

## **GUIDELINES FOR THE COMMUNITY EDUCATION GRANTS PROGRAMME 2012**

**(Please read these carefully before completing this application form)**

### **Definition of Community Education:**

*“Community Education is education and learning which is rooted in a process of employment, social justice, change, challenge, respect and collective consciousness. It is within the community and of the community, reflecting the developing needs of individuals and their locale. It builds the capacity of local communities to engage in developing responses to educational and structural disadvantage and to take part in decision-making and policy formation within the community. It is distinct from general adult education provision, due to both its ethos and to the methodologies it employs”\**

\*Aontas, 2004, p18

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Community Education Grants scheme is to promote and/or develop community education initiatives in local community settings. The Community Education Grants Scheme seeks to create opportunities for people to identify their learning needs, learn in their own communities and to support progression routes from this important base in the community, thus engaging communities in a process of empowerment and change.

### **AIM**

To involve those who are most excluded in community education courses in order to build their confidence, to empower them to develop as individuals and help in the development of their community.

### **OBJECTIVES**

- to ensure the most excluded communities take part in community education initiative
- to empower people to be part of their community and other education initiatives
- to build people’s capacity to participate in education courses and the life of their community
- to encourage progression for groups or individuals where this is appropriate
- to gather information and research to feed into models of good practice and for information sharing

### **TARGET GROUPS:**

- Community based women’s groups
- Community based men’s groups
- Traveller Group
- People with disabilities (including mental health issues)
- Community Arts Groups
- Older people
- Early school leavers
- Ethnic minorities/refugees and asylum seekers
- Under and unemployed people

## **FUNDING**

A maximum grant of €3,500 per group is available. If a group is successful 75% of the overall allocation is released to the group. The final 25% is then released on production of evidence of expenditure for the initial 75% and following the outcome of a meeting of the group with the Community Education Facilitator.

### **FUNDING IS AVAILABLE FOR:**

- Tutor fees (min 75% of grant allocated must be spent on tutor fees)
- Materials required for a particular class or activity
- Rent of Venue
- Publicity
- Pre-development work to build a group
- Cost of Tea/Coffee, light refreshments

### **FUNDING IS NOT AVAILABLE FOR:**

- Youth Clubs/ Groups
- Sports Clubs
- Community Centre assets or materials such as computers, cookers, tables or other items
- Groups not listed in the target groups above
- Repeat funding of groups for the same activities; such groups need to identify progression routes for participants and encourage new people to avail of existing opportunities in the community
- Applications cannot be accepted from an individual proposing to carry out training with a group themselves.

### **Other Points to Note**

- It is not good practice for the proposed tutors to be members of the committee of an applicant group
- When assessing applications from established groups, priority will be given to groups that show innovation in their choice of courses along with consideration of efforts to recruit new participants, certification and progression options for participants.

**\*Please note that incomplete application forms cannot be accepted.**