



Multicultural Arts Programme Grant (Ecosystem Development)

Contents

Section 1: Overview	2
Section 2: Eligibility	5
Section 3: Application and Assessment	8
Section 4: If you are awarded the MAP Grant (Ecosystem Development)	11
Annex A: What expenses can the MAP Grant (Ecosystem Development) support?	13

Document last updated: 13 July 2026

Section 1: Overview

What is the Multicultural Arts Programme Grant?

Funded by President's Challenge (PC) and Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth (MCCY), the Multicultural Arts Programme (MAP) Grant aims to support the **development and growth of multicultural artistic content and programmes** by a wide range of arts practitioners and organisations.

The MAP Grant will support **multicultural work and programmes grounded in a Singaporean identity**. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Artists who seek deeper engagement and mastery in one cultural tradition (monocultural), with efforts to cultivate audiences beyond the tradition;
- Artists who seek deeper engagement and mastery in a cultural tradition outside of what they are already practising;
- Work/programmes where artists weave elements from different cultures and traditions together on varying degrees of integration, ranging from:
 - Collaborations that reflect the elements of the different traditions distinctly (multicultural);
 - Creative integration between traditions (intercultural);
 - In-depth exchanges and forms of fusion (transcultural).

There are 2 funding categories for the MAP grant:

Category 1: Productions	This category supports the creation, production and presentation of quality, Singapore-made productions inspired by Singapore's multicultural traditions and identity.
Category 2: Ecosystem Development	This category supports the creation, development and/or execution of programmes that develop the multicultural arts ecosystem in Singapore.

What does the Multicultural Arts Programme Grant (Ecosystem Development) support?

The Multicultural Arts Programme Grant (Ecosystem Development) supports the **creation, development and/or execution of programmes** that develop the multicultural arts ecosystem in Singapore through capability development, research, dialogue and discourse. These programmes should aim to encourage spaces for experimentation and organic play, as well as facilitate continuous and sustainable knowledge production for Singapore's multicultural arts, especially for younger generations.

The grant supports the skills development of arts practitioners and organisations in Singapore's arts sector, **in areas of deep mastery of monocultural practices, explorations of cross-cultural practices and developing transcultural sensitivities, that contribute to knowledge building in Singapore's multicultural arts landscape**. This includes looking towards the region as a source of connection

and inspiration for Singapore's multicultural identity, to learn and understand the different ways of working within the region to enhance our own knowledge on how practitioners negotiate diverse cultural environments.

The grant supports the **creation, development and/or execution of programmes of up to 18 months** within Performing, Visual, Literary, or Multi-disciplinary art forms. This includes support for (but not limited to) creating, developing and/or executing the following:

- Creation and experimentation (e.g. Residencies, Incubation labs, Youth mentorship);
- Thought leadership platforms (e.g. Fellowships, Symposiums, Conferences);
- Research and documentation projects;
- Educational (i.e. Development of pedagogical materials, Teacher development);
- Festivals;
- Regional collaboration platforms.

Proposed programmes can take place in one of the following formats:

- Physical;
- Digital;
- Combination of physical and digital deliveries.

Programmes should have **sector wide impact**, and benefit practitioners in the arts sector. In-house training programmes organised by an organisation¹, that cater only to existing employees, will not be eligible.

For individuals, organisations and/or collectives looking to participate in professional training and skills development programmes², to deepen or learn another artform, please apply for the [NAC Capability Development Grant](#).

What is the level of funding under this scheme?

Funding is **up to 100% of a realistic budget, capped at \$300,000 per application**. Each applicant will be **capped at 2 applications per category** per financial year.

Funding will be determined based on assessment of the scale and complexity of the proposal, as well as the following factors:

- Merit of your submitted proposal and its potential impact developing multicultural arts in Singapore and abroad;
- Your track record and demonstrated ability and commitment to realise your ideas from development to execution;

¹ For programmes open for existing employees to participate, organisations must ensure that at least half of the participants are outside of the organisation (i.e. not employees). It should not be an in-house training programme.

² Professional training and skills development programmes such as workshops, masterclasses, seminars, conferences, competitions, mentorships, attachments, internships, traineeships, apprenticeships etc.

- A reasonable estimate of your budget³; and
- Availability of funds.

Applicants are to ensure that the application takes into account the full range of activities and support necessary for the successful creation, development and/or execution of the programme, as they will not be eligible for other NAC project grants (e.g. Market and Audience Development Grant, Capability Development Grant) and NAC administered grants (i.e. Tote Board Arts Fund and stART Fund), for the same project or components thereof.

³ The first step in preparing a good budget is to identify your project's needs and understand how much they would cost. We encourage you to work out a realistic budget that demonstrates your understanding of costs and needs. An unrealistic, over-inflated budget will not necessarily guarantee more funding and may have counter-productive effect of casting doubt on the soundness of your overall proposal.

Section 2: Eligibility

Who is the Multicultural Arts Programme Grant (Ecosystem Development) for?

The MAP Grant (Ecosystem Development) is open to:

1. Individuals who are Singapore Citizens or Permanent Residents (PR), residing in Singapore and actively contributing to the local arts sector⁴;
2. Organisations that are either registered with ACRA (including Non-Profit / Non-Government/ Community-based organisations / sole proprietorship / limited liability partnership (LLP) / Company Limited by Guarantee (CLG) / Private Limited Company) or a society with the Registry of Societies at the time of application, and are actively contributing to the local arts sector;
3. Collectives that must comprise members who are practitioners, of which majority of members are Singapore Citizens or PR⁵, who are actively contributing to the local arts sector.

Organisations supported under the Major Company Scheme, as well as agencies and companies under MCCY/NAC (including The Singapore Symphonia Company Limited, Singapore Chinese Orchestra, Arts House Group, National Gallery Singapore, Singapore Art Museum, Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre, Singapore Tyler Print Institute, The Esplanade Co Ltd), are eligible to apply for the grant.

Applicants should be able to clearly articulate the artistic intent of the project and/or engagement with members of the public. Applicants are encouraged to have the relevant artform training or experience to implement and complete the project satisfactorily.

Projects proposed by for-profit entities must have significant development benefits for Singaporean artists and bring high quality arts to audiences.

For **proposals that involve international or regional partners**, the lead applicant should be Singaporean or PR, and the programme must primarily benefit Singapore-based practitioners.

Who is not eligible to apply for the Multicultural Arts Programme Grant (Ecosystem Development)?

NAC will not be able to support your application if you:

1. Are an applicant

⁴ Applicants (individuals, collectives or organisations) should have experience organising arts activities over the past three years.

⁵ Collectives must nominate a member of the group to apply and take legal and financial responsibility on behalf of the collective.

- constituted for non-secular purposes;
- not operating within the arts sector⁶;

2. Are proposing a project that

- has already commenced⁷ prior to the time of application;
- does not have a clearly defined arts component, including projects primarily aimed at promoting religious causes;
- is an agreed programme under NAC's Major Company Scheme;
- is already funded under NAC Capability Development (CD) Grant, Market and Audience Development (MAD) Grant, Presentation and Participation (P&P) Grant, stART Fund and/or Tote Board Arts Fund;
- is held at a religious venue;
- involves collaborators constituted for non-secular purposes;
- is not intended for public consumption;
- is intended for fundraising purposes;

3. Have pending / outstanding

- evaluation reports on the use of previous grants from NAC;
- outstanding debts with NAC (you are eligible to apply once you have cleared your outstanding debts);

4. Are applying to organise the following activities

- Activities that do not involve or benefit practising artists or arts professionals;
- Tertiary education programmes that are subsidised by the Ministry of Education (i.e. NITEC, Higher NITEC, Diploma, Bachelor's Degree);
- Full-time degree programmes (i.e. Bachelor's Degree, Master's Degree or Doctorate). Individuals seeking support for such programmes should apply for NAC's Scholarships;
- Activities that are presented as part of the curriculum of a school or tertiary institution;
- Cost components of programmes that are already subsidised by Skills and Workforce Development Agency (SWDA).

The MAP Grant complements NAC's existing funding schemes to broaden support across the arts sector. MAP Grant recipients are not eligible for other NAC funding schemes for the same project, and projects already supported by NAC grant schemes will not be eligible for MAP grant support.

A note on Funding Guidelines

The NAC celebrates the diversity of expression and open, balanced dialogue in the arts. As a statutory body disbursing public funds in line with Government policies, NAC has to prioritise funding to proposals which do not:

⁶ The sub-sectors within the Arts sector include Literary Arts, Performing Arts (Dance, Music, Theatre) and Visual Arts.

⁷ The project's start date refers to the date of the first programme.

- Advocate or lobby for lifestyles seen as objectionable by the general public;
- Denigrate or debase a person, group or class of individuals on the basis of race or religion, or serve to create conflict or misunderstanding in our multicultural and multi-religious society;
- Undermine the authority or legitimacy of the government and public institutions or threaten the nation's security or stability.

Explanatory notes on provisions of NAC Funding

If there are international travel components in your application, please note that NAC only supports economy airfare for flights that are directly related to the completion of the project. Any travel or add-on charges not specifically linked to the project will not be supported.

- Please only indicate the cost for economy airfare in your budget proposal at the point of application.
- If you are opting or had opted for a higher class of travel, please indicate in the remarks column of the budget proposal template submitted to NAC at point of application and in the final budget template. Any top up for a higher class of travel is at your own expense.

Intellectual Property, Copyrights and Royalties

Applicants are to ensure that their projects do not infringe the Intellectual Property (IP) rights of others. For information on copyrights and royalties, please refer to the [Intellectual Property Office of Singapore \(IPOS\)](#) and the [Composers and Authors Society of Singapore \(COMPASS\)](#).

Section 3: Application and Assessment

How do you apply for the Multicultural Arts Programme Grant (Ecosystem Development)?

You will need to submit your application for the MAP Grant via the OurSG Grants Portal (OSG). The OSG can be accessed via the [NAC website](https://nac.gov.sg) or via <https://oursggrants.gov.sg>. To aid in your application, you may also wish to refer to the OSG FAQ page via <https://oursggrants.gov.sg/faq>.

The application will require you to submit the following information:

- ☐ Proposal template (template available for download within the OSG)
- ☐ Budget template (template available for download within the OSG)
- ☐ CV of key parties involved
- ☐ Samples of past programmes most relevant to your application

Please note that if any of the documents listed above are missing from your submission, your application will be considered incomplete and therefore unsuccessful.

When must you apply by?

The MAP Grant is open for application **once a year**. Please adhere to the key dates below:

Apply by	Notified by	For projects taking place on or after*
15 September 2026	30 December 2026	1 January 2027

All applications have to be submitted by 11.59pm on the closing date. **Late applications will not be accepted and will be deemed ineligible.**

Who can you contact if you have questions?

If you have any questions, or wish to discuss your applications in detail, please contact NAC at <https://www.nac.gov.sg/contact-us>.

What happens after you submit an application?

All applications will be rigorously assessed by NAC. You may be contacted if we need more information. In the event NAC requires further clarification, an email will be sent to you from the OSG, and you will need to log in and access your application on the OSG to respond to the request.

Your application will be assessed by a combination of internal and external assessors. External assessors comprise of industry advisors, experts and practitioners who will

evaluate eligible applications based on the given criteria. All proposals submitted to the Council will be treated in the strictest confidence. All assessors will be bound by non-disclosure agreements before reviewing your proposals.

How will your application be assessed?

Our assessment will be guided by the following criteria:

Assessment Criteria	Weightage
<u>Strength of Programme</u> • Quality and Relevance - Does the proposal clearly articulate proposed development objectives of the programme and the relevance to the arts sector? - Is the programme structured and rigorous? (e.g. selection criteria, learning objectives, tracking outcomes) - Do the key parties (e.g. organisers, trainers, partners) have expertise and networks to carry out the proposed programme? • Representation of Singaporean Multiculturalism and National Identity - To what extent is the cross-cultural collaboration in the project meaningful in creating content, and/or developing audiences (current and new)? - How strong is the project in articulating Singapore's multicultural identity? - How does the project strengthen Singapore's multicultural identity? - How does the project contribute to the development of Singapore's multicultural arts scene?	40%
<u>Ability to Meet Industry Gap</u> • To what extent does this programme benefit the wider development of Singapore's multicultural arts landscape and the general arts sector? • To what extent does this programme address the identified capability gaps or industry needs in Singapore's multicultural arts landscape? • Who are the programme's target participants? What are the skills, knowledge the programme will help them build? • Are there similar programmes out there? In what ways are this programme different and/or necessary?	40%
<u>Track Record and Capacity</u> • Track Record - Does the applicant have a positive track record, and the requisite skills and networks in executing similar projects?	20%

- Is the applicant collaborating with partner(s) of strong standing? - To what extent does the programme strengthen the applicant's practice and capacity as a professional working in the arts, especially in cross-cultural work? • Project Management Skills - Is the proposal well-planned, demonstrating deep and careful thought about the resources (financial or otherwise) needed to create the work and present it to a wider audience? - Does the applicant have the necessary experience, ability and expertise to execute the project? i.e. artistic expertise, production, project management, marketing, distribution - Does the applicant have a robust plan with realistic projections of income and expenditure; and good estimate on whether project can be delivered within budget?	
--	--

Section 4: If you are awarded the Multicultural Arts Programme Grant (Ecosystem Development)

If your application is successful, you will receive a **Letter of Award** via the OurSG Grants Portal with:

1. Terms & Conditions of the Grant
2. Deliverables as agreed by you and the NAC

The grant offer will be valid for two (2) weeks from the time the letter of award is sent out (unless NAC informs and states otherwise). If you do not accept the offer within this period of time, the offer will lapse.

Unsuccessful applicants will receive a **Letter of Notification** within the same period.

All appeals will have to be submitted in writing to NAC within 2 weeks of the notification of results.

How will you receive funding?

Your grant will be disbursed in 3 instalments as summarised in the table below. The grant will be credited to your or your organisation's recognised bank account via PayNow.

Based on the programme's timeline and key stages, NAC and the applicant will agree upon suitable milestones where funding may be released.

Grant Quantum	1st Instalment	2nd Instalment	3rd Instalment
Up to \$300,000	50% of grant quantum upon award and acceptance of grant	30% of grant quantum upon submission of mid-term report	Up to 20% of grant quantum upon successful completion of project and submission of Final Report and audited/ certified statement of accounts ⁸ .

How will NAC assess your progress?

An Account Manager will be assigned to awarded applicants and their projects, to understand the project progress and any changes.

⁸ For grants of \$100,000 and above, the Statement of Accounts will need to be independently audited by a public accountant registered with Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority (ACRA) or equivalent international body.

Depending on the structure and format of your programme, programme outcomes are likely to be **customised and tracked through a variety of methods**. The following lists some examples as a non-exhaustive guide:

1. Number of participants who completed the programme
2. Reports by Participants or their Mentors
3. Feedback Surveys to Participants or their Employers
 - a. % of participants who agree that the programme is relevant and useful for their area of work
 - b. % of mentors / employers who agree that the programme has been helpful in developing the participants professional abilities

	Report Submission
2 months from Mid-point of project	1. Mid-term Report Submission You will have to submit a mid-term report (template available for download on NAC website) to update on the progress of the project and highlight significant changes, if any. This will be customised according to your project, together with your account manager.
3 months from Project Completion	1. Final Report Submission Upon project completion, you will have to submit a Final Report (template available for download on NAC website) within three months of project completion. 2. Audited/ Certified Statement of Accounts For grants <u>below \$100,000</u>, the Statement of Accounts will need to be certified by an accountant registered with the Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants (ISCA) or equivalent international body. As part of the submission: • Proof of the accountant's registration with ISCA or any equivalent international body (e.g. ISCA Membership ID) must be provided. • For Chartered Accountants registered with an international body, documentary proof (e.g. certificate, screenshot of membership ID on the registry) must be provided. • Certification is to be done on the original budget form template submitted at point of application. For grants <u>\$100,000 and above</u>, the Statement of Accounts will need to be independently audited by a public accountant registered with Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority (ACRA) or equivalent international body.

Please log onto the OurSG Grants Portal to submit the above reports. To help you navigate the portal, you may refer to the user guide uploaded at <https://go.gov.sg/osg-user-guide>.

Annex A: What expenses can the MAP Grant (Ecosystem Development) support?

In general, NAC may support the following programme-related costs⁹:

- Costs to research and develop programme
- Fees for key parties¹⁰ involved in making the programme happen
- Programme costs, including material costs, facilities rental, travel, administration, marketing and programme documentation

1. For applicants planning to organise a programme

- **Trainer Fees**
This is applied when you/ your organisation engages an external trainer to deliver a structured programme.
- **Mentor Honorariums**
This is a token sum for you to engage a mentor who offers professional advice and guidance towards the learning outcomes of the activity or programme.
- **Logistics and Material Costs** of organising the programme
 - **Venue Costs**
This includes the cost of renting a space to conduct the activity or programme. However, we will not be able to support venue costs if you are conducting the activity or programme within your own space.
 - **Materials and Logistics Costs**
This includes cost of printing or purchasing materials for organising the training activity, as well as the cost of logistical setup if this is not already provided by the venue.
 - **Marketing Costs**
This includes the cost of preparing and distributing marketing materials for the activity or programme and should only be applied if the activity is open to participants from outside your organisation. It is not applicable to in-house training programmes that are only open to your own employees or members.
 - **Cost of additional manpower**
*This includes the cost of **additional** manpower (e.g. temporary staff, overtime pay, salary/fees for additional hours/project) to organise the activity or programme may be supportable. However, the MAP grant*

⁹ Cost components of the MAP (Ecosystem Development) programme activities should only be supported, insofar as they are critical for meeting the objectives that are outlined for the programme. NAC will not fund any additional activities or costs which do not clearly contribute to achieving the stated objectives.

¹⁰ Overheads/salaries will not be supportable costs.

cannot support the basic salaries of existing staff that are already being supported by NAC organisational funding. Do note that we may request proof of payment of salary / fees as a supporting document.

2. For Activities that are Overseas or Hiring Trainers Based Overseas

- **Return transport cost to and from location(s) of activity**
This can include items such as airfare, train tickets, ground transport or ferry tickets to travel to the location(s) of the activity or programme and back.
- **Cost of freight for required equipment to and from location of activity**
Only if freight is absolutely integral to the organising of the activity or programme.
- **Visas**
- **Travel Insurance**
- **Accommodation**
The maximum supportable duration is from the night before the start of the activity or programme to the night of the last day of the activity or programme. For example, if the programme starts on 2 December and ends on 5 December, accommodation for the night of 1 December to the night of 5 December is supportable. The night of 6 December will not be supportable.
- **Subsistence Allowance**

3. Non-qualifying Costs

- **Cost of Assets**¹¹ e.g. computer hardware, vehicle, furniture, musical instruments
- Cost components (e.g. course fee, absentee payroll) of training activities and programmes that are already being subsidised or funded by NAC or any other government agency (e.g. SWDA)

¹¹ All purchases of hardware and software (i.e. long-term asset which may be used beyond the purposes of the project) will not be supportable.