

# Grant allocation rules for Uppbyggingarsjóður Northeast Iceland Development Fund

## 1. About Northeast Iceland Development Fund

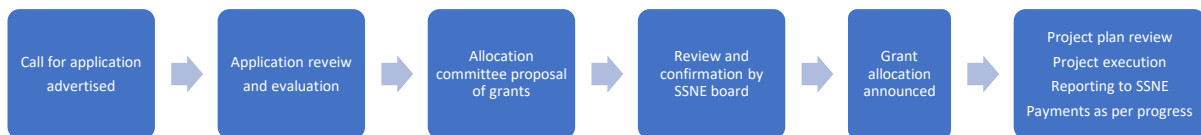
The role of Uppbyggingarsjóður is to support projects align with *Northeast Iceland Plan of Action*. The fund promotes positive societal development, strengthens the pillars of culture, increases the region's competitiveness, and promotes sustainability and positive environmental impact.

Uppbyggingarsjóður is a competitive fund. Applications are evaluated based on the goals and emphases of *Northeast Iceland Plan of Action*. The fund's operating year is based on the calendar year. Grants from the fund fall under EU regulation no. 1407/2013 that public support for individual companies shall not exceed 300,000 euros over each three-year period.

The role of the allocation committee is outlined in the committee's Rules of Procedure.

## 2. Allocation process

In general, grants are advertised in the fall and awarded once a year, in the last quarter. Call for applications may be repeated if deemed necessary. Applications for grants shall be advertised on the SSNE website, as well as in local advertising media in the fund's operating region.



## 3. Applicants

Applicants must be individuals of legal age, organizations, companies or institutions. In addition, municipalities in Northeast Iceland can be applicants, but in general Institutions, public joint-stock companies, and organizations majority-owned by the state or local authorities should not be the leading party in projects funded by Uppbyggingarsjóður. Applicants for start-up and operating grants in the field of culture must be legal entities.

## 4. Applications

Applications must be submitted in the online application portal of Uppbyggingarsjóður Norðurlands eystra, which can be accessed via the SSNE website. As a rule, each applicant can at maximum receive two grants in each application process.

The applications must contain a clear description of the project and its objectives, a work and time schedule, a detailed budget (cost and income budget) as well as information about the applicant(s). It is important that cost estimates are realistic. It

must also be described how the project supports the goals of the Northeast Iceland Plan of Action 2024-2029.

### *5. Previous projects*

The applicant must have submitted a final report on previous projects for a new application to be considered by the allocation committee.

### *6. Criteria for project evaluation*

Applications must align with the goals of the [Northeast Iceland Plan of Action](#). Uppbyggingarsjóður gives special consideration to projects that promote equality for all social groups, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, beliefs, disability, work capacity, age, sexual orientation, or gender identity. Effort is made to see that allocated grants are distributed throughout the whole region. In evaluating applications, use is made of evaluation guidelines which can be found [here](#).

### *7. Grants*

As a rule, Uppbyggingarsjóður does not support more than 50% of the eligible total project costs. Grants from Uppbyggingarsjóður are of three types:

a) project grants for cultural and community projects.

b) project grants for business development and innovation.

Project elements and cost items necessary for the implementation of projects are eligible for funding, excluding the elements listed in 8.A.

c) start-up and operating grants in the field of culture.

Project elements and cost items necessary for the implementation of projects are eligible for funding, excluding the elements listed in 8.B. Start-up and operating grants may be allocated for up to three years at a time, once every five years.

### *8 A. Project grants from Uppbyggingarsjóður in the fields of culture and business development and innovation do not cover the following elements:*

1. No funding is granted for investments in companies or for the purchase of land or housing.
2. No funding is granted for the purchase of computers and general office equipment.
3. No funding is granted for the purchase of inputs for production intended for sale on the market.
4. Sold out rates may not be used as a reference for calculating wages, but wage costs shall be based on wages paid plus wage-related fees. For reference general collective agreements or calculated remuneration may be used.
5. Grants are not awarded for publication of any kind unless apparently unique and in line with the goals of Northeast Iceland Plan of Action. The fund can, however, support the creative process itself.
6. Activities of sports clubs, town festivals, gatherings (e.g., concerts, memorial gatherings, exhibitions, and seminars) without notable uniqueness are not funded.
7. Document registration, congregational activities and traditional cultural activities within schools is not supported.

8. Costs incurred before the end of the application deadline for the project applied for are not eligible.
9. As a rule, the same project cannot receive a grant more than three times.

*8 B. Start-up and operating grants from Uppbyggingarsjóður do not cover the following elements:*

1. Uppbyggingarsjóður does not provide start-up and operating grants to entities who, are legally entitled to grants from other funds.
2. In general, operating grants are not awarded for operation during high season unless apparently and in line with the goals of Northeast Iceland Plan of Action.
3. Sold out rates may not be used as a reference for calculating wages, but wage costs shall be based on wages paid plus wage-related fees. For reference general collective agreements or calculated remuneration may be used.
4. Grants are not awarded for publication of any kind unless apparently unique and in line with the goals of Northeast Iceland Plan of Action. The fund can, however, support the creative process itself.
5. Document registration, congregational activities and traditional cultural activities within schools is not supported.
6. Costs incurred before the end of the application deadline for the project applied for are not eligible.

## *9. Terms and conditions*

The applicant accepts with his application the terms and conditions stated in these allocation rules and that the project will be carried out in accordance with description and project plan presented in the existing application or revised plan. Grant recipients must meet the eligibility requirements of Article 47(2) of Act No. 84/2007 on Public Procurement.

The grantee and the project's representative are fully responsible for its implementation and must guarantee that there is adequate permission for the implementation of the project, use of sources and other elements pertaining to the project. Additionally, they have financial responsibility for accounting and reporting obligations, and Uppbyggingarsjóður shall have access to the project's accounting, if requested.

## *10. Grant payments*

1. Grants of up to 1 million ISK may be paid in two parts. The first part, 50% will be paid in late January or later if specially agreed upon. Final payment is made when the project is completed, and the grantee has submitted a satisfactory final report.
2. Grants over 1 million ISK may be paid in three parts. The first part, 30% will be paid in late January or later if specially agreed upon. Up to 40% may be paid upon submission of a progress report. Final payment is made when the project is completed, and the grantee has submitted a satisfactory final report.

3. For start-up and operating grants, 80% is paid in late January and 20% after the grantee has submitted a satisfactory final report.

If there are significant changes to the project, without the approval of the allocation committee, the grant is fully or partially refundable. All requests for changes must be relayed to SSNE employees without delay. They are authorised to make decisions about minor changes, e.g., delaying the completion of the project until March of the following year and changing the location of events.

Progress and final reports must be submitted in an appropriate form found on [the fund's application portal](#).

### *15. Confidentiality*

Applicants are promised confidentiality regarding their applications in accordance with the Information Act. A list of the grantees will be made public, including the project name, grant amount and an introductory text.

### *16. Audit*

These procedures shall be reviewed annually.

*Approved by the board of SSNE on 4. September 2025*