

# Guidelines for the Hamburger Gagenfonds for Hamburg-based musicians, artistic DJs, music projects and collectives in the time of Covid-19:

## 1. Who and what is eligible for support?

With the Hamburger Gagenfonds programme musicians, artistic DJs, music projects and collectives from Hamburg can apply for subsidies to their fees for concerts/DJ sets (physical or virtual) played during the period of the pandemic, for which they received some form of remuneration (as fees or donations) that was below the market-going minimum fee of 250 resp. 500 euros per person, or 1000 resp. 2000 euros per band. Concerts/DJ sets performed without remuneration can only be supported by the Hamburger Gagenfonds in justified exceptions.

**Please note:** A grant can only be applied for when concerts/DJ sets have actually taken place. **Cancelled concerts/DJ sets are not eligible for applications for support.**

## 2. Who can apply?

The following may apply:

- Musicians in the realm of pop
- Musicians in the realm of jazz
- Bands (e.g. GbRs)/projects/collectives in the realm of pop
- Bands (e.g. GbRs)/projects/collectives in the realm of jazz
- Artistic DJs in the realm of pop
- Artistic DJs in the realm of jazz

### Musicians, bands, projects, collectives must

- carry out artistic activity as self-employed freelancers (full- or part-time)

AND

- be registered residents of Hamburg

### Rules about place of residence for bands:

- o for bands with members from areas surrounding Hamburg who are applying for a full grant it is required that at least 50% of the band are registered residents of Hamburg AND that the member of the band submitting the application is a registered resident of Hamburg.



**RockCity Hamburg e.V.**  
Zentrum für Populärmusik  
Sternstraße 4  
D 20357 Hamburg  
t +49 (0) 40. 319 60 60  
f +49 (0) 40. 319 60 69  
music@rockcity.de  
www.rockcity.de

RockCity Hamburg e.V. – Zentrum für Populärmusik / Sternstraße 4 / 20357 Hamburg

- o for bands whose members are neither registered in Hamburg nor in areas surrounding Hamburg: it is not possible for such bands to apply for support; support can only be granted for those members who are registered in Hamburg. The band member who is submitting the application **MUST** be a registered resident of Hamburg.

**Example:** Band XY has three members. 2 of them are registered residents of Hamburg, 1 in Münster. With the revised rule the band can apply for a grant but will only be considered for a maximum top-up grant of 500 euros (i.e. max. 250 euros per person) since only two of the band members are officially registered residents in Hamburg. If all 3 members were registered in Hamburg the band could apply for a top-up grant of max. 750 euros (at max. 250 euros per person).

AND

- Proof of a release OR of a professional commercial partner
  - o of publications in the last 36 months through a professional (online) distributor: either at least 1 release (physical: vinyl, CD, DVD, tape) or at least 3 tracks (digital)
- OR
- o of a professional commercial partner, e.g. professional contractor, artists' recruitment or booking agency, etc.

AND

- of having played at least 5 physical concerts in 2019. **NEW:** This also includes concerts at festivals, support shows and public support programmes. Exceptions are made for parental leave, attested sickness/injury and especially personal circumstances in 2019.

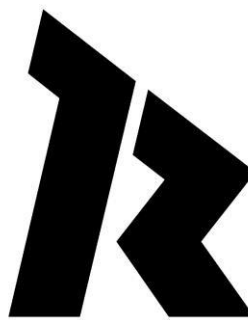
### Artistic DJs must

- carry out artistic activity as self-employed freelancers (full- or part-time)

AND

- be registered residents of Hamburg

AND



**RockCity Hamburg e.V.**  
Zentrum für Populärmusik  
Sternstraße 4  
D 20357 Hamburg  
t +49 (0) 40. 319 60 60  
f +49 (0) 40. 319 60 69  
music@rockcity.de  
www.rockcity.de

RockCity Hamburg e.V. – Zentrum für Populärmusik / Sternstraße 4 / 20357 Hamburg

- have played at least 10 of their own, physical DJ sets (without support programme) for a fee at events where the audience was charged an entrance fee. Exceptions are made for parental leave, attested sickness/injury and especially personal circumstances in 2019.

**The following “soft” criteria are considered proof of artistic activity as a DJ:**

- The use of technical equipment to mix different tracks to create new soundscapes and compositions.

OR

- The publication in the last 36 months of at least 1 release (physical: vinyl/CD/DVD/tape) or at least 3 tracks/compilations/sets (digital) through a professional (online) distributor.

OR

- Your own digital profile as a DJ artist (social media, streaming platforms, etc.)

OR

- Gigs also outside a club (i.e. at a radio station, festival, etc.)

OR

- Cooperation with a professional booking agency

OR

- Live gigs are assessed on the basis of GEMA rating for U-K (concerts featuring light & dance music, spoken cabaret, comedy, etc.)

The eligibility for receiving financial support is judged by the staff processing applications according to the above criteria.

### **3. For which kinds of show can you apply for a fee top-up?**

A fee top-up is possible for virtual concerts and DJ sets (retroactively from 13.03.2020 and currently until 31.08.2021, here the date of the broadcast is valid, not the date of the eventual recording) and for physical concerts and DJ sets (retroactively from 01.07.2020 and currently until 31.08.2021)



**RockCity Hamburg e.V.**  
Zentrum für Populärmusik  
Sternstraße 4  
D 20357 Hamburg  
t +49 (0) 40. 319 60 60  
f +49 (0) 40. 319 60 69  
music@rockcity.de  
www.rockcity.de

RockCity Hamburg e.V. – Zentrum für Populärmusik / Sternstraße 4 / 20357 Hamburg

- that were carried out by professional promoters

AND

- have taken place in public (no private or closed events)

AND

- for which musicians, bands, artistic projects, collectives, artistic DJs received payment in the form of a fixed fee or a door split or a donation, etc., that amounted to less than 250 euros, resp. 500 euros, per person. Cases where payment was 0 euros (in words: “zero”) are subject to case-by-case review.

**Please note:** Applications for support can only be submitted for concerts/DJ sets that actually took place. **For concerts that were cancelled you cannot submit** an application for support!

#### **4. How much top-up grant can you apply for?**

**In the case of musicians, bands, projects, collectives the amount of top-up subsidy is calculated according to the following categories:**

1. Amount of payment (fixed fee, door split or donation, etc.) for the concert played in 2020 for which top-up subsidy is being applied for.

2. Average audience size at concerts in 2018/19.

a) Average up to 200 concert-goers (no proof required)

- max. top-up to 250 euros per musician
- max. top-up to 1000 euros per band

b) average over 200 concert-goers (proof required)

- max. top-up to 500 euros per musician
- max. top-up to 2000 euros per band

#### **Proof of audience numbers:**

Proof of audience numbers is as of immediate effect now possible for concerts from 2018 ANS 2019. Please note: For THIS, no consideration can be made for public supporting events, festival and support gigs as proof of average audience numbers.



**RockCity Hamburg e.V.**  
Zentrum für Populärmusik  
Sternstraße 4  
D 20357 Hamburg  
t +49 (0) 40. 319 60 60  
f +49 (0) 40. 319 60 69  
music@rockcity.de  
www.rockcity.de

RockCity Hamburg e.V. – Zentrum für Populärmusik / Sternstraße 4 / 20357 Hamburg

**In the case of artistic DJs the amount of top-up subsidy is calculated according to the following categories:**

1. Amount of payment (fixed fee, door split or donation, etc.) for the DJ set played in 2020 for which top-up subsidy is being applied for.
2. Number of headliner shows (without support programme) played for a fee in 2019 where entrance was charged at the door.

a) Up to 9 headliner shows

- max. top-up to 250 euros per DJ

b) over 10 headliner shows

- max. top-up to 500 euros per DJ

**Sample calculations:**

a) Musician X played a professionally organised, physical live concert on 01.07.2020. The fixed fee amounted to 100 euros. In 2018/19 musician X played to an average audience size of under 200. Given this average audience size, the market-going minimum fee for musicians is 250 euros. This results in the following calculation:

Minimum fee	–	received payment	=	<b>top-up subsidy</b>
250 euros	–	100 euros	=	<b>150 euros</b>

**Musician X** would thus receive **150 euros** from the Hamburger Gagenfonds.

b) Band Y with 5 band members performed professionally organised, physical live concert on 13.03.2020. Through audience donations the band took 200 euros. Evidence of the band's audiences in 2019 shows that band Y played to audiences that on average were greater than 200. Given this average audience size, the market-going minimum fee for bands is 500 euros per band member. But the maximum amount that can be subsidised by the Hamburger Gagenfonds is 2000 euros. This results in the following calculation:

Max. grant for bands	–	received payment	=	<b>top-up subsidy</b>
2000 euros	–	200 euros	=	<b>1800 euros</b>



**RockCity Hamburg e.V.**  
Zentrum für Populärmusik  
Sternstraße 4  
D 20357 Hamburg  
t +49 (0) 40. 319 60 60  
f +49 (0) 40. 319 60 69  
music@rockcity.de  
www.rockcity.de

RockCity Hamburg e.V. – Zentrum für Populärmusik / Sternstraße 4 / 20357 Hamburg

**Band Y** would thus receive **1800 euros** from the Hamburger Gagenfonds.

c) DJ Alpha is an artistic DJ and performed a professionally organised *physical* live set on 07 July 2020. For the gig DJ Alpha was paid 300 euros in a door split deal. DJ Alpha has submitted evidence of having played at least 10 headliner shows for a fee in 2019, where entrance was charged at the door. The minimum fee is thus set at 500 euros. This results in the following calculation:

Minimum fee	–	received payment	=	<b>top-up subsidy</b>
500 euros	–	300 euros	=	<b>200 euros</b>

**DJ Alpha** would thus receive **200 euros** from the Hamburger Gagenfonds.

d) DJ Beta is an artistic DJ and performed a professionally organised *virtual* live set on 04 April 2020. For the gig the club paid DJ Beta a fixed fee of 120 euros. DJ Beta has submitted evidence of having played for a fixed fee at at least 10 events, where entrance was charged at the door. But in 2019 DJ Beta played less than 10 headliner shows. The minimum fee is thus set at 250 euros. This results in the following calculation

Minimum fee	–	received payment	=	<b>top-up subsidy</b>
250 euros	–	120 euros	=	<b>130 euros</b>

**DJ Beta** would thus receive **130 euros** from the Hamburger Gagenfonds.

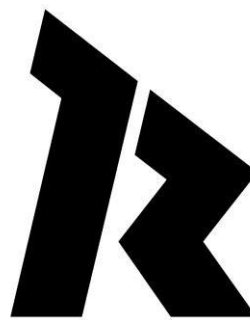
## 5. Making an application:

The application must be made using the online form at <https://www.rockcity.de/gagenfonds/>

You may apply only for a maximum of 3 concerts per calendar month per musician/artistic DJ/band/project/collective, even if you played more than 3 concerts in that month.

- **Example 1:** In July 2020 band Y played 3 physical and 4 virtual concerts. Three of these concerts can be subsidised, but not all seven.
- **Example 2:** One member of band Y also has another project as a solo artist, performing as musician X. Besides the 7 concerts with band Y musician X also played 3 physical concerts in July 2020. As a solo artist, musician X can submit three applications for July 2020 in addition to the three applications submitted together with band Y.

## 6. Proof/documentation



### **For musicians, bands, projects, collectives:**

1. Proof of residence in Hamburg through: official registration of fixed residence (Meldebestätigung) or a copy of your ID card (Personalausweis).
2. Proof of artistic activity as a self-employed freelancer through: tax number.
3. OPTIONAL proof of membership of the GEMA, GVL, KSK through: e.g. membership number.
4. Proof of a publication/release OR a professional commercial partner through:
  - Link to at least 1 release (physical: vinyl/CG/DVD/tape), released through a professional (online) distributor in the last 36 months OR
  - a link to at least 3 tracks (digital), released through a professional (online) distributor in the last 36 months OR
  - name and link to the website of the partner(s) and contract about the cooperation with a professional commercial partner (booking agencies or artists' recruitment agencies or musician(s) whose tour(s) is/are accompanied by the applicant, or other)
5. Proof of at least 5 concerts played in 2019 through: a contract or links or printed matter.
6. OPTIONAL proof of average numbers of audience in 2018/2019 when more than 200 concert-goers through: ticket sales or ticket reports for each concert or confirmation by the booking agency or management.
7. Proof of a professionally organised, physical or virtual concerts/DJ sets presented in 2020 through: link to the event or printed matter or programme publicity.
8. Proof of payment of a non-market-going fee though: invoice or contract and cash receipt or bank in-payment receipt.
9. Confirmation by the professional promotor/club of the low fee paid through: filled-out form (for sample, see download page) OR confirmation of the contracting client of the payment of split fees to the musician through: filled-out form (for sample, see download page).

### **For artistic DJs:**

1. Proof of residence in Hamburg through: official registration of fixed residence (Meldebestätigung) or a copy of your ID card (Personalausweis).
2. Proof of artistic activity as a self-employed freelancer through: tax number.



**RockCity Hamburg e.V.**  
Zentrum für Populärmusik  
Sternstraße 4  
D 20357 Hamburg  
t +49 (0) 40. 319 60 60  
f +49 (0) 40. 319 60 69  
music@rockcity.de  
www.rockcity.de

RockCity Hamburg e.V. – Zentrum für Populärmusik / Sternstraße 4 / 20357 Hamburg

3. OPTIONAL proof of membership of the GEMA, GVL, KSK through: e.g. membership number.
4. Proof of at least 10 DJ sets played for a fee in 2019 through: contract or invoice or bank in-payment receipt or cash receipt.
5. Proof of charged entrance fee for at least 10 DJ sets played in 2019 through: links or printed matter or confirmation by the promotor.
6. OPTIONAL proof of at least 10 headliner shows played for a fee in 2019, for which an entrance fee was charged at the door, through: links or printed matter or confirmation by the promotor or a contract.
7. OPTIONAL proof of technical equipment used for mixing different tracks through: tech rider, photographs.
8. OPTIONAL proof of music releases over the last 36 months published by a professional (online) distributor through: links and details of the (online) distributor.
9. OPTIONAL proof of gigs apart from clubs through: links or printed matter.
10. OPTIONAL proof of cooperation with a professional booking agency through: links or contract.
11. OPTIONAL proof that live shows are assessed on the basis of the GEMA rating U-K through: GEMA statement.
12. Proof of a professionally organised physical or virtual concert/DJ set played in 2020 through: link to the event or sample of printed matter or programme publicity.
13. Proof of payment of a non-market-going fee through: invoice/contract and cash receipt or bank in-payment receipt.
14. Confirmation by the professional promotor/club of payment of a non-market-going fee through: filled-out form (for sample, see download page) OR confirmation by the contracting client of payment of split fees to the DJ through: filled-out form (for sample, see download page).

## 7. Payment

- Payment of the grant is made immediately and after the application has been examined, approved and the contract has been signed, and without termination. The third round of applications is from March 1<sup>st</sup> until August 31<sup>st</sup> 2021.
- The Hamburger Gagenfonds is intended neither as a long-term solution for individual gigs (physical or virtual) nor as a permanent programme of reiterative support. Instead, its purpose is the short- and





**RockCity Hamburg e.V.**  
Zentrum für Populärmusik  
Sternstraße 4  
D 20357 Hamburg  
t +49 (0) 40. 319 60 60  
f +49 (0) 40. 319 60 69  
music@rockcity.de  
www.rockcity.de

RockCity Hamburg e.V. – Zentrum für Populärmusik / Sternstraße 4 / 20357 Hamburg

medium-term facilitation of live formats and as financial support for previously performed concerts and DJ sets.

- The support is granted without any service in return from the applicant.
- Applicants are not legally entitled to claim support as a right. Instead, it is the granting authority that decides on the basis of dutiful assessment within the framework of the available budgetary resources. Payments are made on the application and the submitted documents after the conclusion of a subsidy agreement.
- The applicant is responsible for payment of tax on the awarded granted.
- All statements made and possible attachments must be accurate and complete. Any false statements or inaccurate information can result in those people who are affected and who are in great need of financial support ending up empty-handed. RockCity Hamburg e.V. reserves the right to reclaim any granted financial support should the decision to award support have been based on partially or entirely false statements by the applicant.

## 8. Provision for special cases

If there is any doubt concerning the professionalism or entitlement to support in relation to streaming or live settings/circumstances, a jury for special cases will assess and decide upon the application.

Date: 05.08.2021

RockCity Hamburg e.V.