



Open Call for Arts Spaces Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Section 1: Eligibility and Application Process

1. Can artists, arts group and arts organisations of different art forms apply for the arts spaces?

Interested applicants may refer to the Open Call Information Pack for more information on Goodman Arts Centre (GAC). Artists and arts groups who are aligned with the Arts Centres' vision are welcome to apply.

Applicants will be assessed based on the merit of their submission in relation to the criteria as stated in the Open Call Information Pack. Arts House Limited (AHL) and National Arts Council (NAC) will take into consideration the desired arts tenancy mix compatible with the Arts Centre's vision, the space requirements of the applicants and their complementarity with the respective positioning of the arts properties.

2. If I am a new arts group, can I apply?

Yes, new arts groups are welcome to apply for arts spaces in this Open Call under the Framework for Arts Spaces (FFAS). Under FFAS, young artists, new arts companies, associations and societies, community/amateur arts groups within the first 3 years of practice or establishment will be considered under the Incubation Scheme of the FFAS for GAC. You may refer to the Open Call Information Pack for full details of the Incubation Scheme.

3. Can current arts tenants apply for the arts spaces under this Open Call?

Existing arts tenants receiving support under the Arts Housing Scheme (AHS) and considering to onboard the FFAS are eligible to put in an application for this Open Call. For more information on the FFAS, please refer to <https://www.nac.gov.sg/support/funding-and-schemes/arts-infrastructure-schemes>.

Existing arts tenants receiving support under the FFAS may also apply in this Open Call. Successful applicants currently under the Scheme for Developing Artists and Arts Groups will receive an offer based on their remaining 9-year tenure. In other words, applying to a different arts centre does not reset the 9-year tenure. Thus, successful applicants will need to cease their existing lease and take on the new lease offered for the allocated arts centre. This must be done within three months from the date of signing their new tenancy agreement under this Open Call.

Current arts tenants who are in the final term of their maximum 9-year FFAS tenure may also apply (hereafter referred to as “re-applicants”), and if successful, they will be offered a 3-year lease term, and enjoy a 50% rental subvention, subjected to a cap.

4. What does Co-Tenancy mean? How does it apply to me?

Co-tenancy refers to two or more artists/groups submitting a joint application for a single space. In anticipation of a potential oversubscription of interest, AHL and NAC encourage applicants to team up for Co-Tenancy application. Part-time artists and arts groups, may benefit from a team up in terms of managing the overall financial affordability. Artists with different time usage patterns are also encouraged to team up to better utilise the arts studios. To offer greater support to more artists/arts groups, co-tenancy applications will be considered favourably, all else being equal.

5. Can I apply for two units or more under the Open Call?

To ensure that the arts spaces support provided by NAC benefits more artists and arts groups, applicants are limited to applying for one unit under the Open Call. However, AHL and NAC reserve the right to allocate more than one unit to arts groups who are able to justify with compelling reason(s).

If you have compelling reasons to utilise more than one unit, please provide justification for your spatial needs in the “Additional Remarks” field.

6. One of the assessment criteria under FFAS is on financial needs. How will applicants be assessed?

NAC’s FFAS is inclined towards helping artists/arts groups who are in greater need for arts spaces support. Hence, all else being equal, applicants with higher financial needs will be assessed favourably. Their financial needs for support will be objectively verified with supporting official documentation. Arts groups would be expected to provide audited Income and Expenditure statements to support their applications. Artists who apply as individuals will need to provide AHL and NAC with their latest IRAS notice of assessment. These financial documents are necessary for AHL and NAC to assess the artists/arts groups financial needs for support. Applications with omission of supporting financial documents will render applications as being incomplete, and will not be considered.

Note however that financial needs is only part of the assessment criteria. AHL and NAC also take into consideration the efforts that the applicants put in to achieve long term financial sustainability.

7. Will all individual artists who are currently under FFAS need to provide financial needs documentations?

Yes. All individual applicants who wish to apply for a space under FFAS are to submit the latest IRAS notice of assessment. If individual applicants are not required to pay tax, they should complete the online declaration form.

The documentation is necessary as AHL and NAC are committed to ensuring that all applications are assessed fairly and equitably, hence relevant supporting documents from all applicants will be

required. This is not a new requirement, as artists/arts groups have been submitting their financial statements in their applications. Moreover, this is also in accordance with comparable existing statutory board practices to ensure that the support can be matched to financial needs. For example, MOE's Financial Assistance Scheme would require self-employed applicants to provide CPF transaction statement/contribution history for the past 12 months.

8. My group is a collective and we don't have company financial statements. What documentations would AHL and NAC require?

Members of a collective are to submit their individual latest IRAS notice of assessment. If applicants are unemployed or are not required to pay tax, they should complete the online declaration form. The Collective is obliged to collate all submissions from members, to support their application for the Open Call.

Section 2: Property Information

9. What are the operating hours of the properties? Will tenants be able to work within their spaces beyond the operating hours and come and go freely?

The operating hours for the GAC is 7am to 11pm.

However, tenants will have access to the arts spaces outside of the standard operating hours. They will be subjected to the house rules of the individual properties for access outside of the operating hours.

10. Will GAC arts tenants get preferential rates when hiring the Shared Facilities spaces?

Yes. FFAS arts tenants will receive preferential rates when hiring the shared facilities from AHL venues, specifically Goodman Arts Centre (GAC), Aliwal Arts Centre (AAC) and Stamford Arts Centre (SAC).

11. Are there lifts available for the moving of material and props?

GAC has lifts only at Block B.

Section 3: Financial Assistance

12. Will successful applicants be offered any rent-free period, or will AHL and NAC be offering any financial assistance for fitting out their spaces and relocation from existing premises?

As the rental of the arts spaces are already heavily subsidised by NAC, there will be no additional financial assistance or rent-free period provided to successful applicants.

Section 4: Arts Tenancy Matters

13. What does the service charge comprise off?

It includes but not limited to preventive, routine repairs for exterior and structure of building and general maintenance such as cleaning of common areas, toilets, pest control, security and insurance for public and fire risks.

14. How do I proceed with fitting out for the studio space?

Place Manager from GAC will advise on the guidelines and requirements needed to ensure a smooth fitting out process.

15. What other cost(s) are there besides rental and service charge?

The following are the additional cost(s) for consideration:

- a) Stamp Duty for Tenancy Agreement
- b) Security deposit of 3 months rental
- c) Monthly utilities
- d) Fitting out
- e) Insurance for studio, i.e., fire and contents coverage

Section 5: Miscellaneous

16. What is the relationship between National Arts Council (NAC) and Arts House Limited (AHL)?

AHL is a Company Limited by Guarantee set up by the NAC.