Innovation Studio Seed Fund 2026-27



Part 1 – About the Seed Fund

innovation studio

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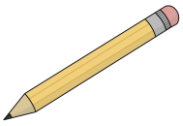
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About this guide



This is an Easy Read guide to the Innovation Seed Fund.

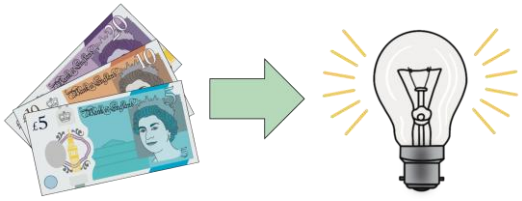


You can ask someone to help you read it.



This is a short guide. **Before you apply, you should also read the Common Questions.**

What is the Seed Fund?



A **Seed Fund** is money to help start a new idea and let it grow.

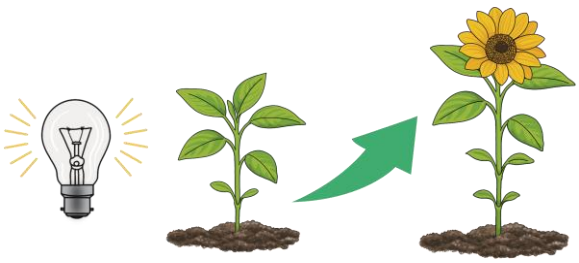


The Seed Fund gives small amounts of money. This money is called **seed funding**.

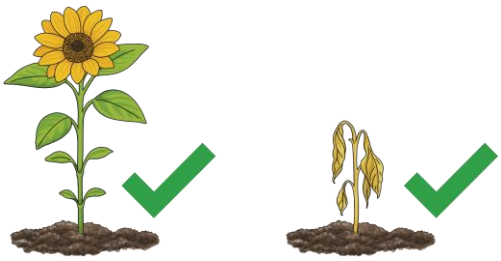


The money can help you:

- start a new creative idea, or



- grow an idea you already started



The Seed Fund is for trying things out. It is okay if your idea changes. It is okay if your idea does not work as planned.

The Seed Fund is run by **Innovation Studio**.

Innovation Studio is part of the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, or RCS.

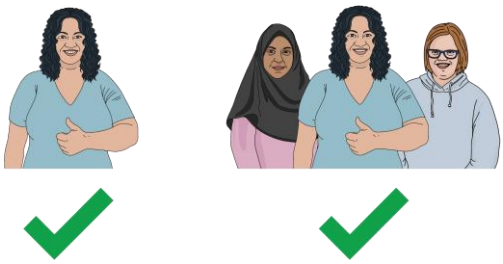


Innovation Studio helps students and staff to try new creative ideas.

Who can apply?



- You must be an RCS student or staff member.



- You can apply on your own or with others.



- Your project does not have to be about the subject you are studying.



- Your project **cannot** be part of your graded coursework.

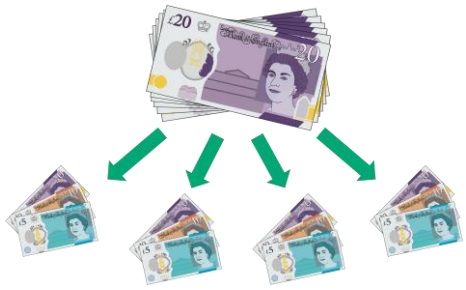


- You can apply if you are on a Student or Visitor visa. But you must follow Home Office rules.

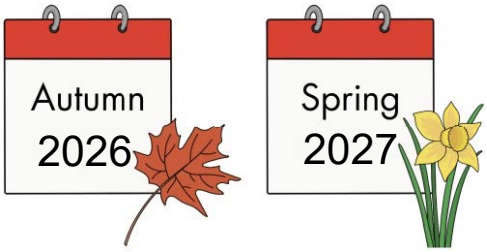


- There are special rules if you are RCS staff.

How much money can I ask for?



We will share out £25,000 in each round.

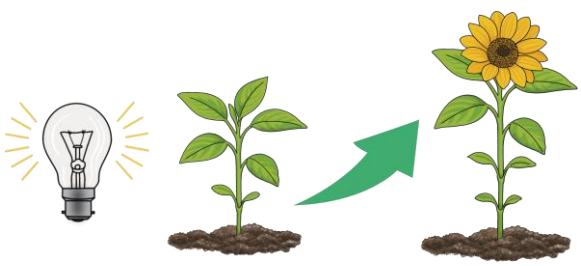


There are 2 rounds this school year. One in autumn 2026, and one in spring 2027.

You can apply for:



- Up to £1000 – for very early ideas

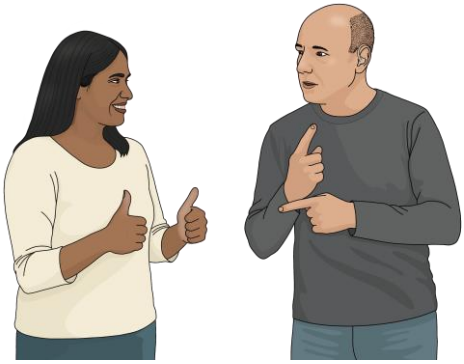


- Up to £4000 – for ideas you already started and need more money to develop further

Access costs



You can ask for extra money for access needs.



This money helps you or your team take part fully in your project. For example, you could ask for BSL interpretation for a Deaf artist.



Access costs are paid on top of your Seed Fund award.

Timeline

Autumn 2026 – **Round 1**



- Seed Fund opens:

  Wednesday 7th October 2026



- Application deadline: **5pm** on Wednesday 18th November 2026



- We will email you our decision within 6 weeks after the deadline



- You must finish your project within 12 months after it starts. For example, if your project starts in March 2027 you must finish it by March 2028

Spring 2027 – **Round 2**



- Seed Fund opens: Wednesday **28th April** 2027



- Application deadline: **5pm** on Wednesday 9th June 2027



- We will email you our decision within 6 weeks after the deadline

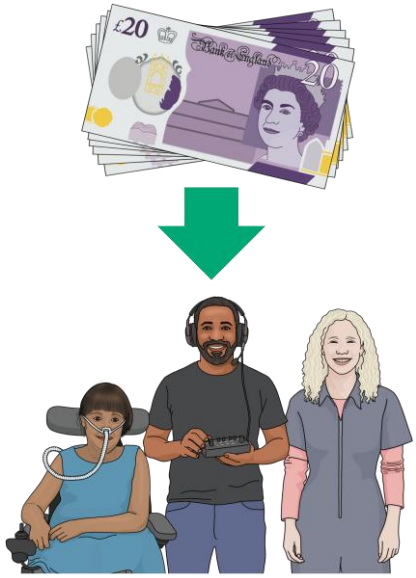


- You must finish your project within 12 months after it starts. For example, if your project starts in June 2027, you must finish it by June 2028

Fair Access



Innovation Studio wants to make the arts fairer for everyone.



We will give **at least half of the funding** to projects led by people who face barriers.



Barriers are things that make it harder for some people to get chances or take part.



We explain who we mean by people who face barriers in **Common Questions**.

How to Apply



You must apply online by the deadline.



We cannot take late applications.



Apply here: Application Form



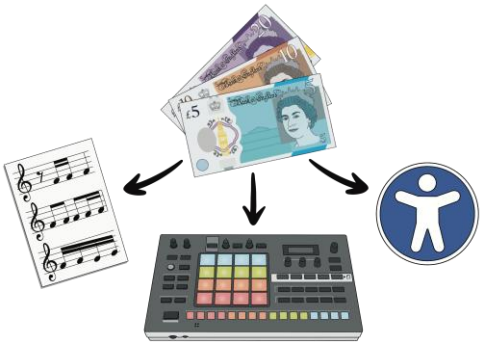
If you need another way to apply, email:

innovationstudio@rcs.ac.uk

Budget



You must include a **budget** when you apply.



A budget is a list of what you will spend money on in your project.

Recording your project



You must keep a record of what happens in your project. This could be photos, film, or short notes.



We will give you **£200 extra** to help with this.

Sharing your work



At the end, you must also **share your project**.



This could be a short talk, or a one to one meeting with the Innovation Studio team.



You must also fill in an evaluation form.

Finding out more



You can find more detail on all these topics in **Common Questions**.



If you have any other questions you can email:

innovationstudio@rcs.ac.uk

Who made this into Easy Read?

DOOR IN THE WALL ARTS ACCESS

Door in the Wall Arts Access CIC made this information into Easy Read in September 2025.