

Eligibility requirements for the Cultural Fund for the Online Sector

Basic subsidy

As of: March 2026

1. Entitlement to subsidies

All full and associate members are entitled to subsidies.

2. Object of the subsidy

2.1 A work-related subsidy

This subsidy relates exclusively to works.

Every member can file **one** application for subsidy of a work per **funding round**. A **funding** can be supported with a subsidy only **once per member and financial year**. **Each work** may only be funded **once**. This also applies if multiple applicants apply in respect of the same work. We therefore recommend that other parties with an interest in the work be notified in advance when planning to file an application.

2.2 Conditions for receiving this subsidy

An application for a subsidy can be filed if the following conditions are met:

- The **work must have been registered** within the **past two years**, the deadline being the start of the respective funding round.
- The work must be available on commercial **online platforms**, e.g. YouTube or Spotify. Availability on a private website only will **not** be sufficient in this respect.
- Works created by an AI are excluded from this subsidy.
- The applicant must have **a share in the work of at least 10%**.
- There may be **no more than ten parties with an interest** in the work.
- The member making the application must have generated **revenue in the GOP, MOD D and/or MOD S** categories during the financial year prior to the filing of the application.
- In the GOP and MOD categories, the revenue for the work received in total by all interested parties **must not have exceeded €1,000** during the financial year prior to the filing of the application.

3. Filing the application

Applications for a basic subsidy may only be submitted via the GEMA **Online Portal**. Applications for the first funding round may be filed from 5 May, and from 5 October for the second.

Publishers or other authorised representatives of creators may submit **no more than 10 applications**.

In respect of the work for which the application is made, **online use** on a commercial online platform must be evidenced by including a link in the application form. In addition, for musical works that include a **textual component**, the complete text must be submitted as part of the application form.

The parties filing the application must also advise us in the application form of their **reasons** for applying for a **subsidy** in respect of the work in question. The work may, for example, be of cultural significance; it may have had a particular resonance with the public or may have been extensively disseminated in the (online) media.

Once the application has been submitted, applicants will receive an automatic confirmation of receipt in their **Online Portal mailbox**. Applicants will also be notified of the approval or rejection of the application through a message in their **Online Portal mailbox**. We will not be able to provide information about the progress of the procedure during the intervening period.

4. Subsidy amount and payment

The subsidy amount of €2,000 will be **allocated among all GEMA members with an interest in the work on a pro rata basis** that corresponds to their respective share in the work, as defined in the GEMA work registration valid at the start of the funding round.

The relevant subsidy amounts will be paid out to all parties at the end of the funding round.

5. Awarding the subsidy

Subsidies will be awarded by an **independent jury** consisting of nine full members and three deputy members. The jury will be selected by the GEMA Supervisory Board and appointed for a three-year period.

The jury will decide in a secret ballot on the subsidy applications presented to it, with the composition of the jury varying as described above.

Applications will be processed **in order of receipt**. Once the funds designated for a given funding round have been exhausted, no further applications can be approved.

6. Obligations of the applicants

Applicants undertake to provide correct and complete information when filing an application.

7. Data protection

The provisions of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) apply in respect of the processing of personal data. Further information, including the rights of the applicants, is available to view in the GEMA data protection declaration at **www.gema.de/datenschutz**.

8. Exclusion of legal entitlement

There is no legal entitlement to a subsidy from GEMA.

9. Period of validity

The above eligibility requirements are valid in respect of the current funding round at the time of their issuing.