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What is ACF Boost?

ACF Boost is a matched funding program for independent artists and small groups or arts organisations using the ACF to leverage private sector support through a matched funding 'boost'.

Artists can apply for matched funding of up to \$5,000.

The program is focused on projects that will be developed, produced and/or toured within Australia and gives preference to artists either residing/practicing in or touring work to bushfire and/or drought affected areas.

How much funding is available through ACF Boost?

ACF Boost offers dollar-for-dollar matched funding of up to \$5,000 for projects that will be developed, produced and/or toured within Australia by 30 June 2021.

Artists accepted into the ACF Boost program are required to run an ACF fundraising campaign and nominate a campaign target of between \$2,000 and \$5,000. ACF Boost will then match the funds raised through the campaign, dollar-for-dollar, up to the nominated campaign target.

What is the difference between my ACF campaign target and ACF Boost target?

Your ACF campaign target lets us know how much you are hoping to raise for your project. It must be between \$2,000 and \$5,000.

ACF Boost will match funds raised through your campaign, up to your nominated campaign target amount.

How do I choose my ACF campaign target?

Projects applying for ACF Boost must have a target between \$2,000 and \$5,000. That doesn't mean you should automatically choose \$5,000 as your target. It's important to find a balance between being ambitious and being realistic.

Your ACF campaign target should be set based on what funds you need to deliver your actual project. Think about your resources, networks and time; you will only have between four and six weeks to complete your fundraising campaign.

Have a look at our [blog](#) for some great tips and advice on how to set a campaign target that will work for you or get in touch with the ACF Manager to discuss your proposed campaign. Creative Partnerships Australia's State Managers are also available for free 1:1 consultations to discuss your fundraising strategy and campaign target. Find your State Manager and get in touch to arrange a consultation via the [Creative Partnerships Australia website](#).

I have exceeded my ACF campaign target – can I receive more ACF Boost funds?

Firstly, congratulations! It's quite a feat to exceed your campaign target, so take a moment to congratulate yourself.

If you exceed your target, get in touch with us and we will discuss options with you.

I haven't met my ACF campaign target – what happens now?

The ACF is not an all-or-nothing platform, so if you don't reach your target, you still receive the amount you raised, plus dollar-for-dollar matched funds from ACF Boost for the amount you raised.

Who is eligible to apply?

To be eligible for ACF Boost you must:

- Be a practising artist or group of artists or a not-for-profit arts or cultural organisation
- Be engaged in arts and cultural activities
- Plan to use the gift (funds) for the designated purposes
- Plan to use the gift (funds) within Australia or for the benefit of Australia
- Organisations must be a legally constituted not-for-profit body.
- Be an Australian Citizen or permanent resident
- Be aged 18 years or over
- Have an ABN and be prepared to receive project funds; OR have an agreement in place with an auspicing body
- Be using the program to fundraise for the creation, development, production or touring of a work within Australia
- Be prepared to run a fundraising campaign of at least four weeks, finishing on 31 May 2020, that aims to raise between \$2,000 and \$5,000
- Be prepared to complete the associated project by 30 June 2021.

What are the program timelines?

Applications open: Monday 16 March 2020 at 12.00pm AEDT

Applications close: Tuesday 31 March 2020 at 11.59pm AEDT

Assessment: Wednesday 1 April – Friday 17 April 2020

Applicants notified of the outcome of their submission: Friday 17 April 2020

Fundraising campaigns to finish: 31 May 2020 (*campaigns must run for a minimum of 4 weeks*)

ACF Grant Agreements distributed: early-mid June 2020

Countersigned ACF Grant Agreements due: 30 June 2020

Projects commence: no earlier than Monday 1 June 2020

Projects conclude: no later than 30 June 2021

Project Acquittal: due 30 days after the confirmed project end date

What are the assessment criteria?

Artists who meet the required eligibility criteria will be assessed on:

- Whether you are resident/practicing in or touring to a bushfire and/or drought affected area
- Demonstrated strategy to leverage matched funding as part of a wider fundraising campaign
- The impact of ACF Boost funds and program on ongoing artistic practice
- Outlined capacity to deliver the project as outlined
- Diversity of artform and location of project outcomes.

How do you assess if an artist is residing/practicing in or touring work to bushfire and/or drought affected areas?

As part of the application process, we ask artists to provide:

- The postcode for where they reside/practice their art
- The postcode/s of touring locations for their project (if applicable)

We will then use the ATO's list of [identified impacted postcodes](#), alongside a list of drought affected postcodes provided by the Drought Communities Program, to assess if the postcodes provided are within bushfire and/or drought affected areas.

What sort of preference will be given to artists in bushfire and/or drought affected areas?

Artists who identify as either residing/practicing in or touring work to bushfire and/or drought affected areas will receive points under one of the ACF Boost assessment criteria, based on the postcode information they supply.

Those artists will still need to fulfill the remaining eligibility and assessment criteria to qualify for ACF Boost.

Why are you giving preference to artists in bushfire and/or drought affected areas?

Creative Partnerships Australia recognises the devastating impact of the bushfire and drought crisis. We want to offer support to artists and practitioners in bushfire and drought affected areas who could benefit from the matched funding opportunity to create, develop and promote their work. Similarly, artists who are touring work to bushfire and/or drought affected areas will assist with the economic rehabilitation through industry and tourism dollars to bushfire and/or drought affected communities.

With both of those points in mind, ACF Boost is offering a preference to artists either residing/practicing in or touring to bushfire and/or drought affected areas, to assist with the building, rebuilding and promotion of creative industries in those communities.

Nonetheless, ACF Boost is open to applications from all over Australia. Whilst preference will be given to artists in bushfire and/or drought affected areas, all applications will be considered across multiple eligibility and assessment criteria.

Do I need to register on the ACF before I apply for ACF Boost?

No, you do not need to register on the ACF to apply for ACF Boost. If your application is successful, you will need to register an artist profile and a project page on the ACF prior to commencing your fundraising campaign. Both the artist profile and project page will need to be approved by ACF staff prior to going live.

I already have a project live on the ACF – can I apply for ACF Boost?

If you already have a project live on the ACF you can apply for ACF Boost, so long as:

- Your fundraising campaign finishes on 31 May 2020
- Your campaign target is between \$2,000 and \$5,000

Please keep in mind that you will only receive ACF Boost funds for the eligible fundraising period, and any funds raised prior to that will not be counted towards your matched funding total.

I am applying with my organisation's ABN; what information do you need to prove we are a not-for-profit?

If your organisation is registered as a Charity with the ACNC, we do not need any further information from you.

If you are a not-for-profit entity but have not registered with the ACNC, please supply some documentation that demonstrates you are running as a not-for-profit (e.g. your organisation's rules or constitution).

I have a project that will be completed outside Australia – can I apply for ACF Boost?

No, to be considered for ACF Boost you must be using the program to fundraise for the creation, development, production or touring of a work within Australia.

When will I find out if my application has been successful?

Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their submission on Friday 17 April 2020.

When can I start fundraising?

Applicants who are accepted into ACF Boost can start fundraising from as early as Monday 20 April, pending the following steps:

- They have returned a signed ACF Boost Terms and Conditions document outlining their obligations (sent upon notification of application outcome on Friday 17 April)
- They have registered an Artist profile on the ACF website, which has been approved by ACF staff
- They have registered a Project on the ACF website, which has been approved by ACF staff

Please read through our [First Timers Kit](#) for some further information around the ACF registration process.

ACF Boost fundraising campaigns must finish on 31 May 2020.

I'm new to fundraising. How can I learn more about creating a fundraising campaign?

We have a range of online resources to get your fundraising ready.

A great place to start is our [First Timers Kit](#) which has some helpful hints for first time fundraisers. It's also worth looking through the [ACF blog](#), which is packed full with FAQ videos, case studies, and fundraising resources to help you shape your campaign.

Creative Partnerships Australia's State Managers are also available for free 1:1 consultations to discuss your fundraising strategy. Find your State Manager and get in touch to arrange a consultation via the [Creative Partnerships Australia website](#).

When will I receive our ACF Boost funds?

ACF Boost project grant agreements will be issued in early to mid-June 2020. Artists will need to countersign their agreements by 30 June 2020.

As soon as you have countersigned your agreement, you can send us an invoice for the campaign funds. Upon receipt of your signed agreement and invoice, our terms of payment are 21 days.

If I am not successful, do I still need to run an ACF campaign?



No, you will not be required to run an ACF campaign if your application to ACF Boost is not successful. However, we encourage you to run your campaign with or without ACF Boost funding and will be available to assist you with resources and advice if you choose to do so.

Can I apply for ACF Boost but fundraise through a different crowdfunding platform?

No, all ACF Boost projects must complete their fundraising campaign on the ACF to be eligible for matched funds.

When does our fundraising campaign need to finish?

ACF Boost fundraising campaigns must finish on Sunday 31 May 2020.

Fundraising campaigns must run for at least 4 weeks (i.e. they must commence by Friday 1 May 2020). Campaigns can begin as early as Monday 20 April – please see [When can we start fundraising?](#) for further information.

When does our project need to be complete?

ACF Boost projects must be completed by the 30 June 2021, at the latest.

Do I need to complete a project acquittal?

Yes, all projects that run fundraising campaigns on the ACF are required to complete an [ACF acquittal](#).

Project acquittals are due 30 days after the confirmed project end date.

For more information, please contact the ACF at hello@australianculturalfund.org.au