

AOTEAROA TOURING PROGRAMME FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Why do I need to contact the Music Commission before applying?

The application form is an extensive process and requires tour budgets, business and marketing plans, and prospective tour dates to complete. The intention is that people can get some guidance before undertaking all the required work. This is a contestable Fund with a limited budget, so we want to minimise the work for people who may not be quite ready to gain support. Additionally, as the Programme progresses, we will be able to give advice which will be helpful to your planning – i.e. suggesting possible venues; and letting you know if other tours are confirmed for the same areas at similar times.

How often can I apply?

An artist can receive two grants in a twelve-month period – and a maximum of three grants between now and 30 June 2022. There is no restriction on how often you can put in an application.

What is the difference between Tier 1 and Tier 2?

The key difference is that the maximum grant is much bigger – this means the Tour Plan part of the application will have to be very detailed, and that the evidence of demand will need to be robust. There is one additional eligible cost for Tier 2, and that is pre-production expenses.

What are the eligible costs?

There are a range of different tour related costs you can apply for. These include:

- Accommodation
- Air travel
- Ground transportation including petrol
- Freight and trucking costs
- Venue hire fees
- Sound production costs (including backline)
- Lighting and staging production costs
- Security costs
- Session musician fees for live performance
- Support band fees
- Sound and stage technician fees
- Tour manager and door person fees
- Promotion including publicity fees
- Advertising and marketing costs including local media spends
- Artwork
- Insurance
- Tier 2 only – Pre Production costs of up to three days.

What are the non-eligible costs?

There are costs that will not be funded through the programme. Ineligible tour related costs include:

- International airfares and quarantine costs
- Staff salaries and wages, rent and office overheads
- Management fees (including management percentage), promoter fees and booking agent fees
- Ticketing and inside charge fees
- OneMusic and APRA licence fees
- Equipment or capital expenditure costs
- Per diems, catering, riders and alcohol
- Merchandise production / manufacturing
- Any activity that occurred prior to the application being submitted.

Can I apply for tours that have already been announced or are underway?

For the first two round only (i.e. until the end of 2020), tours that are already announced and/or on sale, but have not commenced can apply for support if a case can be presented for how the investment will enable the reach of the touring project to increase – i.e. more shows in the regions would be added, all ages performances included, better local media support, greater production capacity etc.

Tours and shows which are announced and sold out are not eligible to apply.

Does the tour need to be fully booked before I can apply?

You need to have at least pencilled dates for your tour before applying. Dates and venues do not need to be fully confirmed to complete your application.

What happens if my tour is cancelled or postponed due to a COVID-19 Alert Level shift?

If you are the successful recipient of a grant and your touring plans are postponed or cancelled due to COVID-19 Alert Level shifts, the Music Commission intends to honour the funding agreement for fixed costs incurred that cannot be moved to later date. In this scenario, each applicant will be dealt with on a case by case basis, as there are many variables that will make each artists situation unique.

Can I apply for less than the Tier limits?

Absolutely – you need to be able to match the investment, and we don't want people spending more than they need to. The limits are the maximum of what you can apply for in each Tier.

What is a local media spend?

This is marketing that you will be undertaking to promote your tour with local outlets. It could be commercial, student or iwi radio stations, local or national newspapers, NZ music websites – basically outlets that are not online international platforms. These platforms are eligible costs, and you can include them in your marketing plan and budget in the application, but we want to encourage spending with local media too.

What do you consider regional shows?

In a nutshell, it is any shows that occur outside of the three main centres – Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch. We want to encourage shows to occur all over New Zealand, from the far north to the far south, when and where it is viable for the artist to perform.

My recent tour lost money. Can we apply for the debt?

No. The Aotearoa Touring Fund will not give retrospective grants to cover losses.

What is the definition of New Zealand music?

The Music Commission uses a similar definition as NZ On Air, Recorded Music NZ for the charts and the Radio Broadcasters Association for measuring local content. New Zealand music is music made by New Zealanders - where "made" means "written or performed" and "New Zealander" means "New Zealand citizen or resident". The full definition is [available here](#).

Why focus on All Ages shows?

Young people across Aotearoa don't get the opportunity to see live, local music as much as they should. Shows and tours which focus on performing for younger audiences will provide the chance for more people to access live music, and help build future audiences across the country.

Can I apply to Creative New Zealand and the Aotearoa Touring Programme for the same tour?

No. Creative New Zealand support a range of music projects through their Arts Grants and other funding streams, but you cannot be supported by both Creative New Zealand and the Aotearoa Touring Programme for the same tour. In the application form you will be asked to disclose all other government funding you have previously applied for in relation to the artist; any other applications that you have currently underway with other organisations; and to confirm that the costs you are applying for are not being funded from any other government source.

There are additional eligibility guidelines and informational about what to include in your National Tour Plan for an application detailed in the [Grant Application Support Document available here](#).

For any further information and queries, please contact:
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