



# Veteran and Community Grants

## Feedback Summary

---

### Overview

The Veteran and Community Grants (V&CG) program (the program) aims to maintain and improve the independence and quality of life of members of the veteran community by providing financial assistance for activities, services and projects that sustain and/or enhance health and well-being.

The objectives of the program are to:

- Deliver projects that are sustainable, financially viable and have an ongoing benefit for members of the Australian veteran community; and
- Deliver projects that increase opportunities for members of the Australian veteran community associated with social activity and community participation and/or improve health behaviours and support healthy places.

### Selection results


There was a strong response from organisations and community groups across Australia to the V&CG funding round.

All applications under the V&CG round selection process were assessed against the criteria set out in the V&CG Grant Opportunity Guidelines (GOG) and in accordance with the Community Grants Hub (the Hub) policies.

### Selection process

The Hub administered an open non-competitive selection process to ensure all eligible organisations and community groups had an equal opportunity to apply.





All applications that passed the initial eligibility and compliance checks were assessed against the assessment criteria and eligibility of activities and expenditure. Following preliminary assessment by the Hub, all outcomes were referred to a Selection Advisory Panel (SAP) made up of DVA employees from relevant business areas.

In making their recommendations, the SAP considered whether the application provided value with relevant money, having regard to:

- the overall objective/s to be achieved in providing the grant
- the relative value of the grant sought
- the extent to which the evidence in the application demonstrates that it will contribute to meeting the outcomes/objectives
- how the grant activities will target groups or individuals.

The Minister for Veterans' Affairs approved the funding to the successful grant recipients.

## General feedback for future V&CG applications

Successful applicants proposed activities that were eligible, appropriate and considered effective for achieving the program objectives. Successful applicants demonstrated strong alignment to maintain and improve the independence and quality of life of members of the veteran community by providing financial assistance for activities, services and projects that support activities and services that sustain and/or enhance health and well-being.

Applicants that were unsuccessful could have strengthened their application by ensuring their proposed project:

- met the aim of the grant to maintain and improve the independence and quality of life of the veteran community by providing funding for projects that support activities and services that sustain and/or enhance health and well-being
- provided sufficient information to demonstrate the veteran community had identified the need for the project and how the project would address that need
- represented value for money.


## Guidance for future V&CG grant applications

### Read supporting information before applying

- It is important to read all available information provided about V&CG when applying for funding, especially the V&CG GOG.
- The GOG contain important information about the aim and objectives of the program, eligible applicants and items, the application process, timeframes, and how to apply.

### Check the application before it is submitted

- Organisations and community groups are encouraged to check the application form for completeness prior to submission.
  - Check that all fields in the application form have been completed in full.


- 
- Check that all answers to questions have been entered correctly.
  - Check that any required attachments have been completed in full, including one **itemised quote for each requested item.**
  - Check that responses to criteria are accurate, clear and easy to read.
  - Check that the application provides a level of detail that is in proportion to the amount of funds requested and the complexity of the project.

## Compliance and eligibility

- It is important to read the GOG to understand eligibility requirements. Grant funding is only available for eligible expenditure items and applicants (providing the proposed project meets the program's intent) outlined in the GOG.

Eligible expenditure categories are:

- equipment and furnishings
  - building works
  - travel
  - volunteer expenses
  - meals
  - Project Officer expenses
  - replacement items
  - evaluation costs
  - administration costs.
- 
- To be eligible for V&CG funding, an applicant's project must deliver one or more of the following for the benefit of Australian veterans and/or their families:
    - promote and enhance healthy lifestyles, particularly physical activity and mental wellbeing
    - support quality independent living at home
    - encourage involvement in community activities
    - reduce social isolation
    - encourage supportive and safe communities
    - increase access to community services
    - address gaps in local services
    - support carers
    - improved nutrition

- 
- increase social connectedness
  - increase mental wellness.