FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Eligibility

1. I have a specific artwork or outcome in mind for the residency, can I apply?

Rather than focus on outcomes, the purpose of the residency is to explore artistic concepts by way of experimental and process driven, collaborative practice and research with science and/or technology partners. As such, ANAT encourages applications from artists without a specific outcome in mind.

2. I'm part of an artist's group. Why can't we apply?

While ANAT would love to bring as many artists as possible to this program, currently we only have the budget to fund one person. Dividing the budget for artist's fees among an artist group will mean that each person will receive funding below the recommended NAVA payment rates, and this is not best practice to value your time as an artist.

3. What if the researcher of the host organisation is approached by two individual artists to separately apply to the same ANAT Synapse round?

As per the guidelines, each host organisation researcher can only make a submission with one artist. However, what we are referring to as 'host organisation' is the specific department/centre/school of the organisation involved.

So, for example, if another artist wishes to partner with the same university as you, both of you are still eligible as long as you're applying with a different researcher and to different departments/faculties within the university.

4. What genres/disciplines are accepted?

All artistic genres/disciplines are accepted, as long as the project focus is related to science and/or technology. Please see the [past ANAT Synapse recipients](#) to learn about the collaborations that have resulted from the residency program.

5. Is it okay if my research area is similar to a recent ANAT Synapse residency?

If your project proposal research area is similar to a recent ANAT Synapse residency research area, please contact us before starting your submission. ANAT is mindful that a broad range of research areas are covered, and would like to be as diverse as possible. Research areas that haven't been covered in previous ANAT Synapse residencies are preferable.

6. Do I have to have a science or technology background to apply?

No. As the artist, we only expect you to bring experience from your own artistic practice. We do however expect you to find a science or technology partner/host organisation that can help you explore your artistic ideas through a scientific/technological lens. Please see

question 17 for further elaboration regarding finding a research partner/host organisation.

7. Can I apply if I'm a student?

Yes, however, your intended creative research focus cannot contribute to your academic work, PhD research or qualifications in any way.

8. Can I apply if the project forms a part of my paid employment?

No. The residency supports artists by providing a fee for their time for their own individual arts practice.

9. Do I need to be an Australian citizen or permanent resident?

Yes, you have to either be an Australian citizen or a permanent resident to apply.

10. Can I undertake an ANAT Synapse residency overseas?

No. Applications are only accepted where the artist and the host are located in Australia.

11. I have undertaken an ANAT Synapse residency before, can I apply again?

Yes, you can apply again, however, it must be 10 years or more since you've last undertaken the ANAT Synapse residency. You must also bring a new project and you and your former research partner must have acquitted the former ANAT Synapse residency.

12. I have applied for a grant for the same project to another funder. Is it a problem if I am successful in obtaining both grants?

In most circumstances, no, as long as the two funding budgets very clearly define that costs are allocated to one or the other. In this circumstance it is best to contact us so that we can discuss the details further.

13.   Is there an age limit?

You will need to be 18 years of age or above. There is no upper age limit.

Inclusion and Accessibility

14.   I am a person with a disability and have specific needs. Will these be met by ANAT or the host organisation?

ANAT welcomes and encourages people of all backgrounds to apply. Please contact us so that we can discuss your specific needs in detail. ANAT will do their best to meet these.

Please also discuss your needs directly with your intended host beforehand to ensure any specific needs will be able to be met by them.

15.   I am unsure about using the online application form. Do you have other methods to apply?

The online application form conforms to the WCAG 2.1 AA (Web Content Accessibility Guidelines) standards set by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C). Please reach out if you encounter any accessibility issues when using the form and we'll do our best to resolve these.

We can provide an alternative Word document version of the application form to complete if preferred.

Application

16.   How do I apply?

Please read the application Guidelines carefully for details, then complete the online application form (both can be found on the ['Apply' page here](#)).

17. Does ANAT provide support to find a research partner/collaborators?

If ANAT has a good understanding of the artist and their work and is knowledgeable of possible suitable connections, we are at times able to make introductions to foster connections between artists and host partner entities.

However, as there are many intricacies and nuances within an individual artist's practice and similarly, many particularities within an entity's research focus, over the last 20 years, ANAT has proven that **the best outcomes have occurred when the artists themselves research possible connections and begin these conversations and relationships**. We have found that it is a good process for artists to be involved in; to firstly build a rapport with one another and secondly to make for a more robust residency suitability-wise.

When you find your potential collaborator, you can refer them to previous [ANAT Synapse residencies](#) on the website. These include details about the residencies and also delve deeper into the participant's process by linking to the artist's creative research journals which give insights into the breadth and depth of range of the past projects.

18.   Does ANAT run sessions to offer advice for approaching and securing a host?

Recent participants of the program speak about their collaboration in the [2023 ANAT Micro Talk](#). We highly recommend you view this discussion to obtain a deeper insight into the program.

19. Can I propose more than one collaborator?

Yes. If you find your creative practice would benefit from multiple partners, you can list up to three research host entities in your application. Logistics will need to be carefully considered by the artist to ensure the undertakings can adequately fit within the intended residency time frame (e.g. how far is it between locations, the time to converse and collaborate with multiple researchers, and whether each researcher is happy to be included amongst others in relation to the creative research investigations).

20. Many of the residencies in previous years appear focused on the technology side of science and access to specific equipment. Are there ways to make an application based on field sciences (ecology, geology or the like) more competitive?

Each project is assessed on its own merit with assessors looking closely at the predetermined assessment criteria and the benefits to the artist whilst in-residence. Whilst many residencies in the past have taken place in labs with hi-tech equipment, this is not a prerequisite or an assessment criterion in any way, however, the program does indeed focus on the artist being 'in-residence' so there must be a benefit or benefits defined in your application in relation to collaborating in-residence with a researcher/host organisation.

In all cases, applications with a clearly defined creative research concept and that can clearly demonstrate how and why being 'in-residence' with the host research entity will benefit the artist (and the researcher) will hold the application in good standing.

21. How do I complete a residency budget?

Download the budget template [here](). The budget has preemptive costs listed that should enable you to easily complete it.

Please note: the template is a publicly accessible document. You must download the budget to your own computer before completing it. To

download it, select 'File' > 'download' and choose 'Microsoft Word (.docx)'. You can then upload the budget with your application, via the online application form.

Selection

22.   Who will be on the selection panel and what does the selection process look like?

The selection panel consists of experienced independent art + science + technology professionals/practitioners and ANAT staff. The panel will individually evaluate your application rigorously against the assessment criteria listed in the Guidelines and all applications are then ranked in order. The panel then meets as a group to further discuss the assessments.

23.   Can I receive feedback if my application is unsuccessful?

Yes. Brief, written feedback will be provided to individual applicants at the time of notification, derived from feedback provided by the selection panel. The time and energy taken to review the applications is significant and non-staff panel members will be remunerated as per NAVA's code of practice rates to undertake the review process. ANAT does not have further funds or the resources to support additional, individual feedback.

Residency

24.   What will I be doing during the residency and what expectations does ANAT have for me during the residency?

If your application is successful, you will be undertaking an immersive period of creative research and practice, closely working with your research partner. Rather than focus on outcomes, the artist recipient is encouraged to explore artistic concepts by way of collaboration with their partner. Artists are not expected to create an outcome such as a finished artwork or exhibition. ANAT Synapse is focused more on

experimental practice, the research process and the learnings obtained during the residency.

ANAT will provide the artist participant with a dedicated online creative research journal in which to document the journey of the residency. ANAT will share the project journey to its networks via social media and the ANAT Digest (email newsletter).

Please read the Guidelines for further information.

25. What kind of support will ANAT provide during the residency?

ANAT will set up an introductory meeting with the artist and host researcher at the onset of the residency and regularly check in with the artist throughout the project's term.

The program is suited to artists with a self-disciplined and focused creative working process as investigations alongside the research partner will be largely self-guided. If possible, ANAT's CEO will visit the artist at the residency host's location.

The host entity will provide the artist-in-residence in-kind access to staff expertise, space, equipment and resources, as agreed between the artist and researcher prior, and confirmed within the application budget.

ANAT requires that all participants to the program (including the host entity and ANAT themselves) adhere to best practice protocols, as set out by Creative Australia. ANAT places the utmost value on cultural safety and inclusivity to all participants, regardless of background and circumstance.

26. How will the payment process work?

ANAT will set up a payment schedule as part of the successful recipient's written agreement. The artist will invoice ANAT regularly

over the residency period and payments will be made by ANAT within 14 days of receiving an invoice.