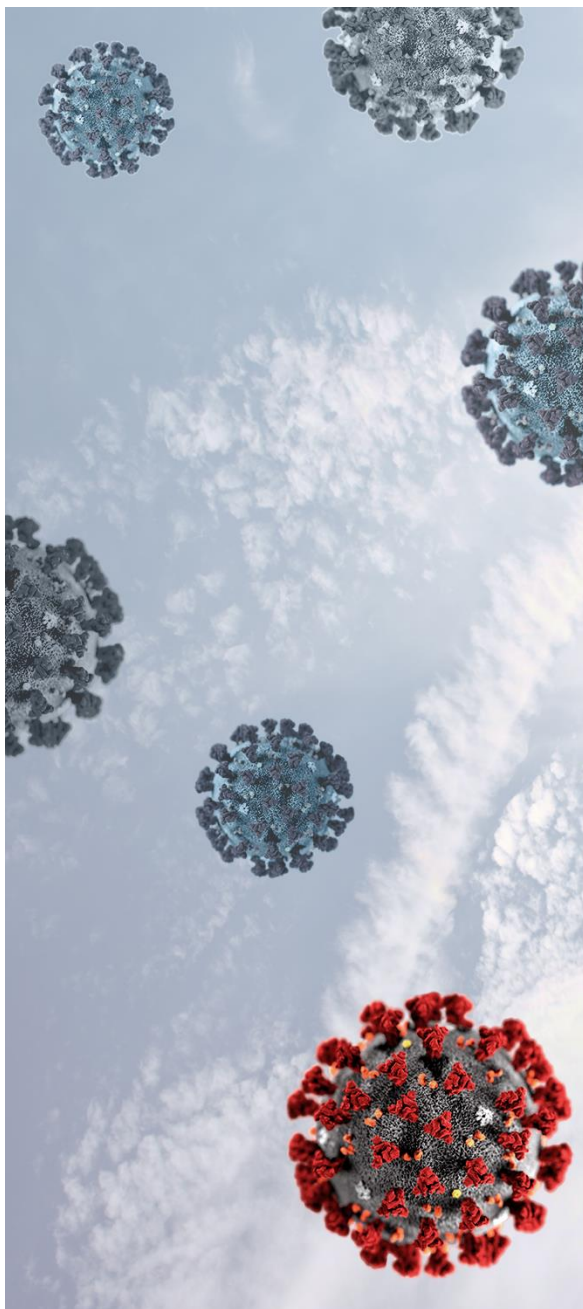

COVID-19: financial support line for the culture sector

Newsletter | Portugal

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- > **Culture Sector Financial Support Line Regulation**



I. Culture Sector Financial Support Line Regulation

Ministerial Order 180/2020, approving the Culture Sector Financial Support Line Regulation ("Regulation"), was published on August 3.

This regulation sets out the rules that apply to the following culture sector financial support line mechanisms provided by the Economic and Social Stabilization Program (PEES), which was approved by Resolution of the Council of Ministers 41/2020 of June 6:

- Financial support line to adapt areas to implement COVID-19 measures;
- Financial support line for professional arts organizations; and
- Additional welfare support line for artists, writers, technicians and other professionals within the culture sector.

As with most of the other financial support line mechanisms provided by the public authorities, only individuals and legal entities that have no outstanding tax or social security obligations, meet all the requirements and submit the required documents are eligible to receive this support.

Applications must be submitted between August 3 and September 4, 2020.

This Regulation came into force on August 3, 2020.

Financial support line to adapt areas to implement COVID-19 measures

The **financial support line to adapt areas to implement COVID-19 measures** is provided to help organizations adapt cultural areas and facilities, namely theaters, movie theaters and cultural auditoriums, to apply the rules and regulations of the competent COVID-19 authorities, which include the methods used to organize work practices and to interact with the general public.

The entities that can benefit from this financial support line are non-profit private legal entities whose registered office is in Portugal and that either own or are responsible for managing the areas and facilities at issue.

The following are not entitled to receive this type of support:

- Private foundations or public foundations that operate under private law and receive another type of continuous financing;
- Associations that have been exclusively set up by public authorities and companies that operate within the public business sector;
- Organizations that have already received other financial support lines or incentives to adapt their economic activities as a result of COVID-19, specifically under the ADAPTAR Program; and



- Organizations that either own or are responsible for managing movie theaters and similar venues that are only entitled to show movies, which may apply for financial support lines from the Instituto do Cinema e do Audiovisual, I. P.

A total of €750,000 will be available under this financial support line mechanism, with applicants being allocated up to €2,000 each on a first-come-first-served basis. The financial support line covers the following expenses incurred between March 18 and the date the application is submitted, for a maximum of six months:

- Acquiring personal protective equipment, namely masks, gloves, visors and other devices;
- Acquiring and installing hygiene equipment and automatic disinfectant dispensing devices, as well as associated consumables, such as disinfectant;
- Procuring services to disinfect facilities;
- Acquiring and installing automatic payment devices, including those that use contactless technology, including the costs to start using the service;
- Reorganizing and adapting work stations and changes to spatial layouts to comply with the guidance and good practice guidelines for the current context; and
- Acquiring and displaying information and guidelines for employees and the general public, including road signs and markings inside and outside the areas at issue.

Financial support line for professional arts organizations

The **financial support line for professional arts organizations** is provided to help businesses resume and continue their activities and normal operations, considering losses incurred due to the total or partial suspension of activities within the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

A total of €3,000,000 will be available under this financial support line mechanism, with applicants being allocated amounts on a first-come-first-served basis, according to the classification of the assessment committee. Organizations will be considered eligible to receive this financial support line based on the following criteria:

- Organizations that did not receive financial support under the 2020-2021 ongoing support program provided by the General Directorate for the Arts (DGARTES) in any of the eligible arts. The amount receivable will vary:
 - Those permanently responsible for managing or scheduling public performance or exhibition venues that they own or that they have rented from third parties will be assigned 35% of the annual amount they would be entitled to receive in accordance with the rating calculated by the assessment committee; and
 - Those that are not will be assigned 25%.



- Organizations that have received financial support under the DGARTES ongoing support program that can prove that they have incurred losses on activities supported by the DGARTES program. A total of €7,500 will be available, and applicants will receive funds for up to 50% of the losses they can prove by means of box office takings and sales for performances or co-productions.

Additional welfare line for artists, writers, technicians and other professionals in the culture sector

The **additional welfare support line for artists, writers, technicians and other professionals in the culture sector** is intended to supplement the support granted to professionals in the culture sector who are registered with the tax authorities under one of the main activities listed in the Regulation.

Independent contractors who have previously applied for or received one of the extraordinary financial support mechanisms provided in articles 26, 28-A and 28-B of Decree-Law 10/A2020 of March 13 (as it stands) may apply for this financial support line.

The maximum amount each applicant may receive will be three times the Welfare Support Reference Rate (3 x €438.81), minus the amount received in April and May 2020 under the above extraordinary financial support mechanisms.



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