

# COVID-19

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON SACEM'S EMERGENCY MEASURES

### Extension of the measures in 2021

Following the Covid-19 health crisis, the Sacem Board of Directors adopted an emergency response plan on March 26, 2020 to assist and accompany you. As the health crisis is still ongoing, the Board of Director has decided on last November 26 an extend of this emergency plan for 2021.

The emergency response plan consists of **a rescue fund, exceptional royalty advances and increased support for the programme to assist publishers.**

#### RELIEF FUND

##### **What is the relief fund?**

The relief fund has been set up in 2020 to respond to the needs of those experiencing particular difficulties due to the effects of the health crisis. It is extended in 2021.

##### **How much will be paid out?**

Personal circumstances are very different from one member to another. Thus, in order to respond to each situation, financial reliefs of €300, €600, €900, €1500, €3000 or €5000 are being set up. This sum constitutes a grant and you will not be asked to pay it back.

##### **Who can benefit?**

All songwriters, composers or publishers, whether they are Sacem members or not.

##### **Until when can requests be made?**

The relief fund is open until the end of 2021.

##### **Is it possible to make more than one request?**

If you received assistance in 2020, you have the option to reapply for 2021 (only one request per person or legal entity per year).

##### **How do you make a request?**

- Go to <https://aide-aux-projets.sacem.fr/en>
  - Click on "Identify yourself" using your Sacem's Id and password
  - Click on "new application" button
  - Select "Emergency relief fund" in the scrolling Menu
- If you are an heir or are not a member of Sacem, email us at [societaires@sacem.fr](mailto:societaires@sacem.fr) or call us on +33 1 47 15 47 15; we will explain the procedure to follow.

### **What supporting documents should be attached to the request?**

- Aid request form
- A detailed letter explaining your situation
- Curriculum vitae (individual)
- Latest tax notification
- Accounting documents (corporate body)
- The aid will be paid by bank transfer to the bank account on which your royalties are paid. If your rights are paid by cheque or you have never received any rights, you must include your RIB/IBAN details
- Any document that attests to the difficulties you are encountering

### **What are the criteria for allocating aid?**

Each request will be evaluated by the Sacem *Comité du Coeur* and the Social Affairs Department. Files will be analysed according to social criteria, looking in particular at the level of professionalism (Sacem grade, author's income generated over the past three years, etc.), household income and expenses, and the effects the health crisis is having on your professional activity and personal situation.

### **How and when will Sacem notify members about the processing of requests?**

You will receive an email as soon as possible to inform you of the outcome of your request.

### **Is aid from the relief fund subject to tax and social security contributions?**

Individual one-off assistance is not subject to social charges or tax.

### **Who can I contact with queries about the relief fund?**

Email us at [societaires@sacem.fr](mailto:societaires@sacem.fr)

## **EXCEPTIONAL ADVANCES**

### **What is an exceptional advance?**

Exceptional advances are extended in 2021. This is a sum of money that Sacem will pay on a one-time basis, which you will be required to reimburse from January 2023 via deductions from your authors' rights.

### **Who is eligible?**

Any author, composer or publisher who is a member of Sacem and who generated at least €2,700 in rights in 2020 (net amount distributed, i.e. the amount shown on your distribution statement before contributions and taxes).

### **What is the final date for requests?**

This exceptional advance scheme will remain open until December 2021, given that the impact of the current crisis on authors' rights distributions will be felt mainly from January 2021 onwards.

### **How is the sum for the advance calculated?**

The advance is calculated as 10% of the average of your royalties over the last three years. For members who have also reached this threshold in 2019 and who have not yet made a request, Sacem will retain the most favorable reference year (2019 or 2020). If you already got an advance in 2020, you can't get a new one in 2021.

If you have reached a net distributed rights threshold of €12,000 in 2020, the advance is automatically increased to 20% of the average of your rights over the past 3 years, less any first advance already granted in 2020.

*For example: You generated €9,000 in royalties in 2020, €10,000 in royalties in 2019 and €8,000 in 2018. The annual average of your royalties over these three years amounts to €9,000 (27 000 € / 3 years = 9 000 €). The advance that will be paid out will amount to 10% of this average, or €900.*

### **If you have generated rights for the first time in 2020, for an amount over €2,700, can you request an advance?**

Yes, you can request an exceptional advance. In this case, after the request has been checked for approval, it is equal to 10% of the amount of your 2020 rights.

### **Is the amount of the advance capped?**

Advances are capped at €100,000.

### **What are the repayment terms for the advance?**

The advance is repayable from January 2023 onwards (no repayment will be required in 2021 and 2022). Reimbursement will be spread over 5 years by automatic deductions from your author's rights distributions.

### **Is it possible to make more than one request?**

Only one advance request per natural or legal person is permitted.

### **How do I make a request?**

- Go to <https://aide-aux-projets.sacem.fr/en>
- Click on "Identify yourself" using your Sacem's Id and password
- Click on "new application" button
- Select "Exceptional Advances" in the scrolling Menu

If you receive rights as an heir, email us at [societaires@sacem.fr](mailto:societaires@sacem.fr) or call us on 00 33 1 47 15 47 15; we will explain the procedure you need to follow.

### **What supporting documents should be attached to the request?**

No specific proof is required (apart from the eligibility conditions mentioned above).

### **How soon will the advance be paid?**

After checking the request for approval, the advance will be paid automatically within one month. The aid will be paid by bank transfer to the bank account on which your royalties are paid. If your rights are paid by cheque, you must include your RIB/IBAN details on the request form available in your member area.

### **Is this exceptional advance taxable?**

The advance is subject to compulsory contributions and tax under the same conditions as royalties. Please note that the impact of the current crisis in terms of royalty distributions will be felt mainly from January 2021 onwards. Advances granted in 2020 will be taxable in 2021, and those granted in 2021 will be taxable in 2022.

### **Who can I contact with queries about exceptional advances?**

Email us at [societaires@sacem.fr](mailto:societaires@sacem.fr)

## **PUBLISHERS' AID PROGRAM**

### **What aid programs is Sacem offering for publishers?**

Two programs are available:

- Aid for publishing development: current music and jazz
- Aid for publishing development: contemporary music

### **Are these programs new?**

No, these programs were already in place before the current crisis.

### How have these programs been adapted to respond to the current crisis?

An additional 3 million euros is now available for 2021. The aim is to support you through the crisis period and help restart your activities.

### What are the eligibility criteria?

The criteria are available to consult in the Aid section of the Sacem website:

- [Aid for editorial development: current music and jazz](#)
- [Aid for editorial development: contemporary music](#)

### How do I apply for aid?

- Log in to your member space at [sacem.fr](http://sacem.fr).
- Click on 'COVID-19 - EMERGENCY MEASURES: REQUEST AID' at the top of your dashboard. You will be redirected to a page with links to the **two aid programs**
  - o [Aid for publishing development: current music and jazz](#)
  - o [Aid for publishing development: contemporary music](#)