

COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM 2026

Is your organisation creating positive social change by embedding climate resilience, First Nations self-determination, or gender equity into your work?

Community Grants Program 2026 is looking for organisations and programs:

- Rooted in **local knowledge and leadership**,
- actively **addressing barriers** to access, participation, and sustainability, and
- centring **self-determination and social justice** as pathways to systemic change.

We are backing diverse leaders to build communities with resilience, to ensure that community support networks are accessible and effective in the face of change. We want community leaders to play their role in ensuring that emerging practice and solutions are seen and heard.



WE'RE INVESTING IN



Training and development



Backing social innovation



Elevating diverse leadership



Collaboration in local networks



Core organisation costs and improved operational effectiveness



Local knowledge & lived expertise

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible your organisation must:

- Have charitable status and be registered with the ACNC
- Be medium sized organisation as defined by the ACNC - with annual revenue of \$500,000 or more, but under \$3 million
- Operate in Australia

No more than one application is to be submitted per organisation. Put your best foot forward.



Please note that Hospitals, Universities & Research Institutes are not considered eligible for funding in this round.

Organisations that received funding through the Community Grants Program 2025 are considered ineligible for funding in this grant round.

GRANT REQUESTS

- Single year or 2 year grant requests
 - Up to \$30,000 p.a.
 - New or ongoing programs
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USE OF FUNDS

Funding can be used for:

- Salaries and support
- Operational expenses (i.e., program delivery and overheads)
- Measurement and Evaluation

Funding cannot be used for:

- Private benefit
 - [Advocacy](#) (see ACNC for guidance)
 - Retrospective activities
 - Academic Research Projects
 - Discrete projects and initiatives
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This Year, we are prioritising applications seeking funding that strengthen organisational operation and growth. Activities may include, but not limited to, professional development and training, staff costs, new systems and technology, and consultancy services. For applications seeking support for project specific costs, we encourage you to apply through our Small Grants Program, which will open in the second half of FY27.

KEY DATES

21 September 2026	Applications Open
13 October 2026	Applications close 5PM AEDT
11 December 2026	Outcomes communicated to all applicants

AVAILABLE FUNDING

We acknowledge that demand for funding in this round will exceed the capacity of the participating Trusts and Foundations. We anticipate being in a position to support approximately **6 to 8 applications**, though this may vary depending on the size, scale, and mix of applications received.

Organisations operating in regional Northern Territory and remote areas will have a higher successful rate. To align with the terms of the contributing Trusts, 1/7 of the funding pool is allocated exclusively to organisations operating in regional Northern Territory and remote areas.

Equity Trustees is committed to reducing the administrative burden for applicants. We design our grant making processes to be as streamlined as possible and strive to match applying organisations with likeminded Trusts and Foundations under our management.

HOW TO APPLY

1. Read the guidelines.
2. Ensure organisation and proposal eligibility.
3. Apply via the [application form](#), opening 21 September 2026.
 - Spend no more than 1-2 hours preparing your application, approximately 20 minutes is allocated to review each application so please be as clear and concise possible.
4. Submit application by no later than 13 October 2026 5PM AEDT. We don't accept any late submissions.

If you would like to complete this application process in an alternative way, please get in touch with our team.

GET IN TOUCH

If you have any additional questions, please contact Equity Trustees via charities@eqt.com.au.