

# Q&As – Creative Industries sector

Version number 1

## Contents

- General information for the sector..... 2
  - When can theatres, performing arts and entertainment centres re-open? ..... 2
  - What is an ‘approved configuration’? ..... 2
  - How long can people stay in a venue, location or set in Stage 3? ..... 2
  - Can interstate artists visit the Northern Territory? ..... 3
  - Can we film in NTG venues and locations that are now open?..... 3
  - Is there a restriction regarding the number of cast and crew that we can have on a location or set (internal or external) at any given time? ..... 3
  - Who do I speak to regarding filming specific locations?..... 3
  - I have a funded project with Screen Territory. Do I need to have a COVID Safety plan in place?..... 3
- Financial assistance for the sector..... 3
  - Will the Creative Industries Sector Immediate Response and Resilience Program continue?..... 3
  - Was the CISIRR a reallocation of existing arts funds or extra funding? ..... 3
  - What is the status of the grant programs, and when will be funding be announced: ..... 4
  - What is the delay in announcing the CISIRRP grant recipients?..... 4
  - Once current grant rounds are notified, how soon will the grant funds be rolled out to recipients? ..... 4
  - Will there be another Arts Trail round?..... 4
  - Will there be any changes to the Government’s commitment to five year funding for leading arts organisations? ..... 4
  - Will there be a recovery fund program for the Arts Sector? ..... 4
  - What is the NT Government’s Rebound strategy? ..... 5
  - What support is available to artists and arts workers? ..... 5
  - Can operational funding be repurposed in 2020 as a result of COVID-19?..... 5
  - What Federal Government funding is available?..... 5
    - Australia Council Resilience Fund ..... 5
    - JobKeeper Payment ..... 6
    - Job seekers..... 6
  - What other support is available for the arts sector? ..... 6



## General information for the sector

### When can theatres, performing arts and entertainment centres re-open?

As part of Stage 3 of the roadmap to the new normal, cinema, theatre, concert hall, music hall, dance hall, performing arts centre, nightclub or any other similar entertainment venue in an approved configuration can begin to resume from 5 June 2020.

Live music is permitted based on physical distancing requirements, on an individual, outdoor basis.

From noon on 5 June 2020, live music performances may resume at a bar or traditional pub setting.

Prior to opening, a COVID-19 Safety Plan must be in place. <https://coronavirus.nt.gov.au/steps-to-restart/business>

### What is an ‘approved configuration’?

‘Approved configuration’ is how you will manage the number of guests within your venue to allow sufficient space for physical distancing.

As part of your COVID-19 Safety Plan, your configuration should:

- provide bright coloured markings on the floor 1.5 metres apart to show people where they should stand when queuing
- ensure seating arrangements allow for 1.5 metres between different groups and between rows of seats
- arrange placement of guests from different groups so that they are not seated face to face
- manage the entry and exit points of the business so that guests are not queuing at these points
- place signage around the business to remind staff and guests to maintain hygiene practices and to go home if the staff member or guest is feeling unwell
- place signage around the business to discourage guests crowding together in any one area of the business
- encourage guests to remain 1.5 metres apart when moving through the business
- encourage customers to minimise time spent in close contact with a particular focus on minimising face-to-face contact. Face to face contact should be 15 minutes or less.

### How long can people stay in a venue, location or set in Stage 3?

There is no limit on the amount of time people can stay in a venue, location or set from noon on Friday 5 June 2020.

## Can interstate artists visit the Northern Territory?

NT border restrictions remain in place – anyone visiting the Territory must undertake 14 days quarantine. Further information can be viewed at <https://coronavirus.nt.gov.au/travel/domestic-travel>

## Can we film in NTG venues and locations that are now open?

Filming will be permissible in NTG venues that have opened to the public.

You should contact the relevant permitting officer to discuss the specific requirements for your proposed filming locations. You will need to ascertain and adhere to their conditions as venues will be required to complete a COVID-19 safety plan checklist.

## Is there a restriction regarding the number of cast and crew that we can have on a location or set (internal or external) at any given time?

Venues are required to complete a NT COVID-19 safety plan checklist to ensure they are operating within physical distancing and hygiene guidelines; and these will guide you as to the restrictions in place.

The maximum number of cast and crew will vary from location to location based on physical distancing principles.

## Who do I speak to regarding filming specific locations?

[Screen Territory](#) can provide advice on who to contact within the NTG for locations, otherwise please contact the relevant location owner.

## I have a funded project with Screen Territory. Do I need to have a COVID Safety plan in place?

Yes. Screen Territory requires funded projects to have a COVID-19 safety plan.

## Financial assistance for the sector

### Will the Creative Industries Sector Immediate Response and Resilience Program continue?

Yes, the program will continue as advertised. <https://dtsc.nt.gov.au/covid-19-information-for-stakeholders/creative-industries-sector#funding>

### Was the CISIRR a reallocation of existing arts funds or extra funding?

The NT Government is delivering a \$2 million reprioritised funding program to support the Arts, Creative and Screen Industry sector. For Arts and Creatives, a focus on artists, arts groups and not for profit arts organisations has been developed through the Creative Industry Sector Immediate Response and Resilience Program (CISIRRP).

## What is the status of the grant programs, and when will be funding be announced:

Creative Industry Sector Immediate Response and Resilience Program (CISIRRP):

- **Digital Adaptation Program** – successful recipients advised.
- **Territory Arts Projects** – assessment underway.
- **Channel NT – Virtual Territory** – assessment underway.
- **Territory Arts Projects Round 2** – opened on Tuesday 2 June 2020 and will close on Wednesday 17 June 2020 at 2pm.
- **Virtual Territory Producer** – following a two staged EOI process.

Arts NT:

- **Strategic Projects** – successful recipients will be advised by start of June.
- **ATSI Creative Fellowships** – successful recipients will be advised by end of June.
- **Creative Fellowships** – successful recipients advised.
- **Regional Museum** – successful recipients will be advised by early July 2020.

## What is the delay in announcing the CISIRRP grant recipients?

Grant timelines were impacted due to the volume of applications received, impacting eligibility review timeframes, as well as ensuring industry peers had an appropriate time to review each application.

## Once current grant rounds are notified, how soon will the grant funds be rolled out to recipients?

To ensure funds are available as quickly as possible, a new short form agreement has been developed and a simplified financial reporting arrangement has been introduced.

Vendor and banking details can be a hold-up, so please ensure your details are correct.

## Will there be another Arts Trail round?

Round 5 of the Arts Trail Regional Stimulus Grant Program was suspended, and the remaining funds were directed to the Creative Industries Sector Immediate Response and Resilience Program. At this stage, there is no decision to recommence this program.

## Will there be any changes to the Government's commitment to five year funding for leading arts organisations?

The Northern Territory Government's five year funding commitment to the Leading Arts Organisations for 2020-2024 remains unchanged at the approved level. Given the impact of COVID-19, it's recognised that some organisations may need to seek a variation to their 2020 program, budget and timelines.

## Will there be a recovery fund program for the Arts Sector?

The Territory Government is working with a number of national experts to provide strategic and practical advice on a potential recovery roadmap for the Northern Territory. This includes a number of high level

taskforces. The Northern Territory Government will announce more on this in due course. There is no update regarding additional recovery funding at this stage.

## What is the NT Government's Rebound strategy?

Operation Rebound is the Territory Government's economic recovery strategy for post coronavirus (COVID-19).

Read more on [Jobs first - an economic vision for the Territory](#).

## What support is available to artists and arts workers?

The Small Business Survival Fund (SBSF) is an initiative to help Territory small businesses survive the economic impacts of COVID-19.

The SBSF was designed to offer immediate support to businesses to survive the shut-down period and adapt to the new operating environment.

The fund is specifically targeted to support affected industries such as hospitality, restaurants, tourism (which includes the creative industries sector), retail, beauty, personal care and entertainment businesses.

More than 1600 Territory businesses have applied for support under the Small Business Survival Fund with almost all applications now assessed.

As we work towards economic recovery, the survival payments of the Small Business Survival Fund will soon close as we take steps towards the new normal business restart.

## Can operational funding be repurposed in 2020 as a result of COVID-19?

As a result of the impacts of COVID-19 on contracted artists and arts organisations, it is acknowledged that some artists and organisations may need to seek a variation to their program, budget, timelines and/or reporting. To facilitate any requests for variation, please refer to the [Guidelines](#).

In the first instance, please contact Arts NT to discuss your current circumstances and the approach to be taken. Please note that organisations must provide revised programs and budget that have been endorsed by their relevant Boards, which will then need to be approved by Arts NT.

## What Federal Government funding is available?

### Australia Council Resilience Fund

The Australia Council Resilience Fund of approximately \$5 million, has been created for artists and arts organisations to support their livelihoods, practice and operations during the COVID-19 pandemic. The 2020 Resilience Fund includes three streams:

- Survive - small grants for individuals, groups and organisations to offset or recoup financial losses due to cancelled activity.
- Adapt - grants for individuals, groups and organisations to adapt their practice and explore new operating models.

- Create - grants for individuals, groups and organisations to continue to create artistic work and develop creative responses in a time of disruption.

Applications for the Resilience Fund quick response opportunities close on May 2020. Information is available at the Australia Council website [www.australiacouncil.gov.au](http://www.australiacouncil.gov.au).

## JobKeeper Payment

Under the JobKeeper Payment, businesses impacted by the COVID-19 will be able to access a subsidy from the Government to continue paying their employees. Affected employers will be able to claim a fortnightly payment of \$1 500 per eligible employee from 30 March 2020, for a maximum period of six months. Please refer to <https://www.business.gov.au/risk-management/emergency-management/coronavirus-information-and-support-for-business/jobkeeper-payment> for further information.

## Job seekers

For any staff that may be looking for work or doing approved studies, the JobSeeker Payment can assist with individuals who are:

- between 22 and the Age Pension age;
- have an income that is under the test limits; and
- meet residence rules.

To review the full conditions visit <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/job-seekers>

## What other support is available for the arts sector?

Other national, sector and industry resources:

- [Accessible Arts](#) – including top 10 tips for running accessible online events, as well as online workshops
- [Our Community - help sheets and policy guidelines](#)
- [Support Act](#)