



Australian Government

Community
Grants Hub
Improving your grant experience



National Research Grants

Feedback for applicants

Overview

The Strong and Resilient Communities Activity aims to build strong, resilient, cohesive and harmonious communities to ensure that individuals, families and communities have the opportunity to thrive, be free from intolerance and discrimination, and have the capacity to respond to emerging needs and challenges.

National Research grants will help to build the Government's understanding of existing and emerging issues and increase the evidence base to inform Commonwealth Government policies and programs.

The aim of the National Research grants is to ensure Government will have up to date advice and information to respond to issues that impact on the ability of individuals, families and communities to thrive, and to be free from intolerance and discrimination.

Funding will be available for one-off time-limited research and advice projects that impact on community resilience and social cohesion in Australia and reflect current Government priorities, address emerging issues and/or provide innovative solutions to issues of national significance.

Selection Process

The Community Grants Hub used a restricted competitive selection process to select providers to deliver the National Research Grants activity.

The Community Grants Hub received 10 applications for funding, and each applicant had to address the following selection criteria:

- Criterion 1 Demonstrate the need for your national research proposal and how it relates to the objectives of the strong and resilient communities activity
- Criterion 2 Demonstrate your organisation's capability and experience to successfully deliver the National Research project



Selection Results

Under the National Research Grants activity, six organisations were selected to be funded.

The selected organisations provided strong responses to the selection criteria and demonstrated their ability to meet the eligibility requirements outlined in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines. Below is further detail about what constituted a strong response to the criterion.

Criterion 1

Criterion 1: Demonstrate the need for your national research proposal and how it relates to the objectives of the strong and resilient communities activity

A response must include:

- demonstrate the specific need for the research project, and show how the problem relates to the objectives of the Strong and Resilient Communities Activity
- provide information about how the project addresses a genuine gap in research and is not duplicative in nature
- describe how the project will leverage off the existing evidence base.

Strength	Example
Strong applications clearly demonstrated the specific need for the research project, and show how the problem relates to the objectives of the Strong and Resilient Communities Activity	The responses clearly: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• described the nature of the problem and included references to statistics and reports• described the objectives of the proposed research and the benefits that would potentially follow from it• described how the project would assist the Government in achieving the objectives of the Strong and Resilient Communities Activity• identified a lack of applied research demonstrating how the available support program impacts on disadvantaged cohorts• described the need to define terms such as Social Cohesion to allow consistent use and measurement.



Strength	Example
Strong applications clearly demonstrated how the project addresses a genuine gap in research and is not duplicative in nature	The responses clearly: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• described the gaps in research relating to identified target areas including references to research previously undertaken• described the research methodologies that are different to those previously utilised in the target need or area• detailed reference sources that have previously identified research gaps• described how the existing research on Community Resilience and Inclusive Communities has often not provided solutions or remedies to identified issues or problems• described that whilst there is a lack of research evidence base, there is a rich source of extensive clinical expertise and insight• described previous research attempts that have not delivered successful outcomes or provided a strong evidence base.
Strong applications clearly demonstrated how the project will leverage off the existing evidence base.	The responses clearly: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• described the proposed research methodologies, and how existing evidence bases will be utilised• described how the applicants propose to capture information from the target communities• described how the applicants will review other Australian and overseas studies, and then review their own conclusions, methodologies, and procedures• represented good value for money.



Criterion 2: Demonstrate your organisation’s capability and experience to successfully deliver the National Research project.

A response must include:

- describe your organisation’s prior experience in delivering a research project within the proposed timeframe provide details about the relevant qualifications, experience and the role of staff who will be involved in delivering the research project
- demonstrate your organisation’s capability to meet the reporting and performance requirements.

Strength	Example
Strong applications clearly demonstrated the organisation’s prior experience in delivering a research project within the proposed timeframe, providing details about the relevant qualifications, experience and the role of staff who will be involved in delivering the research project	The responses clearly: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• described the organisation’s previous collaborations with organisations such as industry bodies and universities• described previous research projects that the applicants have successfully undertaken, and included details of any awards or recognition received as a result of the research• described the qualifications and experience of the staff that would undertake the research, and the roles they perform within the applicant’s organisation• demonstrated the applicant’s prior experience in working in or with the target communities.
Strong applications clearly demonstrated the organisation’s capability to meet the reporting and performance requirements.	The responses clearly: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• described the applicant’s governance structure, including relevant policies, procedures and guidelines covering research and grant projects• described examples of contracts and projects the applicants are currently undertaking, and described how contractual obligations are managed (including budget management, performance and reporting, oversight and review committees).