

# Questions and Answers

## Multicultural Affairs and Citizenship Program - Fostering Integration Grants

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

The Application Form must be submitted by **2:00pm AEDT on 9 November 2018**. 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. Application Form - Do I need to answer each question on the application form in order or can I answer questions in any order?

You can navigate around the application form and answer questions in any order you choose. However, all questions unless marked otherwise are mandatory to answer and the application form will not allow you to submit your application form until all mandatory questions are addressed.

### 4. How much funding is available for this Program?

The Australian Government has allocated up to \$5 million (GST exclusive) for Fostering Integration grants for the 2018-19 financial year.

The total amount of funding provided to applicants will be decided on completion of the selection process depending on the number and quality of applications received.

Grant applications for a minimum of \$10,000 up to a maximum of \$50,000 (GST exclusive) for up to 12 months will be considered.

### 5. Is the funding on-going?

No, the funding is for one year only from July 2018 to June 2019.

### 6. If the funding is only available until June 2019 do the activities have to be completed by 30 June 2019?

No, the activities can run for up to 12 months and will need to be completed by the end of February 2020.

### 7. When will I know the outcome of my application?

You will be notified of the outcome of your application at the end of the selection process. For probity reasons, to treat all applicants fairly and equally, it is not possible to give you information about the status of individual applications during the assessment process.

## 8. How can I submit the Application Form?

The form is an online Application Form that you must submit electronically. The Community Grants Hub will not provide application forms or accept application forms for this grant opportunity by fax, email or through Australia Post unless otherwise stated in the Grant Opportunity Documents.

## 9. Can I submit more than one application?

In accordance with Section 7.1 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines, the Community Grants Hub will accept only one application per applicant in each state or territory. If you submit more than one application in each state or territory, the Community Grants Hub will only consider the most recent application submitted to the grant opportunity before the closing date and time.

### Q10 amended as at 30/10/2018

## 10. How can I determine the coverage areas for my application?

The geographical areas used to determine service areas will be the Statistical Area levels that are set by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and can be found in the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) 2011. You can find general information about the ASGS on the [ABS's Geography page](#) and a [summary of the ASGS structure](#).

When completing a grant application, you will need to select the combination of Statistical Areas that best reflects the area/s you intend to deliver the activity. The [ABS Census mapping tool](#) provides information about Statistical Areas and allows you to compare against other boundaries, such as postcode.

Fostering Integration Grants coverage areas must cover a **Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3) minimum**, however applicants can select states or territories in their application forms if these geographical areas more accurately represent their intended service delivery areas.

## 11. What if my proposed project will be delivered in more than one state?

Only one application per state is permitted. If you plan to deliver activities in multiple states you will need to submit multiple applications.

Where the majority of activities will be delivered in one state, but a small proportion of activities will be delivered in a neighbouring state, only one application is necessary. The coverage areas should be clearly identified in the Statistical Areas of the grant application.

## 12. I'm applying on behalf of a consortium. Can I identify more than 10 members of a consortium in my application form?

The application form allows applicants to identify up to 10 consortium members only. If you are applying on behalf of a consortium that has more than 10 members, please send an email to [support@communitygrants.gov.au](mailto:support@communitygrants.gov.au) that includes:

- The details of all consortium members, including the 10 members that you have identified in your application form. For each additional member, please provide the same details that are requested in the application form.
- The name of the grant opportunity that you are applying for.
- The **Submission Reference ID** of your application form.

### **13. What is a lead organisation?**

If you submit a joint application as a consortium, you must nominate a lead organisation for the application. The lead organisation for the project will, if your application is successful, sign the Grant Agreement, receive the funding and assume legal responsibility for performing the activities and meeting the outcomes under the Grant Agreement.

A lead organisation must be a legal entity as listed in Section 3 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

Well-established service providers may wish to nominate as a lead organisation and engage and work collaboratively with entho-specific organisations to ensure they have specific community knowledge and connections.

### **14. Would the Department prefer a consortia (joint) application?**

Applications submitted from individual organisations will be neither preferred nor disadvantaged over applications from consortia. Applications will be considered on their merits, based on:

- how well it meets the criteria
- how it compares to other applications
- whether it provides value for money.

### **15. Are any attachments to the application required?**

Yes, you must submit a budget with your application; you may choose to use the budget template provided as part of the grant opportunity documentation on the [GrantConnect](#) and [Community Grants Hub](#) websites.

### **16. Is there provision to attach letters of support to the application?**

There is no provision to attach Letters of Support to the Application. The Community Grants Hub will only accept and consider attachments to the application form that are requested in Section 7.4 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

### **17. Can I apply for a Fostering Integration grant to teach English language to migrants in my community?**

The Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP) provides up to 510 hours of English language tuition to eligible migrants and humanitarian entrants to help them learn foundation English language to enable them to participate socially and economically in Australian society.

Grants for projects aimed at increasing levels of English language proficiency, or employment opportunities, of migrants in the community may be approved if they complement but do not duplicate or replicate the services available from the AMEP and Australian Government employment schemes.

AMEP is delivered at around 307 locations across Australia in major cities as well as rural and regional areas. Details of AMEP service providers by state and territory are available on the [AMEP service provider's page](#).

## **18. Can organisations who provide settlement services to refugee and humanitarian migrants apply for a Fostering Integration grant?**

The Department of Social Services (DSS) works to improve the lifetime wellbeing of refugees and humanitarian entrants to settle in Australia by responding to their specific needs. These programs encourage their independence and participation in the Australian community.

Proposed services and activities under this grants program should not specifically focus on refugee or humanitarian entrants, who continue to receive integration support through DSS settlement programs.

Grants for projects that include refugees in combination with other migrants in the community may be approved if they complement but do not duplicate or replicate the settlement services available from DSS.

## **19. Can I invite the wider community to participate in activities funded by a Fostering Integration grant?**

Grants may be provided for activities that enable the wider community or successfully integrated migrants to assist with the integration of other migrants or to build racial tolerance. However, care should be taken to ensure that activities clearly focus on the social integration issues of migrants or cultural or religious aspects of social cohesion that will preserve a safe and secure Australia and support community resilience.

## **20. Can I charge migrants to participate in activities funded by a Fostering Integration grant?**

Grants are intended to fund services and activities that specifically focus on providing migrants practical skills to assist them to integrate.

Participants may be asked to pay for discretionary expenses, such as light refreshments. However, care should be taken to ensure that the predominant focus of activities is on the social integration issues of other migrants or cultural or religious aspects of social cohesion that will preserve a safe and secure Australia and support community resilience.

## **21. What is integration?**

Integration refers to the process in which migrants become more deeply embedded in, and contribute to, Australian social and economic life through patterns of interaction with the broader community. It is a process in which all members of a community work together guided by shared values and an adherence to Australia laws and norms.

A successfully integrated migrant:

- has capacity to communicate in English, the national language of Australia
- is gainfully employed
- actively participates in Australian society through work, school, sport or other community activities
- embraces Australian values and abides by Australian laws
- interacts with Australians within their local community.

## **22. Why is it important for migrants to integrate?**

Integration is critical to strengthening social cohesion in a culturally diverse nation like Australia. While employment, education and English language competency are key indicators; they are not the only factors essential to building an integrated and cohesive Australia.

Social cohesion is about building trust and fostering the willingness to cooperate with each other in order to be prosperous, secure and free.

A socially cohesive society is one which works towards the wellbeing of all its members, creating a sense of belonging; promoting trust and offering its members the opportunity of improving their social and/or economic status.

Successful integration will also preserve a safe and secure Australia and support community resilience by:

- strengthening allegiance and loyalty to Australia
- uniting people through their commitment to shared values of respect, equality and freedom and a shared commitment to our nation and our democratic institutions
- balancing the rights and responsibilities of all Australians to ensure a stable, resilient and harmonious society
- developing their individual and communal ability to respond to, withstand, and recover from adverse situations.

A strong and resilient community has a culture that does not tolerate any form of racism, discrimination or violent extremism and which bonds together during times of crisis such as natural disasters or terrorist attacks.

## **23. As a citizen, can I get a grant to help migrants from my home country to integrate?**

To be eligible to apply for a grant, you must be a not-for-profit organisation that is a legally registered entity in Australia. Individuals who do not have affiliations with a not-for-profit entity may approach local community organisations to gauge their interest in helping migrants to integrate. You may be able to participate in activities being arranged by them or they may be interested in sponsoring your project and applying for a grant on your behalf.

Even without grant funding, you can help by encouraging migrants from your home country to mix with people from other cultures in Australia and practice speaking in English.

## **24. We have undertaken a pilot of the project activities, are we still eligible to apply for funding?**

Yes, if you have piloted the proposed activities to ascertain whether there is a genuine need or whether the activities would be effective you may still apply for funding to implement the project more widely. Please provide details about the outcomes of the pilot in your application.

## **25. Where should I go for further information?**

Please email your enquiries to [support@communitygrants.gov.au](mailto:support@communitygrants.gov.au)

New question and answer added 12 October 2018

**26. With regards to the priority group “young migrants” is there a particular minimum and maximum age for this cohort?**

The Department considers the maximum age for the “young migrant” cohort to be 30 years of age. There is no minimum age.

New question and answer added 16 October 2018

**27. We have a number of individual organisations falling under an umbrella organisation that all use the same ABN. The guidelines state that only one “organisation” can apply. Does that mean that an ABN number will only be able to be entered into the application system once OR can the individual organisation’s falling under an umbrella organisation apply individually in their own business names and all use the same ABN?**

For the purposes of the Fostering Integration Grants program, an organisation is defined by its registered business/trading name and not the ABN. An organisation with its own business/trading name registered with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission will be able to submit one application in each State and Territory in Australia.

New question and answer added 25 October 2018

**28. Is a public event such as a Multicultural Festival an eligible activity?**

Applications for Multicultural Festivals will be considered provided they meet all eligibility criteria and address the selection criteria.