

Eligibility & Application FAQs

Can I apply for financial support towards creative activities if I'm a full-time student?

Unfortunately, we are unable to provide this type of support to full-time undergraduate students. Due to level of demand, we have had to prioritise those who are working full-time as a professional musician. We appreciate that this may be disappointing. If you have a performance related health issue then you may wish to apply to our [Emerging Musicians' Health Scheme](#).

Help Musicians has provided me with financial support towards my creative activities in the past, can I apply again?

You are welcome to apply to us for more support. Please bear in mind that we are unable to provide you with the same type of support more than once in any 12-month period. However, you can apply for a different type of support towards your creative activities at any time.

For example, if you've received support towards recording and releasing music in the past year, you can also apply for support to develop your skills or collaborate whenever you are ready.

How will I know if I'm eligible before I apply?

To be eligible to apply, you must be a professional musician in an occupation creating, performing, or highly technically skilled in music. You must be over 18, based in the UK and have a UK bank account, and be able to demonstrate that you have less than £16,000 in available assets. If in doubt, you can read more in the guidelines on the website, email creative@helpmusicians.org.uk, or book in for a 1:1 advice session with our team [here](#).

Can each member of my band apply separately?

We can't support the same activity twice. If your activity is together, for example if you're a band looking to record a new album, you should nominate a lead applicant to complete the form and you'll be able to add other members to the form as collaborators or co-applicants within the online system.

If you are looking to undertake individual activities, apply separately, but you would each need to explain why the development opportunity is significant to you. If in doubt, you can book in time to talk to one of the team directly [here](#).

My activity is going to start next week, can I still apply?

No. If successful, it takes 8-10 weeks from when you've applied to when you will receive your first payment, so we ask that the activity you want us to support starts at least three-months after you apply.

My activity finished can I apply for financial support to cover expenses I've already incurred?

No, we are unable to support activities that have already occurred.

How much can I apply for?

The maximum amount for each strand of support is different:

- Develop Your Skills – up to £1,500
- Create and Release Music/ MOBO Help Musicians Fund – up to £3,000
- Creative Collaboration – up to £5,000

You can apply for more than one type of support at the same time, but the total must not exceed £5,000. For example, you could apply for £3,000 towards creating and releasing music and £1,500 towards developing your skills in one application.

Can I submit more than one application at a time?

Yes. Each application will be considered separately but you can only be awarded one grant for one type of activity in any 12-month period.

Will I be more successful at different times of the year?

There is no 'better' or worse time to apply for our support; we advise that you plan your application at least 3 months in advance and apply for what you need, when you need it.

Our financial support is highly in demand, so we have a robust assessment processes in place to ensure we make decisions which will be most impactful on musicians' creativity and careers. We track and monitor the demand for applications throughout the year but your application must be of a high standard to be successful. We're always available for a 1:1 chat to help you make the most of applying – email us at creative@helpmusicians.org.uk to book in.

Will I be more successful depending on where I live?

We are committed to supporting musicians from all over the UK so where you live makes no difference to your application. We're particularly keen to receive applications from musicians based outside of the capital and major music hub cities, but we also recognize that these places are often where most musicians are based. Our robust assessment processes ensure all applications are viewed fairly, no matter where you live.

Can I talk to someone about my application form?

If you have any questions about the support we can offer, want to talk through your plans, or are looking for advice about the application process, you can book some time to talk it through with one of the team [here](#).