

# ACF Boost 2024/2025

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## What is ACF Boost?

ACF Boost is a matched funding program for independent artists and small arts organisations using the ACF. Participants in the program leverage private sector support raised through their ACF campaign with a small, matched funding 'boost' from Creative Australia.

ACF Boost consists of matched micro-grants from \$2,000 to \$5,000 that are granted to artists and organisations using the ACF platform.

## 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 by 30 June 2025.

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.

Successful applicants are granted an additional \$1,000 at the commencement of their ACF Boost campaign to fund the development of fundraising activity and materials and support its success.

## 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 twelve 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 Team to discuss your proposed campaign.

## **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, applicants must meet the ACF's artist registration criteria:

- Be a practising artist or arts and cultural entity
- Be engaged in arts and cultural activities
- Use a grant via the Australian Cultural Fund within Australia or for the benefit of Australia
- Use a grant via the Australian Cultural Fund for the designated and stated purpose
- 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
- Be prepared to run a fundraising campaign of at least four weeks, finishing on 30 June 2024, that aims to raise between \$2,000 and \$5,000
- Be prepared to complete the associated project by 30 June 2025.

## **What are the program timelines?**

Applications open: **Monday 29 January 2024 at 12pm AEDT**

Applications close: **Monday 19 February 2024 at 11.59pm AEDT**

Assessment: **Monday 11 March – Friday 15 March 2024.**

Applicants notified of the outcome of their submission: **Friday 22 March 2024**

Fundraising campaigns to finish: **30 June 2024 (campaigns must run for a minimum of 4 weeks)**

ACF Grant payments distributed: **mid-late July 2024 (assuming grant agreement has been signed and bank details provided)**

Projects commence: **no earlier than Monday 1 July 2024**

Projects conclude: **no later than 30 June 2025**

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:

- 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
- ACF fundraising campaign feasibility and likelihood of success

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

Yes, applications for ACF Boost are done via filling out a new project form on the ACF platform. Applicants will first need to register a profile on the ACF [here](#), and then complete the online 'I want to start a new project' form.

Within the form applicants will need to tick the checkbox 'I would like this project to be considered for ACF Boost, a matched micro-grant program that is granted to artists and organisations using the ACF platform to fundraise for a project' and answer the additional question.

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 cannot apply for ACF Boost. Only projects submitted within the application window, Monday 29 January – February 19 2024, will be considered for Boost.

### **What kind of ABN do I need to have?**

We accept any ABN including sole trader, partnership, limited partnership, trust, proprietary limited, corporation and non-profit. If you are being auspiced, please enter the organisation's ABN when creating your ACF profile.

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

Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their submission on Friday 22 March 2024.

## When can I start fundraising?

Applicants who are accepted into ACF Boost can start fundraising from as early as Monday 1 April 2024, pending the following steps:

- 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

If you would like to start your fundraising campaign prior to 1 April 2024 and before you have been informed of the outcome your ACF Boost application, please get in touch with the ACF team and we will open your campaign early.

If your submission is successful, and you started fundraising before April 1 2024, funds up until this point will also be matched.

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

ACF Boost fundraising campaigns must finish on 30 June 2024.

## 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.

## When will I receive our ACF Boost funds?

ACF Boost project grant agreements will be issued in mid-late July 2024. Once issued, artists will need to sign the grant agreement and nominate their bank details – the funds will be transferred within 3-5 business days of this happening.

**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. The ACF is a 'keep what you raise platform' so there's nothing to lose!

If you would like to still run your campaign without ACF Boost funding, please get in touch with the ACF Team and we can make this live for you.

**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.

**Can I apply for ACF Boost more than once?**

No, you can only apply for ACF Boost for one project.

**When does our fundraising campaign need to finish?**

ACF Boost fundraising campaigns must finish on Sunday 30 June 2024.

Campaigns can begin as early as Monday 1 April – please see [When can we start fundraising?](#) for further information.

**When does the project need to be delivered?**

ACF Boost projects must be completed by the 30 June 2025, 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](mailto:hello@australianculturalfund.org.au)