Open Call for Arts Spaces
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Section 1: Eligibility and Application Process

1. Can artists, arts group and arts organisations of different art forms apply for the arts spaces?

Interested applicants may refer to the Open Call Information Pack for more information on Aliwal Arts Centre (AAC), Stamford Arts Centre (SAC) and Goodman Arts Centre (GAC). Artists and arts groups who are aligned with the Arts Centres' vision are welcome to apply.

Applicants will be assessed based on the merit of their submission in relation to the criteria as stated in the Information Pack. Arts House Group (AHG) and National Arts Council (NAC) will take into consideration the desired arts tenancy mix compatible with the Arts Centre's vision, the space requirements of the applicants and their fit with the respective positioning of the arts properties.

2. If I am a new arts group, can I apply?

Yes, new arts groups are welcome to apply for arts spaces in this Open Call exercise under the Framework for Arts Spaces (FFAS). Under FFAS, young artists, new arts companies, associations and societies, community / amateur arts groups within the first 3 years of practice or establishment will be considered under the Incubation Scheme of the FFAS. You may refer to the Open Call Information Pack for full details of the Incubation Scheme.

3. Can existing NAC arts tenants apply for the arts spaces under this Open Call?

Existing NAC arts tenants receiving support under the Arts Housing Scheme (AHS) may consider applying in this Open Call exercise. For background information on the FFAS, please refer to the link.

Existing NAC arts tenants receiving support under the FFAS may also apply in this Open Call exercise. Successful applicants currently under the Scheme for Developing Artists and Arts Groups will receive an offer based on their remaining 9-year tenure. In other words, applying to a different unit or arts centre does not reset the 9-year tenure. Thus, successful applicants will need to cease their existing lease and take on the new lease offered for the allocated unit. This must be done within three months from the date of signing their new tenancy agreement under this Open Call.

Current tenants who are in the final year of their 9-year FFAS tenure may also apply (hereafter referred to as "re-applicants"), and if successful, they will be offered a maximum 3-year tenancy term and receive a 50% rental subvention, subject to a cap.

4. What does Co-Tenancy mean? How does it apply to me?

Co-tenancy refers to two or more artists / groups submitting a joint application for a single space. In anticipation of a potential oversubscription of interest, AHG and NAC is encouraging applicants to team up for Co-Tenancy application. Part-time artists and arts groups, may benefit from a team up in terms of managing the overall financial affordability. Artists with different time usage patterns are also encouraged to team up to better utilise the arts studios. To offer greater support to more artists/ arts groups, co-tenancy applications will be considered favourably, all else being equal.

5. Will submitting multiple applications by each co-tenant increase our chances of success?

Co-tenancy applications are evaluated based on the main applicant's submission. While each party (main tenant and co-tenant) is required to submit a separate application online, these will be assessed collectively as one co-tenancy proposal. We ask that you determine whom will be the most appropriate as the lead tenant, focus resources, collaborate and put together one strong and cohesive application.

6. Does AHG or NAC provide assistance in finding a co-tenant if I am unable to find one myself?

While AHG or NAC does not directly assist in finding co-tenants, we encourage applicants to search for suitable co-tenants who are aligned with their space planning / usage needs to ensure a compatible working environment for all parties.

7. Can I apply for two units or more under the Open Call?

To ensure that the infrastructural support provided by NAC benefits more artists and arts groups, applicants are limited to applying for one unit under the Open Call. However, AHG and NAC reserves the right to allocate more than one unit to arts groups who are able to justify with compelling reason(s).

If you have compelling reasons to utilise more than one unit, please provide justification for your spatial needs in the "Additional Remarks" field.

8. One of the assessment criteria under FFAS is on financial needs. How will applicants be assessed?

NAC's FFAS is inclined towards helping artists / arts groups who are in greater need for arts spaces support. Hence, all else being equal, applicants with higher financial needs will be assessed favourably. Their financial needs for support will be objectively verified with supporting official documentation.

Arts groups are expected to provide the **latest** audited Income and Expenditure statements (full document) to support their applications.

Artists who apply as individuals will need to provide AHG and NAC with their latest IRAS notice of assessment.

These financial documents are necessary for AHGF and NAC to assess the artists / arts groups financial needs for support. Applications with omission of supporting financial documents will render applications as being incomplete and will not be considered.

Note however that financial needs are only part of the assessment criteria. AHG and NAC also takes into consideration the efforts that the applicants put in to achieve long term financial sustainability.

9. Will all individual artists who are currently under FFAS need to provide financial needs documentations?

Yes. All applicants who wish to apply for a space under FFAS are to submit the latest IRAS Notice of Assessment (NOA). If applicants are not required to pay tax, they should complete the online declaration form and submit the IRAS Letter of No-Filing Service (NFS).

The documentation is necessary as – AHG and NAC is committed to ensuring that all applications are assessed fairly and equitably, hence relevant supporting documents from all applicants will be required. This is not a new requirement, as arts groups have been submitting their financial statements to NAC in their applications. Moreover, this is also in accordance with comparable existing statutory board practices to ensure that the support can be matched to financial needs. For example, MOE's Financial Assistance Scheme would require self-employed applicants to provide CPF transaction statement/ contribution history for the past 12 months.

10. My group is a collective and we don't have company financial statements. What documentations would AHG and NAC require?

All members of collective are to submit their individual latest IRAS NOA. If applicants are unemployed or are not required to pay tax, they should complete the online declaration form (please refer to Question 9). The Collective is obliged to collate all submissions from members, to support their application for the Open Call exercise.

Section 2: Property Information

11. What are the operating hours of the properties? Will tenants be able to work within their spaces beyond the operating hours and come and go freely?

The operating hours for AAC, SAC and GAC is 7am to 11pm.

However, tenants will have access to the arts spaces outside of the standard operating hours. They will be subjected to the house rules of the centre for access outside of the operating hours.

12. Will arts tenants get preferential rates when hiring the Shared Facilities spaces?

Yes. FFAS arts tenants will receive preferential rates when hiring the shared facilities from AHG venues, specifically AAC, SAC and GAC.

13. Are there lifts available for the moving of material and props?

AAC does not have a lift, access to the upper floors is via staircase.

GAC has a lift available in only at Block B. The lift dimensions are as follows,

- Lift Car: 1400mm (L) x 1580mm (W) x 2300mm (H)
- Lift Door: 1000mm (W) x 2100mm (H)

SAC has two passenger lifts located in the following blocks:
(1) Block A – Passenger Lift 1
(2) Block C – Passenger Lift 2

The lift dimensions are as follows,

- Lift Car: 2100mm (L) x 2000mm (W)
- Lift Door: 1100mm (W) x 2100mm (H)

For larger items that may not fit in the lifts, an alternative option would be via the staircases for their transport.

14. What is the condition of the units available for the open call?

The units are offered on an "as is, where is" basis. Applicants are encouraged to visit the spaces during the scheduled site tours to assess their suitability for their intended use.

15. Why are units #02-05 and #02-06 at Stamford Arts Centre (SAC) offered as a combined space?

Recognising that traditional arts groups often require larger spaces to accommodate rehearsals, equipment storage and administrative functions, units #02-05 and #02-06 at SAC are being offered as a single combined space of approximately 200 sqm under this Open Call.

This arrangement aims to better support the operational and artistic needs of traditional arts groups.

16. Is there any specific use for the unit GAC Blk F #01-36?

This unit is particularly well suited for glass or ceramic arts practices. However, we welcome applications from other art forms or practices that align well with the space's characteristics. Applicants are encouraged to consider how their practice complements the space when submitting their proposal.





17. What is the additional monthly charge for air conditioning for?

The additional monthly charge for air conditioning helps cover the cost of the recently installed system, ensuring a fully operational and ready-to-use air conditioning unit for added comfort.

Section 3: Financial Assistance

18. Will successful applicants be offered any rent-free period, or will AHG and NAC be offering any financial assistance for fitting out their spaces and relocation from existing premises?

As the rental of the arts spaces are already heavily subsidised by NAC, there will be no additional financial assistance or rent-free period provided to successful applicants. AHG and NAC hopes that all successful applicants will settle into their new spaces as soon as possible.

Section 4: Arts Tenancy matters

19. What does the service charge comprise off?

The service charge includes, but is not limited to, preventive, routine repairs for exterior and structure of building and general maintenance such as cleaning of common areas, toilets, pest control and security services.

Service charge indicated is based on current rates and is subject to review and revision. The final service charge rate will be stated in the Letter of Offer to successful applicants.

20. How do I proceed with fitting out for the studio space?

Place Manager from AAC, SAC and GAC will advise on the guidelines and requirements needed to ensure a smooth renovation process.

21. What other cost(s) are there besides rental and service charge?

The following are the additional cost(s) for consideration:

a) Stamp Duty for Tenancy Agreement

b) Security deposit of 3 months rental

c) Monthly utilities

d) Fitting out

e) Insurance for studio, i.e., fire and contents coverage

f) Maintenance of studio space e.g aircon & lights

Section 5: Miscellaneous

22. What is the relationship between National Arts Council (NAC) and Arts House Group (AHG)?

AHG is a public company set up by the NAC.