

UNLIMITED...

Unlimited Expression of Interest information

Please contact us if you would like this information in an alternative format.

Types of award

Unlimited is offering three types of award:

- **Main commission** – to create and share a new piece of work
- **Research & Development (R&D) award** – to take an idea and test it out
- **Emerging artists award** – to create a new piece of work

For all awards, Unlimited asks applicants to submit a short Expression of Interest, and then invites shortlisted applicants only to fill out a detailed application form.

What can I apply for?

Established artists can apply for Main commission awards and R&D awards.

Emerging artists can apply for Emerging artists awards.

If you are based in England or Wales, you can apply to any strand and for any Partner award.

If you are based in Scotland, you can apply to the R&D and the Emerging artists award strands.

	Established England/Wales	Established Scotland	Emerging England/Wales/Scotland
Main commission	Yes	No	No
R&D award	Yes	Yes	No
Emerging artist award	No	No	Yes

For more information, including definitions of 'established' and 'emerging', please see our FAQs.

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Partner Awards

There are Partner awards across all strands. Partner awards bring additional funds – more money to disabled artists - and help us reach areas of the cultural sector that are new to us or where work by disabled artists is underrepresented.

Approximately half the total awards money will be for Partner awards, and the rest to applications not linked to Partner Awards.

Each partner has additional criteria. This means they are often looking for something specific, for work for a specific audience, or from artists/companies that meet specific criteria.

- For main commissions, we have Partner Awards with Artsadmin, Farnham Maltings, Pentabus and Wellcome Collection.
- For R&D awards, we have Partner Awards with Bagri Foundation, Museum of the Home, Polka Theatre, Sage Gateshead and Southbank Centre.
- For emerging artists awards, we have Partner Awards with Coventry 2021 and The Art House.

For further information, [please see the Partner Award document](#) which shows all their criteria and funding levels.

Making an application

Applications are made through an online portal, the link for which can be found here on the Unlimited website: weareunlimited.org.uk/apply-to-unlimited

This will only open on **Thursday 1 October 2020**, and the deadline for applying is **Tuesday 27 October 2020 at 12 noon**. To be fair to everyone, we will not offer any extensions to this deadline. We also recommend that you make your application as soon as you are ready and able to after 1 Oct rather than waiting to the last minute. You will receive an email to confirm we have your application.

All the questions that will be asked can be found in the offline Word document version of the Expression of Interest forms. These are available from the Unlimited website at the link above from late July. On average, it should take between one and two hours to fully complete the form. Once the portal opens, you can then paste your answers in, along with providing the required links or uploads. On average, this should take under thirty minutes if all the answers are prepared and ready.

Is there access support available to help with applying?

Yes. Many of the materials are available in large print, audio, Easy Read and also in Welsh language versions. More are available in alternative formats on demand. If our application portal is inaccessible to you then you can apply in alternative ways.

If you need any further assistance with access, including understanding the terms used in our application form or accessing funds for support workers to help you apply, we can help.

You can find out more about access support by emailing info@weareunlimited.org.uk or phoning 07506 679968.

Funding

Unlimited has funding from Arts Council England, Arts Council of Wales and Creative Scotland. The funding from each is dedicated only for artists/companies based in those locations. We also have funding from a range of companies and organisations, each of whom are supporting a Partner Award.

What amount of money can I apply for? This varies according to each strand:

Main Commission Awards range between **£20,000-£80,000**.

- Partner Awards have their own ranges – see the [Partner awards document](#) for information. These are the same for applicants where ever they are based
- For applications not linked to a Partner award and for artists based in Wales, the maximum is capped at **£50,000**.
- You will be expected to have a minimum of 10% match funding from other sources (which can be cash or in kind).

R&D Awards range between **£5,000-£10,000**.

- You will be expected to have a minimum of 10% match funding from other sources (which can be cash or in kind).

Emerging Artists Awards range between **£2,500-£10,000**.

- No match funding is required.

At Expression of Interest stage (EOI) you do not need to supply a budget or tell us about match funding. You are asked only to give an idea of the cost of your project. If you are shortlisted, this amount can change as you fully cost your project.

Criteria

The Key Criteria for all awards are for them:

- To be disability-led.
- To show quality, innovation and ambition.

For **Main Commissions** only, you need to have:

- a strong track record of creating work and reaching audiences.
- evidence of strong collaborations, partnerships or artist/producer relationship (these can include those with non-disabled led companies/artists/producers).
- flexibility/adaptability to ensure works engage with a range of venue sizes/scales.
- a lead artist or company resident in England or Wales.

For **R&D Awards** only, you need to have:

- a strong track record of creating work and reaching audiences.
- interest in planning and developing collaborations and partnerships.
- a lead artist or company resident in England, Wales or Scotland.

For **Emerging Artist Awards** only, you need to have:

- interest in planning and developing collaborations and partnerships.
- a lead artist or company resident in England, Wales or Scotland.

We are looking for work on the projects we fund to start no earlier than May 2021 and be completed by:

- **Main commissions** – Autumn 2022
- **R&D** – Spring 2022
- **Emerging artists** – Spring 2022

We will be looking to support a range of work – in relation to artform, scale, equality of opportunity and geographic location – across all the commissions.