



Australian Government

**Community
Grants Hub**
Improving your grant experience



Specialised Family Violence Services

Questions and Answers

1. What is the closing time and date for applications?

Applications must be submitted by **5:00pm Australian Eastern Standard Time (AEST) on 5 June 2019**. It is recommended that you submit your application **well before the closing time and date**.

2. If I am not able to submit my application by the due time and date, can I be granted an extension?

No, extensions will **not** be given.

If an application is late or the Community Grants Hub is requested to approve a lodgement after the closing date the [late application policy](#) available on the Community Grants Hub website will apply.

3. How much funding is available? Can I apply for more than the amount of funding specified in my letter of invitation?

Section 3.1 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines outline the amount of funding that you may apply for.

4. Where is the funding coming from?

On 5 March 2019, the Australian Government announced a \$328 million package to reduce violence against women and children. This represents the Australian Government's contribution to the Fourth Action Plan 2019-2022, the final plan under the *National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010-2022*.

This included funding of \$10 million to deliver Specialised Family Violence Services in up to 16 additional sites, providing for up to 20,000 additional support sessions per year. This critical service provides specialised counselling and support for families affected by violence, including help for children who witness and/or experience violence.

A Fact Sheet relating to the Specialised Family Violence Services grant opportunity can be accessed [here](#).

Further information on this package can be found on the [Department of Social Services](#) website.



5. I have received more than one letter of invitation. How many applications do I need to submit?

Your organisation can only submit one application for this selection round. See question 25.

6. Is the funding ongoing?

No. If successful, the funding will be provided over a three-year grant agreement.

7. Is my organisation eligible to apply?

To be eligible to apply for this funding opportunity, you must have received a letter inviting you to apply for funding.

8. What service delivery catchment area is this funding for?

You will only be required to deliver services to your existing service delivery catchment area, which are outlined in your current grant agreement listing your Family and Relationship Services Activity details.

While you are required to complete your application based on the particular service delivery locations listed in your Family and Relationship Services grant agreement, you will not be required to deliver services to those areas where you are not already doing so.

If you do decide to deliver services in other parts and which are not part of your existing service delivery catchment area, no additional funding will be provided.

You will be required to allocate funding amounts per service area in the application form. If you only provide services in one service area as indicated on your invitation, you should input the full funding amount offered against that service area.

9. Do word limits apply to my application?

Yes, there is a total word limit of 6,000 characters for addressing each selection criterion.

10. If my organisation is successful, when can we expect payments?

Successful organisations will be contacted to enter negotiations and to execute a grant agreement with the Department of Social Services. The grant will be made available once the grant agreement has been executed, and as per the payment schedule in the grant agreement.

11. What is the Data Exchange?

The Data Exchange is the performance reporting system for the Department of Social Services. It must be used by organisations that are funded under grant agreements to deliver services to clients. There are a small number of data items that must be captured in the Data Exchange – including information about client details, case and session details, and client



consent to participate in follow-up research. Service providers can access their own reports via the Data Exchange web-based portal. These reports are based on the information submitted by their organisation.

Service providers can choose to collect further data in exchange for access to a more sophisticated suite of reports. This further data includes information about the client's presenting needs and circumstances, referrals, and outcomes.

Further information about what is required through the Data Exchange is on the [Data Exchange website](#).

12. Does my organisation have to provide any additional reporting for this funding?

Successful providers are required to report against the DEX partnership approach.

Additionally, the Department may ask for additional information to support the implementation of the Fourth Action Plan under the *National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010-2022*. This requirement will be listed as part of the Activity Work Plan.

13. Do successful applicants have to report information through the Data Exchange?

Yes. Successful applicants must use the Data Exchange to report data about its activities.

As noted in section 12.2 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines, successful applicants must enter a grant agreement that requires participation in the partnership approach. This will ensure that a rich set of information is available about client outcomes to help inform both the service provider and government.

14. What is the Social and Community Services (SACS) supplementation?

On 1 February 2012, Fair Work Australia (now the Fair Work Commission) made a decision to increase wages for the social and community services sector from 1 December 2012. That decision affected workers employed under the Social, Community, Home Care and Disability Services Industry Award 2010.

The Australian Government made a commitment to pay a supplement to organisations that deliver certain programs to enable those organisations to provide their workers with the increased pay. The commitment was to provide this supplementation through to 30 June 2021.

Further information is available on the [Department of Social Services](#) website.



15. Will our organisation be eligible to receive the SACS supplementation?

SACS supplementation does not extend to new programs that did not exist in February 2012. As new policy proposals and programs are developed, SACS wage costs (at the relevant award rate) need to be factored into the baseline program funding.

16. Can an organisation apply on behalf of a consortium?

An organisation that is invited to apply for funding may apply as a consortium, whether or not they are currently delivering services as part of a consortium arrangement under the grant agreement.

The organisation that is invited to apply for this funding opportunity must be appointed as the 'lead applicant' and be responsible for completing the application, and entering into the grant agreement (subject to being assessed as successful). The lead applicant may form a consortium with an organisation(s) that is not eligible, i.e. they have not been invited to apply for funding. Further information about consortia arrangements is provided in section 7.2 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

17. Is there provision to attach letters of support to the application?

Applicants are not able to provide letters of support.

18. What if my organisation does not want to take up the opportunity to apply for this funding?

Your organisation is not required to provide an application if it does not wish to apply for this funding.

19. What feedback will be available for this funding round?

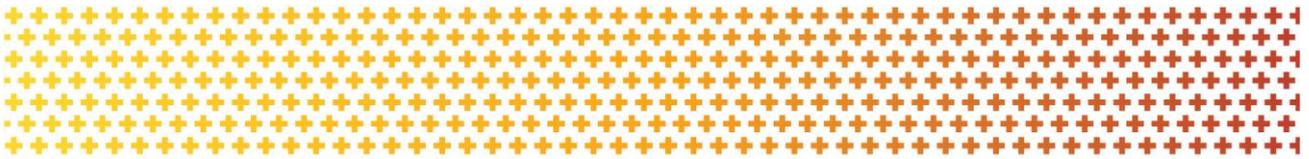
A feedback summary will be published on the Community Grants Hub website following the finalisation of the funding round.

The feedback summary will provide general round-specific information and will include main strengths and areas of improvement for the applications received in this round.

Individual feedback is not available for this round.

20. This is a restricted round – I was not invited can you please advise how I can get invited?

Letters of invitation to apply for funding were only sent to organisations that currently provide Family and Relationship Services and which currently do not receive Specialised Family Violence Services funding. Where a consortia arrangement is in place, the letter of invitation was sent to the lead agency. No other organisation can apply for this funding.



If you would like to express interest in possible future funding rounds, please email support@communitygrants.gov.au.

21. Where should I go for further information?

Please email your enquiries to support@communitygrants.gov.au.

New question and answer added 9 May

22. Are Companies eligible to apply?

Yes. There was an error when the Grant Opportunity Guidelines were first published, in which “company” was listed as an ineligible entity type. The addenda to the Grant Opportunity Guidelines removes this error, and confirms that these entities are eligible to apply.

All eligible applicants need to be able to enter into a legally binding funding agreement with the Commonwealth. If there is any doubt, applicants should consider obtaining legal advice.

New questions and answers added 15 May

23. How much funding can my organisation apply for?

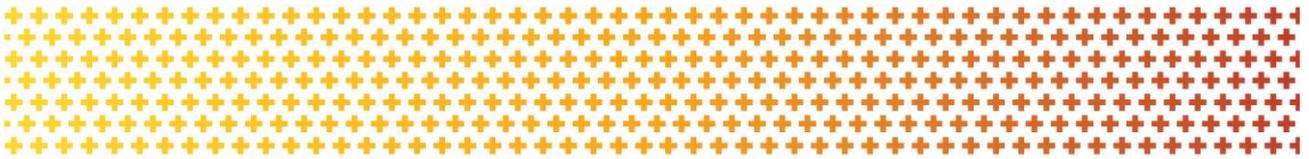
Under this grant opportunity, the minimum grant amount is \$197,000 GST exclusive per financial year. The maximum grant amount is \$205,000 GST exclusive per financial year.

Financial year	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	TOTAL
Grant funding available (GST exclusive)	\$197,000 to \$205,000	\$197,000 to \$205,000	\$197,000 to \$205,000	\$591,000 to \$615,000

24. I have already submitted an application. Can I update my application?

No. If you would like to make any changes to the information contained within your submission, you will need to submit a new application through the online form. This is because applications are unable to be edited after submission.

If you only wish to provide a revised budget to account for the funding available per financial year (i.e. you do not want to amend your full application), you can submit an amended budget using the attached template. The template should be submitted to the Grants Support Hotline by email to: support@communitygrants.gov.au by **5:00pm AEST Wednesday 5 June 2019**.



25. What happens if I submit more than one application?

Any new applications submitted will supersede earlier applications made by the same organisation for this grant round.

26. I don't want to make any changes to my submission. Do I have to submit a new application?

If your organisation has already submitted an application requesting funding within the grant amount of \$197,000 GST exclusive to \$205,000 GST exclusive, **per year**, and you do not want to make any changes to your application, no action is required.

If we do not receive any further updates from your organisation, we will assume the application submitted to be current.

27. When can I expect to be notified of the outcome of my application, given the extension?

You will be notified of the outcome of your application at the end of the selection process. The Community Grants Hub will commence processing applications on closure of the grant opportunity, and work to provide applicants with an outcome as soon as possible. For probity reasons, it is not possible to give you information about the status of individual applications during the assessment process.