

RTÉ Toy Show Appeal Community Grants Round FAQs

Please read through the following FAQs regarding the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal. If your question is not answered, please email the Grants Team at applications@communityfoundationni.org

What types of organisations can apply to the fund?

Children and family focused charities with an annual income of less than £500,000 can apply to this fund. Organisations must have a charity number and must regularly work with vulnerable or marginalised children and young people (0-18). In the Impact Grant Round, charities can be working with children at local and community level.

I'm not sure if I am a child or family focused charity, how can I check?

Eligible charities are ones focused on children and their families. Children and Family focused charities include those who regularly work with children or young people and their families. A large proportion of a charity's day-to-day activity should be focused on supporting children and their families. To quantify this, eligible charities should direct at least 40% of their annual expenditure towards working with children and young people.

Whilst we have provided guidance above on this, we understand that this is not an exact science. To this end, there is a question in the application form which will enable applicants to demonstrate their eligibility with the criteria. The benefit that children and their families feel as a result of the charity's work must be clear in your answer.

What types of organisations are not eligible to apply to this fund?

Ineligible organisations include:

- Charities with an annual income of £500,000 or more
- Schools and private childcare facilities
- Sports organisations
- Profit-making companies
- Animal welfare organisations
- Proposals from individuals
- Organisations with a credit union account
- The advancement of religion. This includes organisations whose purposes include the advancement of religion
- The establishment of endowment of any school or institution providing further education within the meaning of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1972
- The provision of assistance to any Housing Association within the meaning of the Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1976

My organisation is not eligible, can I still receive funding?

Organisations that do not fit the criteria above are not eligible to apply for funding and any ineligible applications submitted will not receive funding. However, ineligible organisations may collaborate with eligible organisations, however, the lead applicant must be eligible.

How much funding can my organisation apply for?

Eligible organisations may apply for projects up to £10,000. This funding must be spent down within 12 months.

My organisation is local group, which is part of a national network, can I apply?

For organisations with branch networks, where all the local organisations fall under the same constitution, the application must be submitted by the national office of the organisation. It is the annual income of the national organisations that will determine which grant round the organisation can apply for. Only one application per organisation will be accepted.

What types of proposals are eligible for funding?

Proposals that benefit the following cohorts of children and young people (0-18 years old) are eligible:

- Socially and economically disadvantaged children
- Children with disabilities
- Children with severe long-term illnesses
- Children who have suffered trauma or grief
- Children who are suffering with behavioural or psychological difficulties
- Children who are facing discrimination

Proposals may be an impactful current programme that will be developed or upscaled with the funding.

Projects that work with parents, teachers etc are eligible, provided that the project primarily impacts children 0-18. The impact on the children should be clearly shown in the application and the parents or teachers should be regarded as a secondary beneficiary to the project.

Projects must start in June 2023, any proposals for pieces of work before June 2023 will not be eligible for funding.

What types of proposals are not eligible for funding?

Ineligible projects include:

- Ongoing core costs such as insurance, rent, bills etc.
- Advocacy work
- Large scale building work or procurement
- Vehicle costs
- Projects that have already happened or any activities that will happen before the grants are awarded
- Projects taking place outside of Northern Ireland
- Promotion of religious or political activity, including any flags and emblems that may deem to be associated with such

Can I include staff salaries and capital costs in my application?

Staff salaries and staff hours are eligible in this grant round, provided that the salary/hours are specifically related to the project. They should be included in the budget alongside the expected programme costs. Core running costs such as insurance, rent, bills etc are not eligible.

Equipment and some capital costs are also eligible. Building renovation and extensions are eligible, but constructing a new building or buying a building or land is not. Your Toy Show application must cover at least 75% of the capital cost required (eg. £75,000 out of the total £100,000 required).

Some projects are being prioritised in this grant round, is it worth applying even if my project isn't a priority?

We have indicated in the criteria that particular types of projects will be prioritised. We hope to fund both priority and non-priority projects, however, we anticipate that this grant round will be very competitive so that may not be the case for every proposal.

Can I send in my proposal via email or post?

All proposals must be submitted through our online application form, we cannot accept applications in other formats.

When is the grant round deadline?

The deadline is **1pm on Friday 10th March 2023**. No applications will be accepted after this time, including forms that have been partially completed prior to the deadline. We recommend you submit your application well before this deadline in case of any unexpected issues.

When will we find out the outcome?

We are expecting a large number of applications in this grant round so the outcome of your application will be announced at the end of May 2023. We expect successful organisations to start work in June 2023.

How long should the project last?

Projects should last no more than 12 months from June 2023-June 2024.

Does the project need to be for new work?

Proposals can be for innovative new work or to upscale or significantly develop ongoing programmes. We are not able to fund core organisational costs such as insurance, rent, bills etc.

Please contact applications@communityfoundationni.org if you would like further clarification.

Can I apply for a project that has already happened?

Community Foundation Ireland cannot accept applications for projects that have already happened. Please bear in mind that, if successful, grants will be awarded in May/June 2023 and projects should start in June 2023. Projects that are planned to start before June 2023 will not be eligible for funding.

Proposals that are to continue a current projects are eligible, however, any the funding from this year's Toy Show Appeal should be allocated to the project from June 2023 onwards.

Can I apply to multiple Strands?

No, organisations can only apply once to one of the Strands.

Can we apply for a project in collaboration with another organisation?

Collaboration between organisations is encouraged where impact is substantially increased for the beneficiaries as a result of the collaboration. The organisation who is applying for the grant must be eligible based on the criteria above and should be the lead partner in the project. They will be the point of contact for queries, payment and reporting. The partner in the collaboration does not need to be eligible to this grant round.

I have received part-funding for my project from another trust or donor; can I apply to this grant round as well?

Yes, you can apply to the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal for projects that you have received part funding for, but you must state this on your application.

Can I apply for a project that costs more than the amount I can apply for?

Yes, organisations can apply for projects with an overall cost of larger than the amount applied for, but applicants should demonstrate how this gap will be filled. Applications that have a very high total cost without the additional funding secured are unlikely to be funded.

If my organisation has already, or is currently in receipt of a grant from The Community Foundation for Northern Ireland, can I still apply?

Yes, if you have previously been in receipt of funding or are currently being funded by the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland you can still apply to the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal. If you are currently running a project funded by the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal, you can apply to extend the project until June 2024.

Does my organisation need a bank account?

Yes, Community Foundation can only pay out grants to charitable organisations with a dedicated bank account and not to individual accounts.

What documents should I submit with my application?

The following documents must be submitted alongside your application. We can only accept digital copies of these documents.

- The Constitution or Memorandum and Articles of Association.

- A bank account statement.
- The organisations most recent signed annual audited accounts.
- Adult and/or Child Safeguarding Policies'
- Equality Policy

I am not able to submit my governance documents, what can I do?

If you are having trouble submitting the documents, email us at applications@communityfoundationni.org before the deadline, and we will be able to help you. Please be mindful that if you are submitting last minute and are not able to submit your documents, we may not be able to help you before the round closes.

What type of annual accounts do I need to submit?

The organisation's most recent annual accounts

- Annual accounts should include unabridged financial statements for the year, or where relevant, a monthly profit and loss for the year.
- All applicants must declare their organisation's annual income on the application form and this will be verified in your most recent annual accounts.
- **Charity's income level is less than or equal to £250,000** - You must have your accounts independently examined but you can choose who undertakes the examination. This will be someone who the charity trustees have assessed as being capable of independently examining the accounts. 'Being capable' means having the requisite ability and practical experience to comply with the Commission's Directions. The examiner must be independent of the trustees.
- **Charity's income level is more than £250,000 but less than or equal to £500,000** - You must have your accounts independently examined and this must be by a member of the bodies listed in Section 65(4) of the Charities Act.
- **Charity's income level is greater than £500,000** - You must have your accounts audited and this must be in compliance with Section 65(2) of the Charities Act.
- Accounts should be from 2021 and must be signed.

Will I be required to report on what the grant has been used for?

All grantees will be required to submit an Interim and Outcome Report during the project. Interim reports will be due by the end of January 2024 and Outcome reports will be due in July 2024. RTÉ may require additional reporting alongside this. This will be detailed in the Grant Agreement prior to payments being made.