

The Disability Participation and Awareness Fund 2024



Friday 8th November 1pm. This is the date your application form should be finished and given to us.

Information about this Fund



Information

- The Fund is for 8 months
- 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 10th of October and the 23rd of October.

October 10th at 1pm to register for this event click [here.](#)

October 23rd at 1pm - 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 take part in community life, including social, cultural, arts, and sports activities.
- Help the community understand more about disabilities and disability issues.
- Support and empower neurodiverse people in their communities.
- Help organisations in Ireland grow so they can provide better services and support more people with disabilities.
- Raise awareness about disability issues in the community

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: Helping people with disabilities join in community activities, meet others, and enjoy different things like outdoor activities and sports.

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

- work to provide activities that promote awareness of the lived experiences of people with disabilities,
- and
- supporting participation in the community,
- and/or
- engagement in sports and outdoor activities
- and/or
- Projects working to make sure shared spaces are accessible





Strand 2: Supporting the participation of people with disabilities in arts and cultural activities.

We give money to projects or groups that help people learn more about disabilities through art and culture. This might include an art centre starting a workshop where people with disabilities can share their experiences through painting, drawing or other art projects.

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

- Work to provide activities that raise awareness of the lived experiences of people with disabilities
- and/or
- Working to increase opportunities in art/ cultural activities for people with disabilities



Strand 3: We give money to projects or organisations that help people with disabilities gain employment. This could be through training, providing employment experiences or apprenticeships to disabled people, building skills, supporting leaders with disabilities or working with Social Enterprises.

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

- Teach or train people with disabilities.
- and/or
- Support people who speak up for disabled people and highlight their lived experiences.
- and/or
- Providing employment experiences or apprenticeships for disabled people

	<p>Strand 4: Supporting neurodiversity.</p> <p>This part is about helping projects that support neurodiverse people. We want to help children and adults with neurodiversity feel included in their communities.</p> <p>To be successful in this part, the project or organisation must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Offer new and useful services, products, or programs that help and support people with neurodiversity● and/or● Work to help people understand the experiences of neurodiverse people.

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
- Leadership: Projects that are led by persons with disabilities.
- Helping Ireland become more environmentally friendly: Projects that are doing things that are good for the environment like protecting nature and animals, fighting pollution and/or helping



people move to more climate-friendly jobs and industries.

When can I apply?

You can apply to this Fund on our website by clicking [here](#) from Monday, 30th September 2024.

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 10th of October and the 23rd of October.

October 10th at 1pm to register for this event click [here](#).

October 23rd at 1pm - to register for this event click [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 disabilityfund3@rethinkireland.ie

How Does the Fund Work?



There will be up to 18 awards available. Each application that is selected will receive:

- A grant (from €50,000 to €200,000),
- Someone that gives advice and support, and
- A place on Rethink Ireland's capacity-building accelerator programme
- Management of your project's performance

*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	Helping people with disabilities join in community activities, meet others, and enjoy different things like outdoor activities and sports.	up to €200,000
Strand 2	Supporting the participation of people with disabilities in arts and cultural activities. We give money to projects or groups that help people learn more about disabilities through art and culture i.e. an art centre starting a workshop where people with disabilities can share their experiences through painting, drawing or other art projects.	up to €200,000
Strand 3	Supporting social enterprise initiatives to provide valuable employment experience or apprenticeships to people with disabilities.	up to €200,000
Strand 4	Supporting projects/initiatives in the area of neurodiversity.	up to €200,000

<p>We give money to projects/organisations who support the participation of neurodiverse children and adults in their local communities. This could be a project that provides innovative and meaningful services, products, or programmes that support, empower and bring awareness of the lived experiences of people who are neurodiverse.</p>	
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Which Projects Can Apply?



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

- Charities
- Co-operative
- 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.
- Individuals. This means people on their own that are not a part of a project or organisation.
- Statutory or public bodies, local development 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 €200,000
- 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 (Optional - It is your choice if you would like to submit a video)

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 you are 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

disabilityfund3@rethinkireland.ie

Frequently Asked Questions



Click [here](#) to see questions other people have asked about our funds.

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.



Age

You are 18 years of age or older.

Honesty

You have given honest and true information at all stages of the application and selection process.

Eligible to apply – and rights to apply

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.