



Senate Department for Culture and Social Cohesion
Division I A – Funding for Artists, Projects and Independent Groups

INFORMATION SHEET

FOR CULTURAL EXCHANGE STIPENDS OF THE FEDERAL STATE OF BERLIN 2025/2026

VISUAL ARTS – ISTANBUL, LOS ANGELES, NEW YORK, TOKYO

The Berlin Senate Department for Culture awards - subject to the availability of funds - CULTURAL EXCHANGE GRANTS for visual artists at partner institutions in Istanbul, Tokyo, New York and Los Angeles:

- **Istanbul** in cooperation with [DEPO/Anadolu Kültür](#):
 - 1 grant for 3 months – September – November 2025
 - 1 grant for 3 months – March – May 2026
- **Tokyo** in cooperation with [Tokyo Arts and Space](#):
 - 1 grant for 3 months – September – November 2025
- **New York** in cooperation with [International Studio & Curatorial Program](#):
 - 1 grant for 3 months – September – November 2025
- **Los Angeles** in cooperation with [Villa Aurora](#):
 - 2 grants for 3 months each – one quarter in 2026 each (in liaison with Villa Aurora)

Deadline for applications for 2024/25: **5 September 2024 at 2 pm (CET)**

What is supported?

The grants serve the artistic development of professional visual artists based in Berlin. The stay abroad should enable the artists to gain an understanding and knowledge of the cultural scene of the residency city, to study current developments of the local scene, to

network, exchange ideas, gain inspiration and to realise an artistic project on site. The local partner institutions provide a studio or studio flat.

Who can apply?

The funding is provided for professionally working visual artists who live, work and are registered in Berlin. Applicants need to have already proven themselves through their artistic work. Artists who are enrolled at a university or hold a permanent professorship cannot apply. Former grantees can re-apply, if their last grant ended two years ago (September 2022 or before).

If you fulfill all requirements and would like to apply, please read this whole information sheet carefully!

Funding volume

The Senate Department for Culture provides the following grants:

- **Istanbul:** two grants of 2.500,- € per month for the period of three months (for travel, living and material costs) plus free use of a studio flat
- **Tokyo:** one grant of 3.000,- € per month for three months (for travel, living and material costs) plus free use of a studio flat
- **New York:** one grant of 3.000,- € per month for three months (for travel, living and material costs) plus free use of a studio at ISCP, plus 1.000,- € per month for accommodation (as ISCP only provides the studio and cannot provide accommodation).
- **Los Angeles:** two grants (paid for by Villa Aurora & Thomas Mann House e.V.) of 2.500,- € per month for three months plus free use of a room, community rooms and studio, plus return flight Germany - L.A.

The annual studio and programme fees are directly paid by the Senate Department for Culture. During the artist's residency the partner institutions look after the Berlin artist and arrange contacts to the local scene on request. Events organised by the partner institutes (i.e. open studios, exhibitions, artists' talks) offer opportunities for Berlin artists to present their work to an international audience. Please note that the partner institutions are not liable for the luggage, any personal belongings or art works of the Berlin artists. Therefore, we highly recommend taking out appropriate foreign insurances (including health insurance).

Conditions

Support is provided to artists who have proven themselves through their artistic work and are planning a promising cooperation project abroad. Applicants should be able to communicate in the language of the host country. Presence on site is compulsory for the duration of the grant.

Please note that all grants of the federal state of Berlin (work, research and cultural research grants) can be combined up to an amount of 24.000 € per calendar year. If you already know, that you receive another grant in 2025, please state this in your application.

Allocation of funds

The jury process has two stages. An independent expert jury appointed by the Senate department of Culture decides on a pre-selection of applications to be funded. The respective partner institutions abroad make the final selection. Applicants usually receive notification of the pre-selection in December and of the final selection result in January.

The names of the funded artists will be published.

Application process

Applications as well as attachments can only be submitted online. The online application centre can be accessed [here](#).

[Application completion guidance](#)

- Upon accessing the online application centre, please choose the following:
 - Förderbereich (area of funding): Kulturaustausch
 - Förderprogramm (funding programme): Kulturaustauschstipendien Bildende Kunst
- Please do not forget to include link(s) to your website(s)!
- Please make sure that you fill in the online application form (incl. the short description) in German, the attached application form in English, all further attachments in German OR English.
- Please note that attachments can only be uploaded in these formats: .docx or .pdf
- It is possible to include links to other files, such as photo-, video- or audio-files and make them accessible to the jury online (password-protected, if necessary). Further

material on paper will not be accepted. At the end of the application process a pdf-document of your filled-in application form is automatically produced for you („Formularansicht“)

Necessary attachments

Please make sure to respect the limitation of pages for your attachments! (If exceeded, your application cannot be considered.)

1. **Application form** (to be completed in English!) max. 500 KB, docx-, pdf-file
For applications for Villa Aurora this form does NOT have to be filled in!
file name: APF_Name Antragsteller:innen
2. **Project description**, max. 5 pages incl. cover sheet, max. 2 MB, docx-, pdf-file
Content of the residency project (key aspects, aims etc.)
file name: PB_Name Antragsteller:innen
3. **Artistic CV**, max. 5 pages incl. cover sheet, max. 2 MB, docx-, pdf-file
The CV should include details on your artistic career, grants, awards and (a selection of) the most important exhibitions of the last three years.
file name: CV_Name Antragsteller:innen
4. **Proof of identity** (identity card or passport) AND **proof of principal residence in Berlin with actual address** (respective page of identity card/passport/residence permit OR Confirmation from the Residents' Registration Office / 'Meldebescheinigung'), max. 6 MB, pdf-file
Please make sure to also submit the respective page of the passport document, which contains your Berlin address. If the passport document does not contain your Berlin address, please hand a document (Residency permit or ‚Meldebestätigung‘) which does.
Proof of identity AND Berlin registration address is mandatory! If you are unsure what to submit, please ask in advance!
file name: PASS_MB_Name Antragsteller:in
5. **Portfolio/Documentation of artistic work** - max. 10 pages incl. cover sheet, max. 12 MB, docx-, pdf-file
file name: Portfolio_Name Antragsteller:in

Deadline for applications

5 September 2024 at 2 pm, (CET)

Please note that on the day of the submission deadline the application needs to be submitted online by 2 pm (local Berlin time) including all attachments. We strongly advise you to submit your application in good time and have all necessary attachments ready beforehand

For further information on submitting applications electronically, please see our [FAQs](#).

Exclusion

Students, members of the jury and employees of the Senate Department for Culture and Social Cohesion and their family members are excluded from the application process.

Further information

Please note that only applications which meet all criteria will be considered for the jury process. The Senate Department for Culture will NOT contact you, if you hand in incomplete or faulty applications. Missing documents will not be requested. Exceeding the data volume or page numbers can lead to formal exclusion and missing documents can, too (e.g. proof of residence in Berlin). Please carefully check whether your application is complete before submission!

Subsequent submissions are only permitted if they were unavoidable (e.g. extension of residency permit, which was not issued in time).

All information given is treated confidentially and used exclusively for the selection and funding process. After completion of the selection process, all applicants will receive a written notification.

If the grant can be considered state aid, the funding is being awarded on the basis of Chapter I and Article 53 of Chapter III of the Commission Regulation (EU) No. 651/2014 of 17 June 2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (General Block Exemption Regulation) (EU OJ L 187/1, 26.6.2014) as amended by Commission Regulation (EU) 2023/1315 of 23 June 2023 (EU OJ L 167, 30.6.2023) or on the basis of Commission Regulation (EU) 2023/2831 of 13 December 2023 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to de minimis aid (EU OJ L, 2023/2831, 15.12.2023).

Companies or sectors are excluded from funding in the cases of Article 1 Para. 2, 3 and 5 GBER.

Companies that have not complied with a recovery injunction based on a previous Commission decision on the inadmissibility of an instance of state aid and its incompatibility with the internal market by the same Member State will not be granted individual aid.

Companies in difficulty are excluded from funding in accordance with Article 1 Para. 4 Letter c GBER. Companies in difficulty are companies to which at least one of the circumstances according to Article 2 No. 18 letters a-e GBER applies.

It should be noted that information about each individual aid of over EUR 100.000 is usually published in the European Commission's State aid transparency database or on a comprehensive national or regional aid website within six months of the date of granting of the aid. Reference is also made to the reporting obligation in accordance with Article 11 GBER.

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