

Adhocracy 2026 - FAQs

ELIGIBILITY

- **Is this kind of project eligible for Adhocracy? We appreciate your advice on this.**

Your project is eligible as long as it is experimental in some way. This can also be self-defined by your creative team. If it is experimental for the creative team and has a multi-artform outcome, then yes, it is eligible.

If you are still unsure about your project's eligibility, we are more than happy to chat with you about it.

- **Are you open to small teams and solo works?**

Yes! Any mentions of team number limits are more to do with what we can accommodate at the top end and not about expectations or requirements. The budget usually reflects the amount of people who need a fee, but can also be reflective of what you need.

- **I've participated in or applied for Adhocracy before, can I still apply?**

Yes! Please do.

DATES AND TIMINGS

- **What is the timeline of the creative development period? Does that happen early November, leading to the public showings?**
- **Could you explain the two sets of dates? Is the opportunity from Nov 6th - 15th or just one of the two sets of dates?**

The two weekends (6-8 November, 13-15 November) represent the two public elements of Adhocracy this year. The development will take place in the week between those two weekends, so the week of 9th - 13th November.

The first weekend (6-8 Nov) will suit projects that don't need any development time but have things they want to test or share with audiences. We already have a few things in mind for this weekend, and these will likely be local projects only. The second weekend (13-15 Nov) suits a majority of the projects that will be involved – projects that need a few days of development and/or are visiting from interstate.

How artists want to use this time is sort of up to them. The main area of Waterside will be divided and shared, and there are also other spaces to use such as the Supper Room and the Shopfront. Previous Adhocracy events have had rigid scheduling, and we are hoping to introduce a more responsive model depending on what the projects are, ensuring that we meet the project requirements as best as we can. More on our ideas about the structure in the next question.

- **What time is or can be allocated to work on the program before these dates?**
- **What would the development period look like?**

There is no time allocated before the dates we've given. The length of the development during the week of 9-13 November will be determined by the project, as each project will have different needs. Our loose idea is that local teams get maximum of about 3 days in the space earlier in the week, and visiting teams will get the same amount of time in the space during the second half of the week. It's a bit more than what you'd usually get with Adhocracys past but not quite as long as a specific CD period. You can use less time if you need less. We can't provide any more time in the space but you're welcome to use the time as you wish.

Then over the weekend, you and your team will have the opportunity to do anything public facing that suits your project - things like talks, showings, tests, anything that works for what you're developing.

So, your timeline is less about exact timings (while that may very well be helpful for your planning), and more about how you plan on using your time in a creative sense - what your starting point is creatively, and where you're aiming to get to by the end of the process. It's okay if you don't entirely know yet, we just want to know how you're approaching a loose plan.

SHOWINGS AND PUBLIC OUTCOMES

- **Could you explain the showing element, what does that look like?**

It varies according to the needs of the project. Historically, works have shown in their studio space with multiple showings taking place at the same time across different venues. For this event, I am trialling having them all in one venue and am looking for works that will be compatible with a fairly lo-fi set up. Showings only need to happen if they are useful to the artists process, otherwise some other kind of public outcome can be planned, such as artist talks or workshops, or something I/we haven't thought of yet. Your showings can also be a combination of options, for example, you could do 10 minutes of performance and 20 minutes of questions, 15 minutes of interviewing each other, 10 minutes of Q&A with the audience.

- **Can we split up the time given for the public program each day?**

Over the course of the weekend, you will have the opportunity to do three different showings so that might accommodate what you need. But if you need something more immediate and then present it quickly then we can talk about how to manage that. If you need an audience to be part of the process through participation, we can help facilitate that, just let us know. Those audience members will just need to know it's different from what the public program will be.

- **What is the length of performance / presentation that you're looking for?**

Minimum 10 minutes, maximum 40 minutes.

BUDGET

- **What does Vitals cover re flights and accommodation?**

We would cover flights and accommodation for interstate guests, however, pending the mix of projects and needs, we have been estimating that a maximum 4 people per project is about what we can handle in our budget.

- **What's the budget breakdown between wages and material costs?**

- **My main query is about the budget; is it best to put that mostly on wages?**

The budget is totally at your discretion. We just want to see that you've put some thought into how much money you're asking for and how you'll spend it. Usually teams will use the funds on wages, materials, or any specialised equipment they need to hire or buy, and any other costs that are associated with their project. Select the amount of funding that works for you, and then you can budget it however works for your project. It doesn't have to be a very specific budget - we don't need to know about the specific materials, and we don't need quotes or receipts. Don't forget to budget for Superannuation too.

In real terms, you will receive a lump sum of money and it's up to you to spend it in a way that suits your project. We aren't a funding body so we won't need you to acquit the funds, and you will be the one to manage paying your collaborators and purchasing anything with it. Unfortunately, we don't have the ability to auspice Adhocracy funds.

TECH AND VENUE

- **What tech gear is available?**

We have a stock list that we can provide people with. But because we are looking at adaptable contexts, we are looking to simplify this, provide a stock equipment base for each space, and then we can work together with people to see what they need and what we can provide. Usually there's a bit of lighting, some PA systems. If you have specific things that you definitely need, email us before you apply and we can advise if it's something we can provide or hire or if you need to include. Similar to access, we can work collaboratively across groups as needed.

We want to bring the expectation back for artist and audience, we aren't looking for presentations with full lighting design. What can you do with less?

- **The space seems quite loud and not conducive to sound work, can you explain the space more for someone who hasn't been there?**

Firstly, we encourage you to do an image search of Waterside, to get a sense of it. It's a 100-year-old large hall so the space is quite resonant. Part of the feedback from previous years has been around sound bleed, so that's why we're reducing the amount of teams to hopefully mitigate this issue. If your project needs absolute silence, there are other parts of the building that we can put you in to accommodate those types of projects. This also goes for projects where sound levels are relevant to the access needs for the artists.

ACCESSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR PROJECTS/ARTISTS

- **Accessibility – will access services be made available for the artists to engage in the public programs eg Auslan interpretation, audio description, etc**

A major aim for us is to improve the overall accessibility of Adhocracy. Again, we are planning on being as responsive as possible with this, ensuring our activities are tailored and specific. Once we know what the projects are and what their needs are, we will engage a consultant on this, it will be responsive to attendees and artists, and what they need. So please include any detail you'd like us to know about this in your EOI – in the Access section and/or in the main application submission.

- **Is the budget for the projects inclusive of access costs or will Vitals will have separate budget for this?**

This is 100% negotiable and responsive! If you let us know what you need in the EOI in as much detail as you like, we can look at what we can cover, and where there are overlaps in terms of what other teams would be able to collaborate on and use. Include it in your budget on top of the fee you are requesting, and we can work with you in a bespoke way.

AUDIENCES

- **What are the sorts of audiences attending an event like Adhocracy?**

Because the event has been going on for a while, and Vitalstatistix is a well established arts organisation (for over 40 years), we have a range of audience types, including:

- Traditional arts loving audience who would attend festivals, state theatre companies, art galleries
- Large contingent of artists and arts workers
- Younger audience members through tertiary education – emerging makers
- Audiences who don't identify as arts audiences, know the venue via another event, don't have the same vocabulary that other audiences might have
- Majority women, approximately 75% who are between 25-45 years old – some audiences are younger, some older up to 80s, depending on the work that's programmed
- Community minded, social justice focused, feminist, queer sensibilities, left-leaning, socially engaged
- There is usually up to 220-250 audience members over the course of the weekend.

- **Is there an opportunity to reach out to specific audiences?**

Yes, depending on what the audience is! We've had a number of works over the years that have needed specific demographics for testing or general audience. Please let us know about this in your EOI, and we will work with you before the event to get in touch with the right people.