find a practical solution. If it is not possible for you to complete a written application online, you can record your answers on video, upload the clips on a digital platform and share the links to these with us.

In case you or your collaborator require extra access costs for you to deliver your project, please include them in your application in the estimated budget as ‘access costs.’ Please note that we cannot increase the size of a grant once it has been awarded.

What if the residency project plans to work with those under 18 or with vulnerable adults?

In the application form you will be able to declare if your residency project is planning to work with these groups. If you plan to, you then can provide details such as age group, do they have special vulnerabilities, how do you plan to work with them etc. If your project is selected, we will run a webinar for you on how to complete a risk assessment, the British Council’s child protection policy, and our adults at risk policy. You will need to sign these documents. For further reading, please see the British Council’s statement on safeguarding. <https://www.britishcouncil.in/safeguarding-policy>.

**Budget**

The amount available is 30,000 GBP per grant only. This amount is inclusive of all applicable taxes and all costs. The proposed budget must clearly define the distribution of the grant between the Pakistan and UK partners as mutually decided at the time of planning of the residency project. Both partners are expected to comply by the latest and most applicable financial regulations of the countries / states in which they reside.

**What can I pay for with the grant?**

The grant can cover any costs that allow you to undertake your residency project. This can include staff and logistical costs, digital platform costs, materials and production costs, travel, expert fees, venues, data collection for evaluation, accessibility tools (translation, captions etc) promotion, website/portal design, social media engagement etc. It’s important that the budget is realistic for what you are proposing.

We also suggest that you include details of any in-kind support or any other external funding you may be receiving, such as someone waiving a fee, providing a cash donation, or giving you their time for free. This way we can get a clear idea of whether your budget is realistic.

**How many residency projects is the British Council funding through this open call?**

We intend to fund two to three residencies of up to 30,000 GBP each led by Pakistan-based organisations but co-developed and delivered with their UK counterparts.

**Does “inclusive of taxes” mean that the beneficiary must take care of any tax matters themselves and would not get extra money for this?**

Yes - we will provide the successful applicant 30000 GBP as a grant, inclusive of all applicable taxes. It is the responsibility of the applicants to cover any tax expenses, both in Pakistan and the UK. Please consider any such implications in your application and include them in your proposed budget.

**If the overall budget of the residency project exceeds the grant amount, should we show this in our application?**

Applicants with in-kind or matched support are welcome, although this is not essential. Where budgets are more than the available British Council grant, proposals must confirm on the application form how much additional funding is available (confirmed at the time of application submission) from which other external sources. Match funding cannot be provided through other British Council funded programmes. For budgets that exceed the grant amount, it is essential that you can cover the extra funds either through in-kind or cash contributions from your organisation or others. Please ensure this is mentioned in your proposed budget.

**Will the grant funds be transferred in GBP to Pakistani applicants?**

No - all successful Pakistan-based applicants will receive the grant funds in their local currency as stated in the budget submitted.

**Submissions**

How will my application be assessed?

Applications for grants will be evaluated by the Arts Residency Grants Programme selection panel. The panel will be constituted of internal and external experts across disciplines and art forms. The decision of the selection panel will be final.

**Can I get feedback if my application was unsuccessful?**

Unfortunately, due to the volume of applications we anticipate, we are unable to provide feedback to all applicants.

**Am I able to download the application form for my review? Can I save the form in the middle of my application?**

No - unfortunately, the platform on MS office forms doesn’t allow you to download or save your application. You may download the MS Word version of the form and save your responses offline before completing the form for your final submission.

**Webinar Clarification Questions**

**Could the applicant from Pakistan and / or the UK be either for profit or non-profit?**

Yes - you may be registered in any legal form in your country.

**Could the UK applicant be involved as a consulting partner or must carry out project activities as well?**

The UK partner does not need to carry out project activities. However, it is important to demonstrate what value the UK partner adds to the residency project in whatever capacity it is partnering. Equally, in keeping with the spirit of meaningful collaboration, how does the UK entity benefit from this work and / or the Pakistan partner.

**What are the reporting requirements for this grant?**

The reporting applicant will be required to agree on a structure with the British Council at the inception meeting. The main purpose for reporting is to support the project in its delivery and impact and manage any risks along the way. Regular check-ins will be arranged through the course of the project. At the end of the project, grantees will submit a detailed project report, including budget, impact (through feedback from artists, participants, communities, organisations and communications statistics), lessons learned and next steps. All assets created from the residency project will also be submitted so we can share them as part of the Arts Residency Grants Programme in the future.

**Will the grant be transferred from British Council Pakistan or UK?**

The grant will be transferred to the Pakistan lead applicant and the UK collaborator separately in their respective currencies based on the budget split between the two as detailed in the grant application.

**Is it necessary for the UK partner to take their share? Or can they continue to collaborate free of cost as well?**

Yes – if the application can demonstrate meaningful and reciprocal collaboration, the cost split is the prerogative of the collaborators. Please note that the UK partner will still be responsible for delivery of the residency project and will be expected to commit to this residency for its entirety.

**Is the grant paid out whole in advance, is it milestone based, or does it work on reimbursement basis?**

This will be confirmed at the time of contracting.

**What will the selection criteria for proposals be?**

A selection panel of internal and external experts will review applications competitively, bringing in viewpoints from Pakistan and the UK. We aim to have a diverse panel across disciplines and art forms.

Your application will be assessed on the following areas:

- Residency proposal with emphasis on clearly articulating the rationale for your residency

- Partnership and collaboration

- Methodology and approach

- Budget and timeline

- Impact and legacy

- Risk