

## FONDS D'AIDE AUX ARTISTES (AIDA FUND) ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Providing guidance and support for the career development of young instrumentalists, conductors, and singers specializing in classical music, the AIDA Fund—through a financial assistance program—offers the opportunity to reach a broad performance network and provides access to major, internationally renowned cultural institutions.

1. **Candidates sought:** any instrumentalist, conductor, or singer (hereafter referred to as “the artist”) with remarkable potential who is already committed to a professional career. By artists with “remarkable potential” we mean those who, through their talent, achievement, and performance skills, meet various criteria allowing them to take part in activities on a national, or even international, level.
2. **Eligibility:** Canadian citizen or have landed immigrant status AND be a resident of Quebec for at least 24 months.

**Definition:** A landed immigrant is a person who has changed their permanent residence to a Canadian province where they have residency rights even though they do not have Canadian citizenship rights. An example of a landed immigrant is a French citizen who has permanent residence in Canada. A permanent resident of Canada is an individual who is not a Canadian citizen and who has been granted permission to live in Canada without any time limit. Note that students from foreign countries are not usually considered landed immigrants, even if they have been living in Quebec for at least 24 months, since they must have a study permit to stay in Canada.

3. **Age:** age limits vary according to the instrument category:
  - *Conductor:* 35 years or under at the time of application
  - *Singer:* 32 years or under at the time of application
  - *Piano:* 30 years or under at the time of application
  - *Percussion:* 30 years or under at the time of application
  - *Woodwind:* 30 years or under at the time of application
  - *Brass:* 30 years or under at the time of application
  - *Strings:* 28 years or under at the time of application
4. **Types of projects eligible for financial support from the JM Canada Foundation:**
  - I. Participation in a competition
  - II. Advanced training at recognized institutions
  - III. Participation in internships/coaching with recognized instructors

- IV. Working with a rehearsal pianist to prepare repertoires
- V. Participation in an audition tour (project aimed at developing strong relationships with agents, producers, orchestra and opera company directors, broadcasters, directors of national or international competitions, or other strategic persons in the career development process)
- VI. Any other project relating to the development of an artistic career (the JM Canada Foundation will assess its eligibility)

**IMPORTANT:** To be eligible, projects must start at least three (3) months after the application deadline.

For example:

	Registration deadlines	Minimum start date for submitted projects
Fall	October 5, 2023	January 5, 2024
Winter	February 5, 2024	May 5, 2024
Spring	May 5, 2024	August 5, 2024

5. **Types of projects NOT eligible for financial support from the JM Canada Foundation:**

Applications relating to:

- I. Recordings
- II. The remuneration of other musicians
- III. The production of promotional objects

If in doubt, check with the JM Canada Foundation to see if your project is eligible.

6. **Recurrence of requests:** Applicants may receive an AIDA Fund award once (1 X) per Foundation fiscal year, between July 1 and June 30 of the following year. Applicants may apply more than once per year, as long as no award has been received.
7. **Criteria for the presentation of projects:** Official application for the AIDA Fund takes place through the completion of an authorized online form, serving to demonstrate that the applicant has the talent and skills required for the fulfillment of a national and/or international career.

Applicants must show how their project is in keeping with a coherent professional approach, define its impact and the benefits it would have on the development of their national and/or international career, and demonstrate the ways in which it meets these objectives. Applications will be assessed based on the artist's qualifications, the quality of the submission, the value of the project, its feasibility, and its related costs.

**Artists must submit a complete application using the online form, including:**

- Personal information

- Proof of residence in Quebec

Type of documents accepted :

- Lease or lease renewal;
- Income tax statement ;
- Notice of assessment from Revenu Québec;
- Telephone, electricity or cable company bill or account statement ;
- Quebec bank statement of account ;

IMPORTANT - Make sure that the document you provide is dated more than 24 months before your application.

For instance, if you are submitting your application in February 2024, an electricity bill dated January 28, 2022, would demonstrate that you have been living in Quebec for over 2 years.

- Explanation of the project  
In the form of a letter, the explanation of the project should answer the following questions:
  - 1) Presentation and motivation of the project
    - What is your project and why do you seek the help of the JM Canada Foundation?
  - 2) The impact of a financial support
    - What would be the impact on your project of a possible financial support from the JM Canada Foundation, and what would happen to your project without this support?
  - 3) Expected benefits of the project
    - Define the impacts and repercussions on the development of your national and / or international career.
- Biography
- Curriculum vitae
- Photo
- Video recording of a work of your choice (YouTube link)

All videos must be of high quality with excellent sound recording, shot with one static camera (no zooms or camera movement). Videos must not be edited, enhanced, or modified in any way. The work or movement must be performed in its entirety.

Artists must perform solo or may be accompanied by a pianist.

Conductors must lead an ensemble of ten (10) or more musicians or singers, or two pianos. The conductor must be shot from the front, with full focus on him/her.

- Timeline
- Project budget: only budgets created with the use of our template will be accepted.
- Letter of recommendation

8. **Candidates' commitment:**

The JM Canada Foundation requires that candidates who make a request for assistance and benefit from support must commit to respecting the following principles:

- I. Using the services and/or the funds received exclusively for the purposes described in the request for assistance and for the candidate's own use.
- II. Carrying out the project described in the request for assistance to its completion and within the scheduled timeframe.
- III. Contacting the Foundation, as soon as possible, regarding any major modification to the project or its schedule. In the event that it becomes impossible to continue with the project, the candidate must contact the Foundation in order to make the necessary arrangements.
- IV. Providing the Foundation with a detailed report—following the completion of the project—of how the received funds and/or services were used. This report must be submitted within a maximum of three months after the project's completion.
- V. Accepting that a failure to submit a report to the Foundation within the timeframe specified in point 6.IV. will result in the artist's immediate elimination from the process of making another application for a new project.
- VI. Mentioning the contribution of the JM Canada Foundation and the AIDA Fund in all informational and promotional materials if the project involves any performances or public appearances.
- VII. Respecting the principles set out in this document, by signing the request for assistance.

9. **Methods of assessment and allocation of financial support:** Artists wishing to apply for support must submit their request using the online platform on the

Foundation's website. Only complete applications will be evaluated by the Grant Awarding Committee.

After an analysis of the submissions, the Grant Awarding Committee will determine the projects under consideration and will identify the appropriate actions to be taken to initiate their implementation and ensure their success.

Normally, the Grant Awarding Committee meets one month after the application deadlines each year to examine the requests for support.

The Grant Awarding Committee evaluates and approves the amounts to be granted based on the budgets submitted and the eligible costs.

For all requests in which the funds granted are equal to or more than \$5,000 CAD, the Foundation will pay out the amount in two instalments: 75% upon acceptance of the request and 25% after the submission of the final report.

**For further information, please contact the JM Canada Foundation:**

[fondation@jmcanada.ca](mailto:fondation@jmcanada.ca)

514-845-4108, ext. 246