



## Assistant grant

**The following information is to be read by both parties before the assistant submits their application to the Swedish Arts Grants Committee.**

### What is an assistant grant?

An assistant grant makes it possible to develop your work together with a more experienced colleague. If the assistant chooses to assist an artist mainly based in Sweden, the grant amount is SEK 100 000. If the assistant chooses to assist an artist abroad, the grant amount is SEK 150 000. The grant is meant to cover a period of 5-10 months.

The purpose of an assistant grant is to develop as an artist through a collaboration with a more experienced colleague. The assistant will receive valuable and artistically relevant practical knowledge, support, and guidance from the artist as well as access to their artistic and professional network.

### Conditions

The assistant is the one who applies for the grant and whose development the Visual Artists' Fund takes into consideration during the assessment. The grant is intended to cover subsistence and living expenses for the assistant. The assistant who receives the grant is not expected to work more than 50 percent as an assistant. The remaining time can be used for their own artistic practice.

### What to agree on before the collaboration

It is important that the assistant and the assisted artist discuss what they both expect from a future working relationship. Write an agreement together which you both sign before the grant period begins.

#### As the assistant, consider these questions:

1. Is there anything specific I would want to learn or develop during my time as an assistant?
2. What kind of work would I want to do?
3. What sort of feedback do I want to receive on my own artistic practice, if any?
4. Do I need any specific adjustments during the time with the artist: for example, changes in working hours, participation in possible trips that the assisted artist has planned, or other?

#### As the assisted artist, consider these questions:

1. What kind of mentor do I want to be?



2. What can I teach? What resources can I share?
3. What kind of work environment do I want to create with the assistant?
4. Which tasks can be done by the assistant in my studio? What are my upcoming projects/exhibitions?
5. Will I be available during the entire period for the assistant?

**Discuss these questions together:**

1. How should the work be conducted?
2. What does the schedule look like?
3. Which tasks must be completed and when?
4. Are there any professional or personal plans in the near future that may affect the collaboration period?
5. What type of work environment do I need for the working relationship to work in the best possible way?
6. What is the purpose of this collaboration?
7. How do I react during a conflict? Do I have any reactions that may be good for the other person to be aware of in an eventual disagreement?
8. How do I prefer to communicate? Via SMS, e-mail or telephone? How do we both view availability and communication outside agreed working hours, such as e-mail and SMS, for example during weekends and evenings?

In the application, the assistant is asked to motivate their choice of artist and describe their expectations on period as an assistant. The assisted artist must send a paragraph to the assistant who is applying in which they describe the work that the assistant is planned to participate in. The above questions can be used as support in formulating the answers which are then written in the application.