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Annex 1 to Decision IES-DEC nr $\_$	/	

## Launch announcement

of the non-reimbursable funding programme *Mobilities for cultural professionals* 

## 1. Context

**Mobilities for cultural professionals programme** is a non-reimbursable funding programme of internships and travel grants for professionals working in the cultural sector, funded from the local budget of the Municipality of Timisoara.

Internships and travel grants(rejoined in the context of this funding program as mobilities for cultural professionals) have two directions, to and from Timişoara, and play an important role in increasing international collaborations and profiling Timişoara as an important pole of contemporary art and culture in the region and in Europe.

In the long term, the mobility programme for the cultural field aims to become a constant form of encouraging the participation and international movement of cultural professionals, continuous learning and professional development, as well

The 2025 edition of the program represents a legacy element of the National Cultural Program "Timisoara - European Capital of Culture in 2023", being configured on the experience of implementing the Power Station++ | Mobilities for professionals in the cultural sector, launched in 2023 and ended in 2024, which expanded and strengthened the Timisoara 2023 Cultural Program as collaboration and strengthening of partnerships.

The provisions of this notice are supplemented by those of the Applicant's Guide (Annex no. 2 to HCL no. \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_.2025).

# 2. Purpose and objectives of the funding programme

## 2.1. Purpose

**Mobilities for cultural professionals programme** supports the participation, national and international circulation of professionals in the cultural field,

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continuous learning, collaboration and the strengthening of national and international partnerships.

### 2.2. Objective

## **General objectives:**

- Supporting the national and international mobility of professionals active in the cultural field, particularly in relation to current or future cities holding the title of European Capital of Culture or twinned cities with Timisoara;
- (2) Increasing the visibility of the local cultural scene on the national and international level;
- (3) Supporting important, locally representative and/or culturally/artistically valuable projects.

## Specific objective Internships:

(1) Developing the skills of people working in the cultural field through participation in national and international internships.

## Specific objectives **Travel grants**:

- Outbound Travel: Increasing the participation of cultural professionals from Timisoara in events and in the activity of cultural organisations in Romania and abroad.
- (2) *Inbound Travel:* A better understanding of Timisoara's local scene by Romanian and international professionals.

# 3. Who can apply?

The funding programme is addressed to natural persons applicants, at least 18 years of age, or authorized natural persons, Romanian or foreign, active in the cultural sector.

The programme funds **internships** that:

- last at least 10 calendar days period away, at a host organization, which
  gives its consent to receive the applicant as an internship;
- have one/more training objectives assumed through the funding application;
- bring benefits not only to the trainee, but also to the local context and/or the organization with which he collaborates/works constantly.

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The programme funds travel grants that:

- consist of participating in an event/project/organization, with a well-defined purpose, for which the applicant can prove that he received the organizer's consent;
- bring benefits to the participant in terms of visibility, promotion of practices, works, documentation and exploration of new partnerships or collaborations.

Professionals from the cultural sector are encouraged to participate - artists, cultural managers, producers, curators, art critics, financial managers, cultural mediators, researchers, cultural communication professionals, cultural policy professionals, other occupations in the area of technical or administrative support for the cultural scene, regardless of their status of employees, freelancers, etc.

Training internships and international travel grants are encouraged, especially in relation to cultural organizations or professionals active in current (Chemnitz, Germany and Nova Gorica/Gorizia, Slovenia/Italy) or future European Capitals of Culture cities (list <u>here</u>), as well as twinned cities with Timişoara (list <u>here</u>).

Examples of formats addressed by the funding programme: exchange of experience, artistic residency, research/study visit, involvement in a specific project/ programme of an artistic organization/group, involvement in the realization of a large-scale event (festival, network meeting, international exhibition, etc.), participation in a conference / forum / professional networking event or with the aim of exploring partnerships for new cultural projects, mentoring/coaching, training programme, job shadowing, etc.

# 4. Budget and characteristics

### 4.1. Training internships:

- Total estimated budget: 110.000 RON, of which 20.000 RON fund for appeals
- Budget divided according to thematic directions
  - Inbound Internships (hosted by organizations from Timisoara, for national/international professionals): 30.000 RON
  - Outbound Internships (hosted by national/international organizations outside Timisoara, for professionals from Timisoara): 60.000 RON
- Ceilings (maximum amounts of the requested non-reimbursable funding)

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### Inbound internships

- In Timișoara (for professionals from outside Timisoara):
   max. 10.000 RON
- National (for Timișoara residents): max. 10.000 RON

#### Outbound internships

• International (for people from Timișoara): max. 15.000 RON

## • Instalments of non-reimbursable funding

- 1st instalment: max. 70% (within maximum 30 days after signing the funding agreement)
- 2nd instalment: min. **30%** (within maximum 30 days after the submission of the activity report and its verification)

#### 4.2. Travel grants

- Total estimated budget: 190.000 RON, of which 20.000 RON fund for appeals
- Budget divided according to thematic directions
  - Inbound Travel (travel grants to Timisoara, for national/international professionals): 80.000 RON
  - **Outbound Travel** (national/international travel grants outside Timisoara, for professionals from Timisoara): 90.000 RON
- Ceilings (maximum amounts of the requested non-reimbursable funding)

#### Inbound Travel

- In Timisoara (for professionals from outside Timisoara): max. 8.000 RON
- National (for professionals from Timișoara): max. 8.000 RON

#### Outbound travel

International travel (for professionals from Timișoara): max.
 10.000 RON

#### Installments of non-reimbursable funding

- 1st instalment: **max. 70**% (within maximum 30 days after signing the funding agreement)
- 2nd instalment: min. 30% (within maximum 30 days after the submission of the activity report and its verification)

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The beneficiary will identify and attract complementary sources of funding of at least 1% (percentage of the total budget, i.e. the budget including the requested grant and complementary sources of funding).

The complementary source of funding cannot come from another application/project funded by the Center for Projects of the Municipality of Timisoara.

An applicant may submit only **one application** to this funding programme.

## 5. Calendar

Period	Activity
april 2025	Start registration
>	<b>Continuous process</b> of registration, evaluation and contracting – until the allocated budgets are exhausted.
	The stages that an application will go through for funding are as follows:
	Stage 1
	Registration in the mobility programme – submission of the funding application, together with the requested documents according to the Applicant's Guide (Chapter 8).
	Stage 2
	Administrative compliance and eligibility check. Publishing the result of the verification. Submission and resolution of any appeals.
	<b>Stage 3</b> Evaluation of applications. Publication of the evaluation result.
	Stage 4
	Filing and resolving any appeals.
	Stage 5
	Publication of the final results.
	Stage 6

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Signing the funding agreement. Payment of the first installment, based on the payment request or, as the case may be, the invoice issued by the beneficiary.

## Notice!

The registration deadline (considering that the allocated budget is not used up by then) is October 2025.

The maximum period from registration until the publication of the evaluation result is 14 calendar days.

Within a maximum of 7 calendar days from the publication of the evaluation result, the funding agreement is signed. The expenses for which funding is requested can only be carried out after the date of signing the agreement, during its execution.

After completing the mobility, within no more than 14 calendar days, the beneficiaries of the grant will submit an activity report, accompanied by supporting documents for the expenses incurred.

< november 2025

Deadline for submitting the activity report, the supporting documents regarding the expenses incurred and the press file.

## 6. Evaluation

## 6.1. Evaluation process

The evaluation and selection of applications is carried out by **selection committees** made up of:

 a) representatives of the funding authority with experience and/or responsibilities regarding the local cultural sector;

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b) specialists with an experience of at least 3 years or, as the case may be, at least 2 years in the management and/or evaluation of cultural projects, in the fields for which the selection session is organized.

The work of the evaluators is to evaluate the applications. The selection is made **based on the points obtained**, calculated by the arithmetic mean of the points awarded by each member of the commission, according to the evaluation criteria established in this announcement.

Proposals with a **total score of minimum 70 points**, out of a maximum score of 100 points, will be selected for non-reimbursable funding.

Applicants have the right to file **appeals** on the manner of compliance with the procedure regarding the organization and conduct of the stage of verification of administrative compliance and eligibility, as well as on the results of the evaluation and selection.

Appeals will be sent electronically, to the e-mail address projecte@centruldeprojecte.ro.

The evaluation and selection process is carried out online, on the page <a href="https://centruldeproiecte.ro/finantari/mobilities-for-cultural-professionals-2025/">https://centruldeproiecte.ro/finantari/mobilities-for-cultural-professionals-2025/</a>.

For more information on evaluation, please refer to Chapter 9. Evaluation and selection process in the Applicant's Guide (Annex 2 to Decision IES-DEC No. \_\_\_\_\_).

## 6.2. Evaluation criteria

Criteria	Maximum score
I. Application quality	60
Relevance in relation to Timişoara's the cultural scene  The possessity or the relevance of the application in relation to the cultural scene	20
The necessity or the relevance of the application in relation to the cultural scene of Timișoara and/or the applicant's professional development.	20

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20

Cooperation between organizations with cultural experience and emerging professionals, at local and international level, is assessed through:			
<ul> <li>the applicant's ability to explore and develop contacts and professional skills, within the internship offered by the host organization or the trip;</li> </ul>			
<ul> <li>the capacity of the activities proposed in the mobility plan to facilitate a better knowledge of the specific cultural contexts, thus connected;</li> </ul>			
<ul> <li>the ability of the applicant's practice to contribute in making connections between the local and national or international scenes, between organisations, artists and other cultural professionals.</li> </ul>			
European/International dimension			
Connecting Timisoara internationally, especially with cultural centers, including current and future European Capitals of Culture: (2025: Chemnitz, Germany and Nova Gorica/Gorizia, Slovenia/Italy; 2026-2029: list <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a> ), as well as twinned cities with Timişoara (list <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a> ).			
<b>5 points</b> will be awarded to applications with a significant international/national dimension in terms of the concept and themes addressed within the mobility, but also in the portfolio of the applicant and the host organization(s).	10		
An additional <b>5 points</b> will be awarded if the mobility connects Timișoara to one of the above mentioned cities.			
Attention! In order to be selected, your application must score a minimum of 5 points in this criterion.			
mportance, relevance or cultural/artistic value of the application			
The applicant proposes a mobility plan that pursues artistic value and professional excellence and has the potential to further contribute to the development of Timisoara's cultural scene.	10		
II. Experience	20		
The applicant proves an appropriate and consistent professional experience in the cultural field, by:			
experience acquired in educational contexts, applied practice or individual study;			
professional history confirmed by presenting the résumé/portfolio and, optionally, other informative supporting materials.			
III. Compliance	20		
Coherence, clarity and eloquence – wording the application in a way that allows its convincing correlation with the features of the funding programme:	20		

the application meets the purpose and objectives of the Mobilities for

cultural professionals programme;

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- the applicant proves the ability to synthesize information;
- the mobility plan is coherently formulated and converges towards achieving the proposed objective;
- compatibility between the mobility objectives assumed in the proposed plan, on the one hand, respectively the profile of the applicant, the host organization or the context in which the movement takes place, as the case may be.

Total 100

All information and documents related to the funding programme are publicly communicated on the website:

https://centruldeproiecte.ro/finantari/mobilities-for-cultural-professionals-2025/.

The official communication with the Center for Projects of the Municipality of Timisoara regarding the development of the funding programme is carried out through the e-mail address projecte@centruldeprojecte.ro.