

Q. Is there a closing date for Expressions of Interest (EOIs)?

A. EOIs are now open for the full four-year period of Sharing the National Collection, with the final artworks to be dispatched early 2027. EOIs are processed in order of receipt and therefore we encourage organisations who have specific artworks and/or timing requests to express interest early.

Q. Can I have works beyond the end date of the program?

A. Works are loaned through Sharing the National Collection for a minimum of two years. To ensure loan requests are captured within the funding agreement the deadline for applications must close by 31 December 2026 with final works dispatched by early 2027. Artworks may remain with you for the duration of the loan period, even if this extends beyond the program end date. As an example, an institution requests an artwork to come to them on 1 February 2027 for three years and the National Gallery agrees. The artwork would be dispatched to the institution before the end of the program and the institution would be able to keep that work until 31 January 2030.

Q. Is there a limit on the number of works that can be requested?

A. At this stage, there is no limit on the number of works that can be requested or the number of Expressions of Interest (EOIs) that an Institution can lodge. As more EOIs are lodged and processed, the National Gallery of Australia will assess these for the needs and requests of regional and suburban institutions. At some point, there may be a need to place parameters, such as limiting the number of works that can be requested, to ensure that as many institutions as possible can participate in Sharing the National Collection.

Q. What is the size of the National Gallery's Collection?

A. The National Gallery's evolving collection consists of over 155,000 works of art, created by more than 15,000 artists, including the world's largest collection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art. The collection comprises Australian art, modern art worldwide, particularly from Europe and America and art from across Asia and the Pacific.

Q. Are there specified works in the National Gallery's Collection that we can pick from for Sharing the National Collection?

A. The public Collection Search (<https://searchthecollection.nga.gov.au>) contains over 99% of the artworks in the national collection. The only items not discoverable via collection search is material that is not able to be viewed or loaned due to cultural considerations. To aid your selection, there are a number of markers that appear next to the title of the artwork on Collection Search. When these appear, they list a certain type of status, for example 'On View' or 'On tour'. This means that the works are currently in use and may not be available under Sharing the National Collection at the time you are interested in. You are welcome to explore and express interest in any of the works shown on Collection Search.

Q. Are there exclusions on some works that mean they are not available under Sharing the National Collection?

A. Within the >99% of the national collection that is searchable on Collection Search, there are no exclusions and regional institutions can express interest in any of these works. There are practical reasons that some works will not be able to be provided. For example, works may already be on loan, part of a travelling exhibition or already on display in the National Gallery of Australia. There are labels in collection search that denote this so that people browsing can see the status of works. In these circumstances, when an artwork is returned to us or taken off display, the specific label is removed, indicating to those looking that the work is likely available again.

Q. What happens if my institution does not meet the environmental conditions specified under the National Gallery of Australia's Loan Program; will we be restricted in what work we can have?

A. While there are no overt restrictions, each work will require a specific set of conditions to ensure it is safe while on loan. If an institution does not have the requisite conditions to enable them to have their preferred artwork, the National Gallery of Australia will work with them to identify other suitable works. With 155,000 artworks, we have works that suit a huge range of conditions, including robust works suitable for outdoor display. We encourage you to list your first preferences within the Expression of Interest online form. Expression of Interest form found at <https://nga.gov.au/share-the-collection/>.