

# The Disability Participation and Awareness Fund 2023



**Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March.** This is the date your application form should be finished and given to us.

## Information about this Fund



**Information**

- The Fund is for 1 year.
- This Fund was created by Rethink Ireland and our partners The Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.



Grants will be given to selected projects that help people with disabilities.



You can apply to this Fund by clicking [here](#)



There will be Zoom meetings on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March and the 16<sup>th</sup> of March.

March 08th at 12pm - to register for this event click [here](#)

March 16th at 12pm - to register for this event click [here](#)

We will talk about the Fund and answer your questions about the Fund.

## The Goal of the Fund



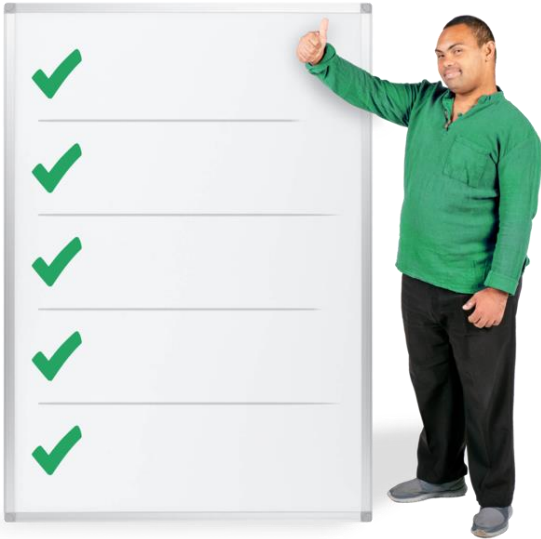
We made this Fund to help projects and organisations in Ireland to:

- Help people with disabilities to build their skills and take away any difficulties that stop people from being a part of their community.
- Help people with disabilities to get experience working in jobs that they like.
- Helping people with disabilities to be a part of local activities.

## Who Can Apply for This Fund?

Here is a checklist that shows the things projects should be doing to be able to apply for this Fund. The first list is set by Rethink Ireland and the second list is for this Fund. Projects who are applying must be able to check off each item on these lists.

## Check List Number 1



### Projects must

- Work to help a serious social issue or issues with the environment.
- The project must tackle the issue in a way that is new and creative.
- The project must be based in the Republic of Ireland.
- The project must want to grow or be copied in Ireland.
- The project must prove that it is up and running or has been tested.
- Projects must have a not-for-profit legal form. For example, a charity, a social enterprise, or organisations that are run by volunteers.

**Check List Number 2 – This check list is split into 4 strands** as the Fund has 4 strands. Before applying, projects should look at these strands and see which one fits their project.

The things your project will do must be extra to what your organisation normally does. Projects should add to but not copy what the organisation already does. This rule is the same for all 4 strands.



**Strand 1:** Building skills and taking away barriers to help people with Down Syndrome take part in their communities.

To apply for funding under strand 1, your project or organisation must:

- Carry out activities that help people with Down Syndrome take part in in their communities through building skills, taking away barriers, and
- have a person-centred, rights-based approach (see below).

**A person-centred** approach means that the project or organisation must:

- be able to check at the end of the project if the people taking part had a good outcome or a bad outcome.
- talk to the people taking part about how the project will be delivered.

**A human rights-based** approach means that a project or organisation:

- Helps people to know and claim their rights.

- Adds to the ability of organisations to realise these rights.
- Gives people a say in decisions about their lives.
- Helps organisations to respect those rights and holds them to account.



**Strand 2:** Social enterprises that help people with disabilities to get work experience that is important to them.

To apply for funding under strand 2, your project or organisation must:

- Be a social enterprise
- Work with people who are over 18 and with a disability
- and also help them to move into jobs or apprenticeships where they get paid. You must be able to show how your project helps people to get good results (for example, how to get into job placements, work experience or apprenticeships), and

- have a person-centred, rights-based approach.



**Strand 3:** Arts and cultural activities. Mostly those that support understanding of the lived experiences of people with disabilities and that include people with disabilities in artistic, cultural, and community life.

To apply for funding under strand 3, your project or organisation must:

- work to give more chances to be a part of arts and cultural activities, including activities that promote awareness of the lived experiences of people with disabilities, and
- have a person-centred, rights-based approach.



**Strand 4:** Projects that support people with disabilities to take part in and be included in sports and outdoor activities, like exercise and games.

Projects that are working to make shared community areas that are accessible to all.

To apply for strand 4, your project must:

Work to bring more opportunities for:

- supporting participation in the community, and/or
- engagement in sports and outdoor activities and/or
- Projects working to make sure shared spaces are accessible
- Have a person centred, rights - based approach.

**Advantageous Criteria**

Fund advantageous criteria – Projects don't have to do these things but we would like to see projects that also focus on:

- More than one disability: Projects that focus on finding ways to meet the needs of people with more than one impairment or more than one type of disability.
- Technology: Projects that use innovative (new or improved) technology, including technology that helps to make people with disabilities lives better
- Research: Projects that promote research involving and led by persons with disabilities.
- Leadership: Projects that are led by persons with disabilities.



**When can I apply?**

**February**

**20**

You can apply to this Fund on our website by clicking [here](#) from Monday, 20 February 2023.

When are the online help sessions if I have any questions, I need answered?



We will have online Zoom sessions to help you with your Fund application on the 8th and 16<sup>th</sup> of March.

You can register for our fund application help session on Wednesday, 8 March at 12 pm [here](#)

You can register for our fund application help session on Thursday, 16 March 12 pm [here](#)

If you are unable to come to either of these online (Zoom) help sessions, and have any questions that you need answered, you can email us

[disabilityfund@rethinkireland.ie](mailto:disabilityfund@rethinkireland.ie)

## How Does the Fund Work?



There will be up to 16 awards available. Each application that is selected will receive:

- A grant (from €50,000 to €500,000\*),
- Someone that gives advice and support, and
- A place on Rethink Ireland's capacity-building accelerator programme.

\*The highest amount of funding given to each project is different for each strand.

**i) Applicants can apply for one strand only per project.**

ii) If you also have **a different project that** you would also like to apply for, **which has a different person leading this project**, you can fill out the application form again for this other project.

Strand	Description	Possible funding
Strand 1	Building skills and taking away barriers to help people with Down Syndrome take part in their communities.	up to €500,000
Strand 2	Social enterprises that help people with disabilities to get work experience that is important to them.	up to €100,000

Strand 3	Arts and cultural activities. Mostly those that support understanding of the lived experiences of people with disabilities and that include people with disabilities in artistic, cultural, and community life.	up to €100,000
Strand 4	Projects that support people with disabilities to participate and be included in sports and outdoor activities, like exercise and games.	up to €200,000

## Which Projects Can Apply?



This fund is open to projects that have a not-for-profit legal form, for example:

- charities
- social enterprises
- other voluntary organisations.

## Which Projects Cannot Apply?



- research projects
- projects needing funding for capital assets (such as buildings, vans or large equipment)
- projects connected to a political party
- projects that only accept people from one religion over others
- projects focused on animal welfare
- projects based outside the Republic of Ireland
- projects led by people under 18 years of age
- projects that are an idea (only) and that have not yet started.



### **People who cannot apply?**

Applicants cannot apply if they are:

- under 18 years of age.
- commercial companies - A business that is not a social enterprise, and has a focus on making a profit.
- Anyone from Rethink Ireland and the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY). This means anyone who are staff, Directors and their family members. Family members include siblings, parents, spouses or civil partners or children.
- Individuals. This means people on their own that are not a part of a project or organisation.
- Statutory or public bodies, local development companies, LEADER companies, companies limited by shares, and organisations that are funded 100% by state bodies or agencies and continue to receive that funding. This means organisations or projects that are not a charity, social enterprise or voluntary organisation.

- consultants currently working with Rethink Ireland. Consultants are people who provide expert advice professionally.

## What Does the Fund Offer?



### Support

- cash grants from €50,000 to (€500,000\*)
- a business supports package
- a place on our capacity-building accelerator programme
- project performance management.

## How Do We Apply?



### The application form will ask about:

- your project and organisation
- the problem your project wants to look at
- what makes your project different from other projects
- who it helps
- how your project meets the rules for this Fund
- how you test how well your project is doing
- referees - people who will tell us about your project that don't work for your project
- other details

- It also asks you to send us financial documents (listed below) and a short video (2 - 3 minutes) about your project.

## What Kind of Video Do We Submit?



### What kind of video do we need to submit?

You can include a video with your application, but you don't have to. You can still apply without a video. If you are **not** uploading a video, you can move to the next question.

Don't worry you don't need to make an expensive video. You can use a smartphone or tablet. We just want to hear you telling the story of your project in 2 - 3 mins. Please tell us:

- who you are
- why you are applying for the award
- the problem/issue your project is trying to solve
- how you will do that
- how your solution is creative.

You can then upload your video to YouTube or Vimeo. Please do not password protect it. You can insert the URL link and the password in the application form.

## What financial information do we need to submit with our application?



1. The documents you need to complete depend on whether you are applying for a project that is within an organisation or applying as just an organisation.

If you are applying for a project that is within a larger organisation this is what you need:

- the project's management accounts and the organisation's most recent full and audited accounts.

If you are applying for a whole organisation this is what you need:

- The most recent audited/full accounts

2. **Anyone who is applying must tell us how they will use the money** from Rethink Ireland if their application is successful.

You will also have to upload a budget. There is a budget form in the finance section of the application form.

How do we upload our project budget (planned income and expenditure)?



There will be a link to a budget template in the section of the application form that asks about your finances. Please click on this link and **DOWNLOAD** the document to your computer.

Then fill in your financial information and save the document with your project's name and then upload it in the finance section of the application form

### **Accessibility**

We have tried to make the application process as accessible as possible, but we understand that there may still be some difficulties for applicants.

If you have access needs or are struggling with the application form, please contact [disabilityfund@rethinkireland.ie](mailto:disabilityfund@rethinkireland.ie)




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## Frequently Asked Questions

	<p>Click <a href="#">here</a> to see questions other people have asked about our funds.</p>
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## Terms and conditions of the Disability Participation and Awareness Fund

By applying for the Disability Participation and Awareness Fund, you agree to the following terms and conditions.

	<p><b>Age</b> You are 18 years of age or older.</p> <p><b>Honesty</b> You have given honest and true information at all stages of the application and selection process.</p> <p><b>Eligible to apply – and rights to apply</b></p>
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You are eligible to apply. This means that your organisation meets the set of lists for Rethink Ireland.

You have the right to apply. This means that you hold the rights that are needed to carry out the project.

### **Accept these terms and our Privacy Statement**

By sending in your application you are accepting our terms and conditions and our privacy statement. If you do not follow these rules, you may be disqualified and may have to give back any grant given to you.

If you apply for the grant, Rethink Ireland will hold the personal details which you submit with your application form.

We will only share your information with others that are involved in the application and selection process.

We will not share your information with others if we agree this with you beforehand.

You can read more details in our privacy statement.



**Take part in publicity**

If you are successful in your application, you must take part in publicity about the grant.

Rethink Ireland has the right to publish the name of organisations that are successful.

**If a grant is not wanted or taken back**

- if Rethink Ireland offer you a grant but you decide that you do not want the grant, another applicant can be chosen by the board of Rethink Ireland

- If your project is chosen for an award and you accept Rethink Ireland's offer, but you do not follow the rules, the board of Rethink Ireland may choose a different applicant.