



# Norwegian Artistic Research Programme: Guidelines for the Project Programme

Adopted in accordance with the Programme Board's decision of May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

## 1 Aims

In accordance with the goal formulated in the *Norwegian University and University Colleges Act Section 1-1 (b)*, the *Project Programme* shall contribute to Norwegian artistic research projects of a high international standard being initiated and implemented.

The programme shall contribute to challenging and developing our understanding of artistic research, in dialogue with relevant national and international environments.

On its own initiative, the programme shall initiate measures to promote dialogue on artistic research.

Implementation of the programme's profile through projects and arenas shall contribute to developing and promoting international debate on artistic research.

In this context, artistic research should include the following dimensions:

- A sound basis in artistic practice
- New artistic perspectives and contributions to the development of the art field
- Contributing to critical reflection on content and context
- Articulating and reflecting on methods and work processes
- Promoting critical dialogue within one's own discipline and with other relevant disciplines
- Being accessible to the public in relevant academic forms
- Be limited to a project format, based on a project description and subsequent public presentation of the results

Based on applications, the Programme Board allocates funding for this purpose.

## 2 Who can apply?

All applications must be submitted via a Norwegian institution of higher education, which, contractually, will be the project owner and will be responsible for project implementation.

There are no limitations as to which accredited Norwegian higher education institutions can apply. The deciding factor will be the quality of the application and its compliance with the Programme's criteria, as well as the artistic resources that are made available for implementation of the project.

Other parties can also be active partners in a project, provided that this cooperation is rooted in an institution of higher education.

## 3 What can applicants apply for?

The Programme Board will announce the total funding available for applications, and applicants are expected to be realistic as regards the extent of funding they apply for. Calculations of project costs should follow the standards and definitions given by the Norwegian Research Council, see [http://www.forskningsradet.no/en/Project\\_budgets/1254007196371](http://www.forskningsradet.no/en/Project_budgets/1254007196371) and section 4.2.

It is possible to apply for funding for the implementation of projects with a duration of up to three years - see section 6 concerning disbursement.



## 4 Basis for assessment

Applications will be considered and prioritised based on how they meet the following criteria and formal requirements:

### 4.1 Professional assessment criteria

The professional assessment criteria are divided into five areas:

#### 4.1.1 Artistic topics and project goals

- The project's artistic core
- The project's delimitation, intentions and expected artistic results
- The project's potential to break new ground

#### 4.1.2 Context

- The project's contribution to relevant artistic discourses, nationally and internationally
- How the project is integrated with the institution's academic environment and strategy
- The project affiliation to relevant teaching environments
- Ethical issues relating to the project and its implementation

#### 4.1.3 Work methods

- Which work methods will be used for the various dimensions of the project, see Programme Aims, section 1, fifth paragraph
- Which artistic and methodological challenges/risk factors the project will involve

#### 4.1.4 Project organisation and quality assurance

- Describe the project's interdisciplinary dimension and how the project cooperate with other artistic and academic environments
- Describe the project's relation to or collaborations with external partners, for example other institutions, enterprises and/or organisations
- Describe how the gender balance is secured in the project, and elaborate on eventual aspects of multiplicity
- How will the project's international dimension be attended to
- Who will be the project manager with professional responsibility for implementing the project
- How much time the project manager will devote to the project
- Who the project partners will be
- Whether the participants in the project have the artistic/academic qualifications required to achieve the project's goals (background, competence etc.)
- What human and financial resources will be made available for the project, including the institution's - and possible partners' - own contribution. See also section 4.2 concerning the funding plan
- How will the project will be incorporated into the institution's organisational structure in order to ensure progress and academic quality
- Will the project include research fellows and/or MA students as active participants, and if such is the case, how?

#### 4.1.5 Communication, presentation and dissemination

- How different processes are highlighted as the project progresses, and how they are communicated externally
- How different aspects of the artistic results will be presented and communicated



## 4.2 Requirements for an application to be considered

For an application to be considered, the elements relating to the assessment criteria in section 4.1 must be described. The following requirements must also be met:

- The formal applicant and project owner must be a Norwegian institution of higher education
- A specific project manager must be identified. This person must have qualifications equivalent to that of an associate professor and must be employed by the applicant institution in at least a 50% position. He or she will be professionally responsible for implementation of the project<sup>1</sup>
- The institutions must make project funding available from their own budgets and they must also describe what forms of funding which will be allocated to the project
- A binding schedule for the project implementation and conclusion must be submitted
- All applications for project support must contain a complete budget for the project specified by calendar year. The budget must include a cost plan detailing the costs expected to accrue to the project and a funding plan showing how the project will cover these costs. NARP uses the same definitions of project costs as the Norwegian Research Council, but the rate for doctoral research fellowship is at the moment NOK 803.000. The NARP appendix for budget proposal and funding plan must be used. Institutions may locally use more detailed templates to calculate input to the NARP budget appendix and additionally submit those
- The application must describe the environmental impact of the project
- The application, its short dissemination abstract and all attachments must be submitted as PDF files and the application text cannot exceed the length specified in the individual sections of the application form

## 5 Consideration of applications

Applications can only be submitted in English.

### 5.1 Final date for applications

The final date for applications is October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

### 5.2 Expert assessment

Applications lacking a description of mandatory elements of the assessment criteria set out in section 4.1 or failing to meet the requirements in section 4.2, will not be forwarded for expert assessment. Such decisions will be made administratively.

NARP (The Programme Board) calls for an international peer list as a basis for external expert assessment. The list will cover all discipline areas that constitutes the programme. External experts listed will be individually appointed for assessing proposals. NARP will keep the list of peers public.

The peers list may be expanded due to project requirements and eventual suggestions from the applicants. Applicants may themselves recommend specific external experts to serve as referees. NARP is under no obligation to comply with such recommendations, and no application will be subject solely to the review of experts proposed by the applicant. Applicants may also notify NARP of any objections (with appropriate grounds) that they might have regarding the use of a specific expert. It should be noted that the NARP is not required to take such objections into account.

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<sup>1</sup> This requirement concerns the actual project implementation period, and salary expenses for the project manager *may* be included in the funding plan. Consequently, it is not a requirement that the project manager is employed by the institution *before* project start-up. However, the requirement concerning formal qualification must be in place when the application is submitted.



Applications are externally reviewed and assessed by at least two individual referees. If the opinions of the two individuals consulted are widely divergent, The Programme Board may call in a third expert to assess the application. To ensure maximum uniformity in the use of the assessment grading scale, referees are normally requested to review more than one grant proposal. The experts write an individual statement on each application based on an assessment in relation to the criteria in section 4.1 and the requirements in section 4.2. Without any ranking of the applications, the assessment must conclude with either *Worthy of support* or *Not worthy of support*.

The expert assessment and their names is classified information, but it will be made available to the applying institution and project participants.

### **5.3 Decisions on allocations**

The Programme Board decides allocations based on the criteria in sections 4.1 - 4.2 and the expert assessment.

### **5.4 Impartiality**

Members of the Programme Board and their deputies may not assist with applications. NARP uses the guidelines for impartiality of the Norwegian Research Council.

## **6 Contract, disbursement and reporting**

When funding has been allocated, the project owner (the institution) is responsible for implementation and quality assurance of the project. A separate contract will be drawn up for each project.

The contract shall state that:

- The first payout will be transferred upon signing of the contract and the remaining will be paid upon delivery of the annual and reports, in accordance with the financial plan
- The project owner (the institution) is required to ensure that key project participants take part in and provide presentations for the annual Artistic Research Forum during the project term and after conclusion of the project
- Project results will be presented for publication in the Journal for Artistic Research or equivalent international publication channels
- Project results will be archived in the NARP portal of Research Catalogue or in the respective institutional research archives

The contract shall set out the reporting procedures for the individual project.

It is possible to apply for funding for projects with duration of up to three years. In such case, the funding will take place through an annual allocation, based on the original commitment, confirmation of progress from the institution, and subject to annual allocations from the Norwegian parliament.

The Project Owner and Manager are required to make reference to the NARP's funding and contribution to the project in any external information issued about the project.

The quality of project implementation, dissemination and archiving, will be decisive in relation to future allocations to the same institution.