

BETTER CONNECTED ARTIST BURSARY FAQ

What is the Better Connected Bursary?

This Bursary is designated to support access with professional career development opportunities. These bursaries can be used to support access to workshops, training, networking, or other professional development opportunities. (Examples could include childcare costs, equipment, course fees etc.)

What is an access need?

Access needs are broad and may include things such as disability, financial hardship through personal circumstance or in relation to carer duties.

We look to support opportunities that might be overlooked by other funding sources, including, but not limited to, the cost of taking time off work, travel, accommodation, and caregiving costs.

When completing the form we encourage you to add as much supporting information regarding your access need and how this may be a barrier to your career progression.

Completing the form

If you've identified specific training, workshops or networking opportunities that are separate to our offer then give us as much detail as you can, where, when, cost, what you hope to get out of it and why you cannot access this at the moment.

If you've identified specific accessible equipment that you need again give us as much detail as you can, what it is, the cost, how this will positively impact your career and why you cannot access this at the moment.

Projects

The Bursary cannot be used for projects, that is an artistic project in development or delivery.

Who is this for?

The Bursary is open to all creatives over the age of 18 who live, work or learn in the city of Salford.

This is open to artists of any type (theatre practitioners, visual artists, musicians etc.) engaged in creative work. The Artist Bursary is open to 'professionals' and 'amateurs' and is aimed at encouraging as diverse as possible a range of people to engage in creative practice.

If you were unsuccessful in round one then you are eligible to apply for this round.

If you received a bursary in round one you are still eligible to apply, however we want to ensure this opportunity reaches as many people as possible and new applicants will be prioritised.

Please note there are similar schemes in operation across the Greater Manchester area run by the relevant councils. Please contact us if you are unsure or would like signposting towards the relevant bursary scheme in your area.

What if I haven't practiced as an artist in a while?

The Artist Bursary is open to 'professionals' and 'amateurs' and is aimed at encouraging as diverse as possible a range of people to engage in creative practice. We warmly welcome applications from people who are rekindling their creative side or would like to use the bursary to access something in a completely new creative direction. Bursary applications are not assessed on the levels of skill or professional qualifications of applicants.

What conditions apply to the bursary?

Successful applicants to the bursary scheme will be expected to provide feedback on their experience of the bursary and later provide feedback on how the bursary has impacted on their professional or personal development.

How do I get paid?

You will need a bank account in your name in order to be paid.

Payment timeline:

- Applications open: Thursday 27th November 2025
- Applications close: Thursday 8th January, 5pm
- Decision date: Friday 23rd January
- Expected payment date: Friday 27th February

Do I have to provide receipts for how I have spent the bursary?

No, if successful we will not need you to provide receipts for how you have used the bursary. We would love to hear as a part of the evaluation what it became useful for, how that may have changed and especially what could be improved!

What happens if I am not successful?

We aim to contact all applicants to let them know the outcome of their application, successful or not. The level of feedback we can provide will be based on the number of applications we receive.