



Artists' Benevolent Fund

2020 Guidelines, Terms and Conditions

NAVA and Art Month Sydney have reinvigorated the Artists' Benevolent Fund to make funds available for disaster and emergency visual arts practice recovery at this difficult time.

The renewed Artists' Benevolent Fund hopes to provide modest but useful one-off financial artistic practice assistance to Australian visual artists in crisis as a result of fire, flood, storm, serious illness, major accident, declared state or national emergencies, or some other unexpected catastrophic experience.

It is **not** intended that the Fund should be used merely as a means of coping with current financial needs, to pay outstanding debts or to fund a project. Rather, the aim of the Fund is to support artists experiencing some form of crisis to continue to maintain their artistic practice, despite the debilitating experience that has befallen them.

The Fund might receive requests from:

- Artists whose studios and/or entire bodies of work have been destroyed (e.g. as the result of fire, flood, storm, earthquake)
- Artists who have suffered a major injury in their studio
- Artists suffering illnesses that impact on their ability to maintain their artistic practice
- Artists severely impacted in their practice by a declared state or national emergency, such as losing a critical work opportunity as the result of an event or activity cancelled because of COVID-19.

Funding available

The Artists' Benevolent Fund will offer eligible artists a one-off payment of \$2,000 to provide immediate assistance following a disaster or catastrophic event in their lives. Pending the capacity of the Fund, the panel may consider larger amounts as appropriate to the need of the beneficiary.

Closing date

There is no deadline for this fund.

Eligibility

- An Australian citizen or resident, and
- A professional practitioner in the visual arts, regardless of career stage.

Professional status

Applicants must be a professional visual art, craft or design practitioner/s. Under NAVA's definition a professional practitioner will have some of the following characteristics:

- seek to build a reputation as a professional artist
- make attempts to bring their work to the public or relevant market
- have regular public exhibitions of their artwork
- offer work for sale, or sell artwork
- have work acquired for public or private collections
- secure work, commissions or consultancies on the basis of their professional expertise
- secure residencies, teach, lecture or give public talks
- be eligible to apply for or have been awarded government grants
- secure awards or prizes
- seek philanthropic patronage or sponsorship
- carry out work in a business-like manner (e.g. keep financial records, have formal written contracts or agreements, have a written business plan)
- regularly participate in activities designed to promote their work including by establishing a website and carrying out other marketing activities
- achieve industry or peer recognition through published works, critical texts or media profile
- rent, lease or own space dedicated for an art purpose
- be professionally qualified or have equivalent experience typical of others in the industry
- be a member of a professional association or union (such as NAVA).

Applications and supporting material

NAVA is entered on the Register of Cultural Organisations and is subject to various obligations as a consequence of that Registration. One such requirement is that any provision of financial support by NAVA to any artists must be consistent with or in furtherance of NAVA's constitutional objects of promoting one or more specified cultural forms, and supporting artists to develop, grow and sustain their arts or cultural practice. Consistent with this object, the specific aim of the Artists' Benevolent Fund is to support Artists who have experienced or are experiencing a crisis that significantly impacts them in the pursuit of their artistic practice.

Artists will be required to submit an application. This will be straightforward and non-burdensome, offering the information that's needed for a granting decision to be made. The artist will be expected to describe how the funds are intended to be used to enable the artist to develop, grow and sustain their arts or cultural practice.

The Fund is designed to ensure that recipients of support will only use the funding provided in ways that enable them to develop, grow and/or sustain their Artistic practice.

Applications are to be made online using the grant application form available on the NAVA website <https://visualarts.net.au/nava-grants/>. If you are unable to use the online form, please refer below to the Accessibility section.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to provide accurate and complete information as part of the application process. Any false information supplied as part of an application will result in the immediate disqualification of that applicant.

Applicants will need to provide the following documentation with the grant application form.

<i>Documentation</i>	<i>File type</i>	<i>Max. file size</i>
Artist CV(s) One A4 page	PDF (.pdf)	2MB

Applicants are required to provide the name and contact details of two referees. Referees can be collaborators, mentors, fellow artists and arts workers, arts organisation staff, university lecturers and any other arts industry colleague that can speak to your practice and current situation.

The Fund will prioritise applications from artists whose specific disaster situation is not covered by an insurance policy.

Application outcomes will be communicated via email, or phone where necessary.

Not all applications that meet the criteria and eligibility of the Fund will be awarded the grant. The panel's decisions are final and not subject to review.

Grant conditions

Funds are limited and applications will be considered in regard to the specific disaster situation. Artists can only apply once for a one-off payment in relation to that specific disaster. However, should another specific disaster befall them at a later stage in their career, artists are welcome to apply for a one-off payment in relation to that specific disaster.

Applicants and successful applicants may be asked to provide updated or added information where deemed necessary by NAVA or the panel.

NAVA reserves the right to make changes to the Artists' Benevolent Fund at its discretion and without notice to Applicants.

NAVA employees and board members are not eligible to apply.

Accessibility

If there is any way that NAVA can assist in making the application process more accessible for you please contact us on nava@visualarts.net.au or 1800 046 282.

Practitioners living in remote areas

Due to the geographical circumstances of First Nations artists practitioners living in remote areas NAVA will apply special consideration. An art or craft centre can make an application on behalf of the practitioner it represents, and if successful can use the centre's ABN and GST registration for taxation purposes. Payment for successful First Nations applicants who live in a remote area can be made directly into the practitioner's or centre's nominated bank account.

Successful applicant requirements

Payment

NAVA will contact successful applicants to request a Tax Invoice, or a Statement by Supplier if you do not have an ABN. If the applicant is unable to provide either, under PAYG NAVA is required to withhold 46.5% of the grant and send it to the Australian Taxation Office.

Payment to successful applicants will be made after notification by direct transfer to the applicant's nominated bank account or separate bank accounts for group applications.

Acquittal

A brief acquittal is required to be submitted to NAVA within 1 year of the grant being given. The acquittal document will be provided to the successful applicants once they have been awarded the grant.