

## Information Sheet Creation Grant

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Last Updated March 4th 2026

### 1. Purpose and Subject of the Creation Grant

Working intensively on your own **musical development** for **six months**: This is made possible for musicians through the Creation Grant.

The artistic creative process begins with ideation, in which creative ideas begin to take shape: Research is conducted, plans are refined, discussions are held, experiments are attempted, and ideas are rejected or further developed. This is precisely where the Creation Grant comes in: It promotes an **open-ended process, independent** of any **specific product or project**. The six-month grant is intended to lay the foundation for the quality of subsequent musical productions and further musical development.

The creation grant promotes music-making at the highest level. It is aimed at experienced, established Basel-based musicians who deliver outstanding artistic performances and have a compelling idea for the creative process. The call for applications is open to individuals and takes into account all contemporary styles of popular music, from subculture to mainstream.

### 2. Eligible Applicants

**Applicants must prove that they:**

- reside in the **Basel region**<sup>1</sup> and that their musical activity has a **direct, current, and visible connection** to the **Basel** region.
  - Basel region = Northwestern Switzerland Fare Network (TNW network) excluding neighbouring countries
  - Regional connection = regional: concerts / media presence / awards / promotion, professional business environment from the region, collaboration with regional artists, significant production steps of past productions in the region, etc.
- have been active as a musician in the field of **popular music** for at **least 3 years**.

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<sup>1</sup> Those who no longer reside in the Basel region must have lived there for at least 10 years in the past.

- already have **several** officially distributed **releases** (albums, EPs) in the area of **pop music**.
- have either written, composed (or in the case of DJs / Electronic music: produced) the music themselves.
- have a **national/international audience** (e.g., through live performances, recordings sales, and/or streams/downloads/airplay).
- can demonstrate a **track record** in the form of releases and/or tours (**recent activity**), particularly in the **last 24 months**.
  - **Exceptions:** creative break due to parental leave, hiatus due to health reasons/accident, etc.

### Applications:

- must be submitted in full and on time via the online form.
- may only be submitted by individuals (not by bands/collectives or similar).
- must be distinct from your other grant applications: The artistic project must not be identical to your other projects already funded by Musikbüro Basel.
- with false or misleading information will not be considered.

### The following are not eligible:

- Musicians who work exclusively in the genres of improvised music, classical music, jazz, contemporary classical music, or similar.
- Musicians who are supported in the same year by other cantonal funding programs (e.g., Fachausschuss Musik BS/BL, Ausschreibung improvisierte Musik und Jazz, Recherchebeiträge der Kulturpauschale, or GGG Kulturkick).
- Applications that pursue product- or project-specific goals (e.g., for specific sound recording productions and/or tours). Such applications can be submitted to RegioSoundCredit (Further information can be found [here](#)).

The formal admissibility of an application is checked by the Musikbüro Basel office on the basis of the information provided in the online form and the documents submitted. If the application is incomplete, a deadline of up to five working days may be set for the submission of the missing information. Applications are only considered to have been formally submitted once all documents have been received for review. Incomplete applications cannot be considered.

## 3. Submission Deadline

The Creation Grant is advertised once a year. The specific application deadline will be communicated on the Musikbüro Basel website.

## 4. Funding Period and Grant Amount

The funding period is set at six months. If the application is approved, the start of the funding period will be determined jointly with the grant recipient and set out in a

contract. As a rule, the funding period must begin within three months of receipt of the approval (or as agreed). See also point 8.

The contribution amount is fixed at CHF 24'000.

## **5. Expert Jury and Funding Decision**

The adjudication is carried out by an independent expert jury consisting of at least four music experts from various genres and sub-sectors of the music industry. The individual jury members are selected by the board of Musikbüro Basel and published on [www.musikbuero Basel.ch](http://www.musikbuero Basel.ch).

The expert jury meeting takes place approximately five weeks after the submission deadline. The decision is then communicated in writing.

The expert jury can award two Creation Grants of CHF 24'000 per year.

In principle, a musician may receive the Creative Grant several times, but with a waiting period of one funding cycle (usually one year).

Even if all requirements and criteria are met, there is no legal entitlement to funding.

## **6. Funding Criteria**

The information provided in the application documents submitted is decisive for the expert jury's assessment. In particular, the following criteria are taken into account in the assessment:

- Comprehensibility and professionalism of the planning (goals and measures) relating to the application submitted, but also in relation to the artist's career (development potential), schedule, clear questions, and areas of interest
- Assessment of the effectiveness of support for the music creator's career
- artistic quality
- References ((track record (previous releases and live activities nationally/internationally with a focus on popular music), streams, media presence, awards, funding received, etc.))

## **7. Documents to be Submitted**

Details regarding the application documents can be found in the checklist (p. 5)

## 8. Payment Terms and Obligations

If the funding decision is positive, an agreement will be concluded between Musikbüro Basel and the grant recipient, setting out the mutual rights and obligations, and defining the payment terms.

Applicants who receive the Creation Grant undertake to ensure that they **are available for at least 60% of the standard working hours** during the six-month period in order to work on their musical creations during this time.

## 9. Contact

**Luisa Bitterlin** (Head of Creation Grant) is available to answer questions by phone or email.

Tel.: 061 201 09 77 | Email: [luisa@musikbuerobasel.ch](mailto:luisa@musikbuerobasel.ch)

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This information sheet is an integral part of the competition. By submitting the application form, applicants confirm that they have read and understood the contents of this information sheet. All current information on the Creation Grant can be found on the Musikbüro Basel website: [www.musikbuerobasel.ch](http://www.musikbuerobasel.ch).

# Creation Grant – Checklist for Application Documents

Applications must be submitted via the **online form**, complete and on time (i.e. by 11:59 p.m. on the relevant submission deadline) on musikbuerobasel.ch. The dossier containing the required documents must be made available for download on a server (SwissTransfer recommended).

**Dossier:** The individual components must be compiled in a **single PDF file**.

## Components of the dossier:

- Information about the musician:
  - Year of birth, **place of residence**, information about **musical career**, information about **artistic training**
  - **Musical projects** and **function/role** in them
  - **Track record** (focus: popular music) including an overview of releases and live activities (especially in the last 24 months)
  - National and/or international streaming, download, and airplay figures
- Statement of personal development goals and measures  
Please answer the following **questions** in your application:
  - What do you want to achieve within the six months and how will you implement this (goals/measures)?
  - What is the overarching purpose of these goals in terms of your musical development?
- **Schedule** for the **6 months**
- The concept may include research on an artistic topic, elements of networking, further training, information on possible collaborations, etc.
- If, for good reasons, the creative contribution is related to a **trip**: details of the destination, duration, motivation, and purpose of the trip (specific reasons, planned activities, expected inspiration, etc.) as well as details of the connection between the destination, your musical work, and your existing or desired network at the destination.
- If the Creation Grant includes previously funded projects, works, productions, etc. (e.g., funded by RegioSoundCredit), the concept must explain why the planned work does not relate to the same **stage of development** that has already received funding.
- **Artist photo: as a single file**, ideally in landscape format, jpg/png
- 3 audio samples (**mp3**) of your most recent projects
- Optional: video recordings of live performances