Shared Island Digital Creative Industries Innovation Programme - Application Form

Supported by the Government of Ireland and the Shared Island Initiative

This application form should be completed and submitted by the Lead Administrative/ Governance Institution in Ireland, with supporting documentation (available at: https://hea.ie/skills-engagement/42533/) emailed to the HEA, on behalf of all project partners by 12:00pm on Tuesday 15th December 2026.



* Required

Consortium Overview & Team Composition

Completion of this section is required. In this section, applicants will be asked to provide details regarding:

1. The eligible Lead Partner(s) in Ireland;
2. The eligible Lead Partner(s) in Northern Ireland;
3. The eligible Industry Partner(s); and
4. Any External and/or Additional Partners that may be involved in the proposal.
5. Details of the breakdown of funding being sought for eligible consortium partners is also requested.
6. Justification for the team composition relative to the project proposal should also be detailed in this section.

1. Identify the Lead Administrative/ Governance Institution in Ireland *

The lead HEI in Ireland will be regarded as the **Lead Administrative/ Governance Institution** for HEA communication, award governance, and management purposes. Where projects have two (Ireland HEI) co-leads, one of those HEIs must be designated as the Lead Administrative/ Governance Institution.

- ◯ Atlantic Technological University
- ◯ Dublin City University
- ◯ Dublin Dental Hospital
- ◯ Dún Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design & Technology
- ◯ Dundalk Institute of Technology
- ◯ Institute for Advanced Studies (DIAS)
- ◯ Marino Institute of Education
- ◯ Mary Immaculate College, Limerick
- ◯ Maynooth University
- ◯ Munster Technological University
- ◯ National College of Art & Design
- ◯ National College of Ireland
- ◯ RCSI University of Medicine & Health Sciences
- ◯ Royal Irish Academy of Music
- ◯ South East Technological University
- ◯ St. Patrick's College, Maynooth
- ◯ Technological University Dublin
- ◯ Technological University of the Shannon: Midlands Midwest
- ◯ University College Cork
- ◯ University College Dublin
- ◯ University of Dublin, Trinity College
- ◯ University of Galway
- ◯ University of Limerick

2. Please provide the address of the Lead Administrative/ Governance Institution in Ireland *

(e.g. University, HEI Road, City, Eircode)

3. Specify the proposed funding amount being sought for all HEI Consortium Partner(s) in Ireland *

- Amounts should be entered in euro
- Subtotal of IRL Partner A + IRL Partner B + etc… (if multiple partner HEIs in Ireland).

4. Name of the Lead Institution in Northern Ireland *

- ◯ Armagh Observatory
- ◯ Centre for Cross Border Studies
- ◯ Queen's University Belfast
- ◯ St. Mary's University College
- ◯ Stranmillis University College
- ◯ The Open University
- ◯ Ulster University

5. Please provide the address of the Lead Institution in Northern Ireland *

(e.g. University, HEI Road, City, Postcode)

6. Specify the proposed funding amount being sought for all HEI Consortium Partner(s) in Northern Ireland *

   - Amounts should be entered in euro and **cannot exceed 30%** of total project budget
   - Subtotal of NI Partner A + NI Partner B + etc (if multiple HEI partners in Northern Ireland)
   - The InforEuro website should be used for calculating exchange rates

7. Please provide the registered business name of the primary Industry Partner *

8. Please provide the registered business address of the primary Industry Partner named above *

   (e.g. Business Name, Road, City, Eircode / Postcode)

9. Specify the proposed funding amount being sought for all Consortium Industry Partner(s) *

   - Amounts should be entered in euro and **cannot exceed 10%** of total project budget
   - Subtotal of Ind Partner A + Ind Partner B + etc (if multiple Industry Partners involved)
   - The InforEuro website should be used for calculating exchange rate

10. Will there be any External Partners involved in the proposed project? *

    External partners from further education, civic society, cultural organisations, creative enterprise, and innovation from Ireland and Northern Ireland may also be included. NGOs and charities must be officially registered. Research Performing Organisations and other government agencies may be also included as external partners.

    ◯ Yes

    ◯ No

11. Specify to proposed funding amount being sought for all Consortium External Partner(s), if any

These details must be provided if you answered "Yes" to the previous question

- Amounts should be entered in euro and **cannot exceed 5%** of total project budget
- Subtotal of Ext Partner A + Ext Partner B + etc (if multiple External Partners)
- The InforEuro website should be used for calculating exchange rate

12. Will there be any Additional Partners involved in the proposed project? *

Other additional partners from outside of Ireland and Northern Ireland may be included in a project application, provided their inclusion can be demonstrated by the proposers as bringing added value and further support to the project in meeting the aims and objectives of the DCIIP. **Such additional partners must not be included in place of partners in Ireland or Northern Ireland.**

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

13. Define why this consortium is an appropriate mix of HEI(s) and Partners (where relevant) to undertake this proposal (**covering points below**) *

1. Outline the CAREER PROFILE of the Lead Investigators including education and employment history.
2. Provide a summary of expertise and track record of Lead Investigators in the proposed area of research by referring to their key achievement in research excellence, research engagement and collaboration including the generation of knowledge and/or application of research that is strategic in nature, development of individuals and/or team building.

500 words max.

14. Define why this consortium is an appropriate mix of HEI(s) and Partners (where relevant) to undertake this proposal (**covering points below**) *

    1. Describe how the applicants and/or the applicants' institutions have contributed to the proposed area of research by further demonstrating their track record and their capacity to successfully deliver a proposal of this scale on time and on budget in line with the objectives of the scheme.
    2. Describe how the applicants and/or the applicants' institutions have contributed to engaged research in the proposed research area and/or outside of the proposed research area. Describe how the applicants and/or the applicants' institutions have led and/ or contributed to the development and improvement of research culture on an institutional and/or national, or all island or international basis, beyond and/or appropriate to their career stage.

    500 words Max.

15. Please confirm that you will email a copy of the **Project Consortium & Team Composition Template** in the required format to the HEA by the application deadline. *

    1. The Project Consortium & Team Composition template should provide the details of all **HEI Partners** in Ireland and Northern Ireland, all **Industry Partners** in Ireland and/or Northern Ireland, and any **External Partners** and/or **Additional Partners**.
    2. Details for Project Team Members at **HEI Partners** in Ireland and Northern Ireland must be added. Details should also be included of Project Team Members from **Industry Partner(s)**. If **External Partner(s)** and/or **Additional Partner(s)** are involved in the consortium, details for those Team Members should be included.

    The file must be emailed in **Excel format** using the template provided (**Required**)

    ◯ Confirm

Eligibility & Contact Details

Completion of this section is required.

Project applications will be open to eligible researchers, innovators, and interdisciplinary teams from creative industries relevant disciplines, including technology, engineering, arts, humanities, media, and design. **Applications will be open to all eligible researchers, at early, mid, or advanced stages of their careers.**

HEIs are expected to support project applications led by researchers across all career stages. The Lead Investigators and any Co-Lead Investigators in Ireland and Northern Ireland must have a proven track record and expertise relevant to the creative sector. Interdisciplinary project applications are encouraged.

16. Specify the Title and Full Name of the Lead Investigator in the Lead Administrative/Governance Institution in Ireland *

17. Is the Lead Investigator currently employed at the Lead Administrative/Governance Institution in Ireland? *

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

18. Please indicate where the Lead Investigator in Ireland is currently employed

These details must be provided if you answered "No" to the previous question

19. Specify the Lead Investigator in Ireland's role (job title) *

(e.g. Lecturer)

20. Please indicate the gender with which the Lead Investigator in the Lead Administrative/Governance Institution in Ireland identifies? *

- ◯ Female
- ◯ Male
- ◯ Non-binary
- ◯ Other
- ◯ Prefer not to say

21. Please provide the date of birth for the Lead Investigator in Ireland *

(Date format M/d/yyyy)

22. Current country of residence of the Lead Investigator in Ireland *

23. Email Address for the Lead Investigator in Ireland *

24. ORCID

(Provide your ORCID in the following format: 0000-0001-2345-6789)

25. Will the Lead Investigator in the Lead Administrative/Governance Institution in Ireland be the primary contact for the project? *

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

26. Please provide the name and email address of the primary contact in the Lead Administrative/Governance Institution in Ireland

These details must be provided if you answered "No" to the previous question

27. Specify the Title and Full Name of the Lead Investigator in the Lead Institution in Northern Ireland *

28. Is the Lead Investigator in Northern Ireland currently employed at the Lead Institution in Northern Ireland? *

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

29. Please indicate where the Lead Investigator in Northern Ireland is currently employed

These details must be provided if you answered "No" to the previous question

30. Specify the Lead Investigator in Northern Ireland's role (job title) *

(e.g. Lecturer)

31. Please indicate the gender with which the Lead Investigator in the Lead Institution in Northern Ireland identifies? *

- ◯ Female
- ◯ Male
- ◯ Non-binary
- ◯ Other
- ◯ Prefer not to say

32. Please provide the date of birth for the Lead Investigator in Northern Ireland *

(Date format M/d/yyyy)

33. Current country of residence of the Lead Investigator Northern Ireland *

34. Email Address for the Lead Investigator in Northern Ireland *

35. ORCID

(Provide your ORCID in the following format: 0000-0001-2345-6789)

Proposal Details

Completion of this section is required.

In this section applicants are asked to provide details regarding:

1. The Proposal overview (title, abbreviation, duration, etc);
2. The Proposal summary; and
3. The Proposal's alignment with the Digital Creative Industries Innovation Programme.

36. Project Title *

100 words max.

37. Abbreviation of Proposed Title *

This field will be used as the main project identifier (**10 characters max**.)

38. Key Words *

10 words max.

39. Does the submitted research proposal relate to basic or strategic research? *

- ◯ Basic
- ◯ Strategic

40. Does the requested project meet the 36 months duration? *

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

41. Please indicate which Pillar the proposed project is applying for funding under *

- ◯ Pillar I: Innovation Hubs and Collaborative Networks
- ◯ Pillar II: Partnerships of Scale

42. Please indicate the proposed project's research area(s) *

250 words max.

43. Please indicate if your project belongs in any of the following categories *

- ◯ Interdisciplinary
- ◯ Multipdisciplinary
- ◯ Transdisciplinary
- ◯ None of the above

44. Please specify disciplines and synergies, approaches and dynamics involved, as relevant

Details must be provided if you answered "Interdisciplinary", "Multidisciplinary", or "Transdisciplinary" to the previous question

45. Please provide the RCI code

Codes are available from Research Classification Ireland publication

46. Project Abstract *

This answer must not contain any confidential personal information.

This should be a succinct and accurate summary of the proposed work when read in isolation (**300 words max**.)

47. Lay Abstract *

This should be a succinct and accurate summary of the proposed work in lay, non-technical language. It should provide a clear understanding of the objectives of the proposal and how they will be achieved. Please be advised that the lay abstract will be used for dissemination purposes and therefore please be mindful to use accessible language to engage all audiences. It will be used as the short description of the proposal in the assessment process. (**300 words max**.)

48. Identify and outline how this project will address one or more of the key principles and the specific programme criteria for the Shared Island Digital Creative Industries Innovation Programme *

100 words max.

49. Which of the following will your project contribute to: *

- [ ] Impact 2030
- [ ] Digital Creative Industries Roadmap 2024-2026
- [ ] Shared Island Initiative
- [ ] Sectoral and regional innovation and enterprise strategies, north and south, on the island of Ireland
- [ ] Relevant European and international innovation priorities

50. Which Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will the proposal contribute to? *

- [ ] SDG1 No Poverty
- [ ] SDG2 Zero Hunger
- [ ] SDG3 Good Health & Wellbeing
- [ ] SDG4 Quality Education
- [ ] SDG5 Gender Equality
- [ ] SDG6 Clean Water & Sanitation
- [ ] SDG7 Affordable & Clean Energy
- [ ] SDG8 Decent Work & Economic Growth
- [ ] SDG9 Industry, Innovation & Infrastructure
- [ ] SDG10 Reduced Inequalities
- [ ] SDG11 Sustainable Cities & Communities
- [ ] SDG12 Responsible Consumption & Production
- [ ] SDG13 Climate Action
- [ ] SDG14 Life Below Water
- [ ] SDG15 Life on Land
- [ ] SDG16 Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions
- [ ] SDG17 Partnerships for the Goals
- [ ] None of the above

51. Identify and outline how the proposed project will address and/or complement one or more of the following: Impact 2030; the Digital Creative Industries Roadmap 2024-2026; the Shared Island Initiative; sectoral and regional innovation and enterprise strategies, north and south, on the island of Ireland; and relevant European and international innovation priorities. *

150 words max.

Purpose of the Proposal

Completion of this section is required.

In this section applicants are asked to identify and detail the proposal's:

1. aims and objectives;
2. expected outcomes;
3. project design; and
4. methodology and implementation.

52. Define the aims of the proposal *

100 words max.

53. Define the objectives of the proposal *

100 words max.

54. What are the expected outputs and outcomes of the proposed project? *

100 words max.

55. Does your proposed research involve any of the following: *

- [ ] Humans as the research focus
- [ ] Animals as the research focus
- [ ] Human samples and/or data
- [ ] Humans involved as consumers, users, patients, or in trials
- [ ] Research on animals, animal samples and/or data
- [ ] Research outputs with implications for end users or consumers
- [ ] None of the above

56. Has full consideration been given to the potential sex/gender dimension of your proposed research? *

If your research involves any of the above, please indicate how potential sex/gender issues will be handled by providing a statement in **Design, Methodology and Implementation** template, detailing whether there is a potential sex/gender dimension to be considered in carrying out your research. Should your answer be "No", justification must also be provided.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

57. Please confirm that you will email a copy of the **Design, Methodology and Implementation Template** in the required format to the HEA by the application deadline. *

Define and provide details of the project design and the proposal's implementation plan and governance structure, demonstrating that it will address the key principles of the DCIIP and the specific programme criteria as set out in the Call Document. Expected project outcomes and impact should be included.

The file must be emailed in **PDF format** using the template provided (**Required**)

- ◯ Confirm

58. Please confirm that you will email a copy of your project's **Gantt Chart** in the required format to the HEA by the application deadline. *

Project applicant's own template.

The Gantt Chart should be a visualisation of the timelines for the completion of the project, outlining the work-packages, outputs, deliverables and key milestones of the project. This will inform the implementation phase of the proposal.

The file must be emailed in **PDF or Excel** format only (**Required**)

◯ Confirm

Benefits of the Proposal Collaboration

1. Demonstrate how both the quality of the proposal being presented and the outcomes expected through the proposed collaboration and partnership will address the key principles of the programme and the specific funding criteria.
2. Detail the partnership to demonstrate how a deep and meaningful collaboration will be facilitated. Include details of how the project will impact on the education and research sectors in Ireland and Northern Ireland and on the substance, level, and quality of research collaboration including the adequacy and specificity of arrangements for formal governance, management, financial and risk management and co-ordination of the work.
3. Describe how the proposal will develop sustainable collaboration beyond the duration of the project.
4. Describe the project's long-term impacts/ structures/ networks and where relevant, demonstrate plans for sustainable impact beyond the life of the programme.
5. In relation to the proposed research, describe its overall outcomes and impact.
6. Where it arises identify any source and amount of any additional external financial or other support being provided and describe how this will enhance the proposal.
7. Where appropriate include any relevant information regarding the TRL status of the application of the research or the expected technology readiness level (TRL) status of the application of the research arising from any support that may be provided through this funding call and the identified source of external funding.

59. Benefits of the Proposed Collaboration (**Covering Points 1-3 above**) *

500 words max.

60. Benefits of the Proposed Collaboration (**covering points 4-7 above**) *

500 words max.

61. Is the proposed project already in receipt of funding from other sources? *

If the proposed project is currently or has previously been funded either in full, or in part, by the Higher Education Authority or any other funding agency, applications will be deemed **ineligible** and will not be considered.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

62. Specify the co-funding amount in euro, identify the source of the co-funding amount and provide additional details

Funding amount and details must be provided if you answered "Yes" to the previous (300 words max.)

High Level Data Management Plan

Completion of this section is required.

In this section, applicants are asked to provide a high-level description of the data management plan for the proposed project.

63. Please confirm that you will email a copy of the **Data Management Plan Template** in the required format to the HEA by the application deadline. *

    Applicants are asked to provide a high-level description of the data management plan for the proposed project, outlining how research data will be handled, organised, protected, and shared throughout the entire lifecycle of the project.

    The file must be emailed in **PDF format** using the template provided (**Required**)

    ◯ Confirm

Budget

Completion of this section is required.

In this section, applicants are asked to provide a clear breakdown of the total funding being requested for the proposed projects using the draft template provided by the HEA. Clear justification for the budget must be provided.

NOTES:

1. The maximum award value is €1,100,000 (Pillar I) or €3,000,000 (Pillar II). Where the budget being requested in a proposal is significantly lower than the maximum allowable amount, clear justification for the request should be included in the proposal.
2. Please ensure that the total amount requested in the online application portal is correct. Changes **will not** be accepted after submission.
3. Please ensure that you have not requested more than the maximum amount available in the Pillar being applied for.
4. The submitted budget and justification must not contain confidential information. (Confidential information is personal data including, but not limited to email address, date of birth, personal details of other participants, nationality, etc.)

64. Specify the total funding amount (**in euro**) being requested for the project proposal *

    The total funding amount is equal to the funding amount allocated to consortium partners in Ireland and consortium partners in Northern Ireland, Industry Partners and External Partners, inclusive.

65. Please confirm that you will email a copy of the **Budget Template** in the required format to the HEA by the application deadline. *

    Applicants are asked to provide a clear breakdown of the total funding being requested under the relevant Pillar for the proposed project, using the Budget Template provided by the HEA. Clear justification for the budget must be provided.

    The file must be emailed in **Excel format** using the template provided (**Required**)

    ◯ Confirm

Compliance

Completion of this section is required.

In this section, applicants are asked to confirm compliance with the eligibility requirements and to confirm agreement with the provision of data.

66. Does your proposed project require Ethical Approval? *

Please note that answering 'No' and non-compliance will render the application **ineligible**

NOTE:
Costs requested for the use of incentives/ vouchers to recruit and incentivise participants/ participation in a project should be clearly set out and justified 'Other Costs' in the Budget Template. Approval for this cost will be subject to evidence being provided to the HEA of approval for their use from relevant institutional research/ ethics committee.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

67. Detail the ethical implications of the proposed project and how they will be addressed in relation to the work-packages presented. If ethical approval is required on a staged basis, please provide details of the expected timelines for each stage of approval

Details must be provided if you answered "Yes" to the previous question (500 words max.)

68. Do the proposers confirm that all State Aid rules and regulations and export controls will be complied with in respect of all partners in the project? *

Please note that answering 'No' and non-compliance will render the application **ineligible**

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

69. Do the proposers confirm that any Additional Partners have not been included in place of collaborators in Ireland or Northern Ireland? *

Please note that answering 'No' and non-compliance will render the application **ineligible**

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

Declarations

Completion of this section is required.

70. I (authorised signatory) hereby declare that the above particulars are correct, have been agreed with all partners, and understand that the Call requirements, conditions and criteria in the Call document and the Terms and Conditions in any Letter of Offer for funding will apply. I accept that failure to abide by the Call requirements, conditions and criteria in the Call document and Terms and Conditions may disqualify me from this Scheme. I also authorise the Higher Education Authority to verify, if necessary, any of the information supplied in this application. *

◯ I Agree

71. I confirm that any disclosed Special Category Personal Data has been provided with the consent of all partners involved with the agreement that the Higher Education Authority is given explicit consent for this data to be processed and stored by the Higher Education Authority in accordance with the HEA data protection notice: https://hea.ie/about-us/data_protection/ *

◯ I Agree

72. The proposers confirm that the information supplied in this application is correct. *

◯ I Agree

Irish Language Translation

73. Has your application been completed in Irish? *

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

74. If you completed this application form in Irish, please confirm that you will email a copy of the **English Translation** in the required format to the HEA by the application deadline.

The file must be emailed in **PDF format** (**Required if application completed in Irish only**)

- ◯ Confirm

Endorsement by the Lead Administrative/ Governance Institution

Completion of this section is required.

All proposals must be signed by the President/ Vice-President/ Director of Research or the appropriate office holder in this regard within the Lead Institutions. Please complete the **Endorsement Template** available on the HEA website.

Please note that failure to provide a completed endorsement template signed by the President/ Vice-President/ Director of Research or the appropriate office holder in this regard within the Lead Institutions will render the application **ineligible**.

75. Please confirm that you will email a copy of the signed **Endorsement Template** in the required format to the HEA by the application deadline. *

The file must be emailed in **PDF format** using the template provided (**Required**)

◯ Confirm

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Microsoft. The data you submit will be sent to the form owner.

Microsoft Forms