Creative Roscommon Open Call 2026 Guidelines

What is Creative Ireland?

Creative Ireland is a national programme. It helps people enjoy and take part in culture and creativity.

The goal is to make creativity part of everyday life. This helps people and communities feel well and connected.

Creativity includes arts, heritage, language, technology, and more.

What does creativity mean?

Creativity means using imagination to make new ideas.

It is about learning skills and thinking in new ways.

Types of creative work we support

- Art and crafts
- Music, dance, theatre, comedy
- Film and design
- Literature and poetry
- History, folklore, storytelling
- Irish language
- Heritage and biodiversity
- Science, technology, engineering, maths
- Street art, circus, outdoor events

Creative Roscommon Grants 2026

We give grants to help communities and creative people work together.

Projects should be collaborative, innovative, and ambitious.

They should support the Roscommon Culture & Creativity Strategy 2023–2027.

Three Strands

1. **Community and Creative Collaboration** – Community groups and artists working together on creative projects. Individual creatives must work with a group or organisation.
2. **Creative Climate Action / Heritage / Biodiversity** – Projects looking creatively at Heritage (built and cultural), Biodiversity or Climate change (including pollution, sustainability, clean energy, helping nature and people adapt to changing weather).
3. **Outdoor Cultural Events** – Events in Roscommon outdoor spaces including Roscommon Square and Amphitheatre, Somers Park Castlerea, Boyle Pleasure Grounds and Grounds of King House.

   Events for Bealtaine (month of May), Cruinniú na nÓg (6th June), Culture Night (18th September), Heritage Week (dates), or Biodiversity Week (dates) are welcome if they fit the theme.

   Grants usually range from €1,000 to €5,000.

   All projects must involve community engagement and the work of creative practitioner(s).

Our Priorities

- Creative People – Support creative skills and networks.
- Creative Place – Celebrate creativity in communities.
- Creative Practice – Support community arts and professional development.
- Creative Partnership – Build strong partnerships for bigger impact.

Who can apply?

- Community groups, cultural organisations, venues, and not-for-profit groups.
- Artists and creatives (must work with a group).
- We welcome applications from everyone, including people from diverse backgrounds and creatives/groups whose first language is not English.

Important themes

- Inclusivity, equality, and cultural diversity.

- Sustainability – encourage creativity over consumption.
- Irish language promotion.

Selection Criteria

- How your project fits our priorities.
- How it engages the community.
- New and creative ideas.
- Your target audience.
- Your budget and other funding.
- Location (must be in Roscommon).
- Can you finish the project before the end of October 2026. Include supporting material about your work and your partners.

Funding Rules

- Grants are for cultural and creative projects only.
- Grants cannot pay for existing plans, equipment, or charity events.
- Grants are available up to €5,000. However, due to the high number of applications, it is likely that the average grant will be similar to last year, €1500.
- You must show the Creative Ireland and Roscommon County Council logos on all publicity.
- Successful applicants will get a Letter of Offer with conditions.
- Grants are paid on completion of the project, when we receive the necessary documentation.
- A list of funded projects will be on our website.

Before your project starts, you must show:

- Legal structure (e.g. CLG or group)
- Tax clearance and VAT registration (if needed)
- Insurance
- Child protection policy (if needed)
- Registration with Public Participation Network (PPN) – not a requirement but advised.

To claim your funding, after your project ends, you must send:

- A full report
- Photos, posters, or brochures
- Original invoices and receipts
- Consent forms for people in photos/videos

Payment will be by electronic transfer only.

Need more information?

See http://www.roscommoncoco.ie/en/Services/Community/Creative-Ireland/

Visit https://www.safetocreate.ie/ where you will find more information about the Safe to Create Dignity at Work programme which aims to impact change on the culture and practices of the arts sector in Ireland to provide safer working conditions for artists and arts workers

Roscommon County Council is committed to a policy to **Pay the Artist**. See The Arts Council Paying the Artist Policy for more information https://artscouncil.ie/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Paying-the-Artist-Policy.pdf