



Coimisiún
na Meán

Digital Transformation Scheme Frequently Asked Questions

Publication date: 14 October 2025

DTS – Common Questions and Answers

Is my company eligible?	3
How long is the funding valid for after acceptance?	3
What does “advancing accessibility” mean in practice?	3
What is the level of detail required for the Digital Transformation Plan?.....	3
If I have received Sound and Vision funding with Coimisiún Na Meán could this affect my funding under De Minimis rules?	3
Is there a limit of one contract awarded per county like in the court reporting (CRS) and local democracy schemes (LDRS)?	3
Can more time be given to apply?	3
When do you anticipate the applications results to be published?	4
What about equipment quotes? Some prices/quotations for hardware may not be accurate by the time the decision is taken?	4
There are 10 objectives of the DTS - do you score higher if your proposal ticks more / all boxes?	4
Can we submit a content project but outline the capital funding needed to create that project and a budget that just outlines costs associated with training and equipment etc to deliver the project?	4
Can I apply as a representative organisation?	4
Is it just IT equipment or can fit/installation costs be included?	4
Should the Digital Transformation Plan cover a specific time period, i.e. 1 year, 3 years etc?	5
Does De Minimis State Aid require the applicant to match fund?	5
How are points awarded at Assessment Stage?	5
Is there a fixed start date for projects?	5
If submitting a number of projects, should these be put on single or separate applications?	5
Is there a cap on GBER funding available to one media organisation?	5
Should my budget cost be exclusive of VAT, or inclusive of VAT?	5



Is my company eligible?

The Eligibility Criteria are outlined on Section 4.3 of the Digital Transformation Scheme (DTS) document. You can access full details of the DTS including the Scheme Document and Guide for Applicants on our website at the following link: [Digital Transformation Scheme - Coimisiún na Meán](#)

How long is the funding valid for after acceptance?

The funding offer will be valid for 12 months.

What does “advancing accessibility” mean in practice?

Accessibility is one of the objectives of the Scheme which states: Accessibility: Support digital accessibility training and enhance technology to incorporate features such as transcription, text-to-speech and Irish Sign Language (ISL) interpretation to advance accessibility. Further information and guidance on Digital Accessibility is contained in Appendix 4 of the Guide for Applicants.

What is the level of detail required for the Digital Transformation Plan?

The Digital Transformation Plan should clearly outline the overall project proposal including goals and milestones. The scale of the project should be appropriately reflected in the detail provided. You can access full details of the DTS including the Scheme Document and the Guide for Applicants which outlines the Assessment criteria on our website at the following link: [Digital Transformation Scheme - Coimisiún na Meán](#)

If I have received Sound and Vision funding with Coimisiún Na Meán could this affect my funding under De Minimis rules?

The Sound and Vision (S&V) Scheme does not operate under De Minimis State Aid and therefore any funding received in relation to S&V does not impact an application for De Minimis funding.

Is there a limit of one contract awarded per county like in the court reporting (CRS) and local democracy schemes (LDRS)?

There is not a limit per county. One of the objectives of the Scheme is “Plurality: Encourage and increase digital capability and activity across a diverse range of sources thereby promoting a resilient and representative media landscape in Ireland.” Plurality is taken into consideration during the Qualitative Assessment stage, and you can access full details of the DTS including the Scheme Document and the Guide for Applicants which outlines the Assessment criteria on our website at the following link: [Digital Transformation Scheme - Coimisiún na Meán](#)

Can more time be given to apply?

The package of recommendations must be ratified, and exchequer funding must be allocated in 2025. Therefore, the closing date for applications is 5pm on Friday 24th October 2025 to allow for the full operation of the scheme.

When do you anticipate the applications results to be published?

Application results will be announced as soon as possible in late 2025/early 2026.

What about equipment quotes? Some prices/quotations for hardware may not be accurate by the time the decision is taken?

Equipment purchased under this funding Scheme must be procured in accordance with standard business procurement practices, ensuring transparency, value for money and compliance with applicable public procurement regulations. Applicants should ensure all proposed expenditures are eligible under the scheme guidelines and demonstrate that the total project cost represents good value for money. Applicants must provide accurate detailed budget notes relating to all costs in the budget submitted with their application. These budget notes will be taken into account during the qualitative assessment phase and the more detail that is provided, the more useful it will be to assessors. If successful, applicants will be awarded funding based on the detail provided in the budget at application stage.

There are 10 objectives of the DTS - do you score higher if your proposal ticks more / all boxes?

Applicants are not required to meet all 10 scheme objectives but should clearly demonstrate the scheme objectives to which their proposal aligns with. The full assessment criteria may be reviewed in the Guide for Applicants.

Can we submit a content project but outline the capital funding needed to create that project and a budget that just outlines costs associated with training and equipment etc to deliver the project?

The Digital Transformation Scheme does not fund content production or associated production costs. Projects relating to content should not be submitted to the DTS. You should align your proposal with the objectives of the scheme and not with a content project.

Can I apply as a representative organisation?

Applicants to the Scheme must be regulated media service providers. The Eligibility Criteria is outlined in full in Section 4.3 of the Digital Transformation Scheme (DTS) document. You can access full details of the DTS including the Scheme Document and Guide for Applicants on our website at the following link: [Digital Transformation Scheme - Coimisiún na Meán](#)

Is it just IT equipment or can fit/installation costs be included?

Costs such as installation, clearly demonstrated as essential to the delivery of the Digital Transformation proposal, may be included. Applicants should ensure all proposed expenditures are eligible under the scheme guidelines and demonstrate that the total project cost represents good value for money. Applicants must provide detailed budget notes relating to all costs in the budget submitted with their application.



Should the Digital Transformation Plan cover a specific time period, i.e. 1 year, 3 years etc?

If successful, your proposal should be ready to commence, but should not have already started prior to contract execution and run for a duration of 1 year from project commencement.

Does De Minimis State Aid require the applicant to match fund?

If you select Di Minimis as the applicable state aid mechanism for your project, the maximum you can apply for is up to €100,000 and up to 100% of the eligible costs of your proposal may be funded. Match funding is not relevant for De Minimis State Aid, however other strict State Aid criteria apply. During the application process you will also be asked to declare any Di Minimis Aid received by your company within the past three years and if successful you will be required to sign a subsequent legal declaration. For more information on the two State Aid Mechanisms please review the Guide for Applicants.

How are points awarded at Assessment Stage?

The Assessment process and relevant Scoring Matrix are outlined fully in the Guide for Applicants.

Is there a fixed start date for projects?

All proposals submitted to the DTS must be ready to go but should not have already commenced prior to contract execution.

If submitting a number of projects, should these be put on single or separate applications?

As applications are assessed against the Scheme's criteria on their own merits and as budgets may vary for each proposal it would be appropriate to consider using separate applications for each of your proposed projects, as long as they are distinctly different projects as there should be no overlap or duplication of projects across multiple applications.

Is there a cap on GBER funding available to one media organisation?

The Scheme document (Section 5 Funding & 5.3 Maximum Percentage of Funding Available) outlines the maximum grant thresholds available through the DTS under General Block Exemption Regulation. You can access full details of the DTS including the Scheme Document and Guide for Applicants on our website at the following link: [Digital Transformation Scheme - Coimisiún na Meán](#)

Should my budget cost be exclusive of VAT, or inclusive of VAT?

Line items in the Budget must be submitted exclusive of VAT unless the applicant is not registered for VAT. Only in the instance that VAT is a non-deductible cost to the applicant can VAT be included. If you are registered for VAT, all line items in the budget should be inputted exclusive of VAT. If you are NOT registered for VAT, you may include the VAT cost for the line item. The rationale for inclusion of VAT (plus rate charged) must be set out in your budget notes. An Coimisiún requires successful applicants to have a clear tax clearance status with the Irish Revenue Commissioners

