



Australian Government

Community
Grants Hub
Improving your grant experience



Community-led Projects to Prevent Violence against Women and their Children – 2018-2566

Questions and Answers

Eligibility

1. Is my organisation eligible to apply?

This grant opportunity is seeking applications from specialist organisations, or consortia that are led by specialist organisations in partnership with other relevant organisations.

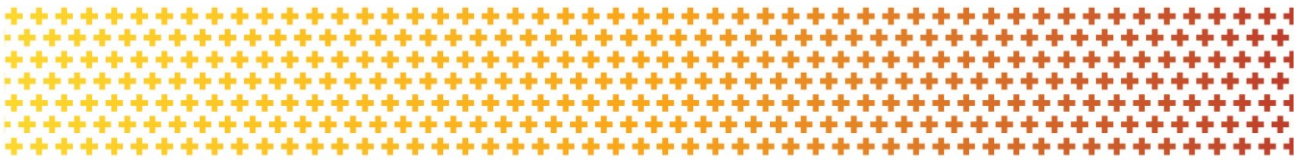
For the purposes of this grant opportunity, a specialist organisation is an organisation with expertise in family, domestic or sexual violence, gender equality or primary prevention.

Preference will be given to applications that demonstrate existing strong relationships with their target groups or communities, or partnerships with organisations representing those groups or communities.

2. What constitutes an eligible ‘specialist organisation’?

For the purposes of this grant opportunity, a specialist organisation is an organisation with expertise in:

- **Family, domestic and sexual violence:** organisations with demonstrated extensive experience working in the sector with victims/survivors and their families/supporters. The organisation may also be a crisis response or support service, or deliver violence prevention activities, such as:
 - counselling or support to people who have experienced or are at risk of family, domestic and sexual violence
 - education, training and professional consultation to agencies and private practitioners
 - schools-based programs
 - awareness raising activities.
 - **Gender equality:** organisations dedicated to establishing and/or advancing gender equality with an interest in improving the impact of policy or service delivery for women.
 - **Primary prevention:** organisations aimed at changing social norms and behaviours to prevent violence against women. Examples include activities to address harmful attitudes or behaviours that condone violence against women and their children, or activities that discourage behaviours – for example health based prevention activities. It may be targeted at a large or specific population.
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3. What is the benefit of funding specialist organisations?

We are seeking to engage a range of providers to develop and deliver community-led primary prevention projects across Australia. Funded projects will be aimed at driving a change in the behaviours, attitudes or other social and cultural factors that contribute to violence against women and children.

The eligibility criteria aims to capture those organisations most likely to have the knowledge and understanding of, and credibility with, the communities they want to target.

4. Can I apply as a single entity?

Yes. This grant opportunity is seeking applications from specialist organisations, or consortia that are led by specialist organisations in partnership with other relevant organisations.

Further information about consortia arrangements is provided in Section 4.1.1 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

5. Why are consortium partnerships eligible?

The department is accepting applications from consortium partnerships to ensure a community-led approach. This approach ensures that the lived experiences from women of all backgrounds are respected, listened to and are drawn upon to improve service responses and ensure high quality, safe, trauma-informed, person-centered, culturally appropriate and non-discriminatory activities.

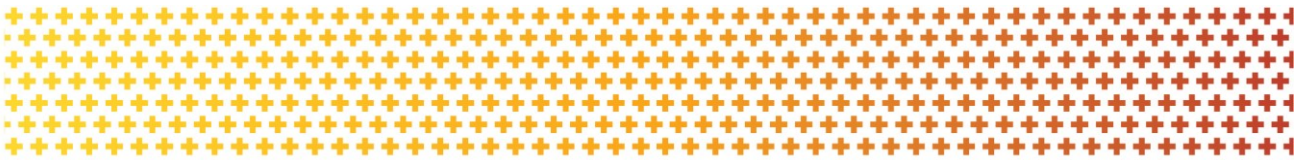
The lead organisation may consider forming a consortium with other organisations and specialist organisations who have relevant expertise which may include (but are not limited to):

- **Community sector organisations** that represent diverse communities.
- **Peak advocacy organisations** that provide leadership, policy advice, and advocacy at a local or national level.
- **A researcher and/or university:** either an individual affiliated with an Australian university or other academic body or an Australian university/academic body.

6. If we apply as a consortium, do you want letters of support from consortium members attached to the application?

Letters of support are not required at this stage and will not benefit the application. If you are offered funding through this grant opportunity you must have a formal arrangement in place, including an agreed governance structure, with all parties prior to execution of the grant agreement.

You should only attach the documents requested in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines, including the draft budget, draft Activity Work Plan and Trust deed and any subsequent variations, if applying as a Trustee on behalf of a Trust.



7. How many grants do you expect to approve?

The department expects to fund between 12 and 17 organisations to deliver community-led prevention activities.

Question 8 added 8 October 2019

8. Can consortium partners be part of more than one consortium and hence on more than one application submitted by different specialist agencies?

Yes, however applicants can only apply as the lead organisation once. There is no limit to the number of times an applicant can apply as a partner organisation in multiple consortium arrangements.

Project delivery

1. What evidence should I provide to support my application?

Applicants must demonstrate a commitment to gender equality and preventing violence against women and children, and link this to evidence sources that prove the need for the activity in your proposed location, target group or community. This can include administrative data such as Recorded Crimes, the Personal Safety Survey, peer-reviewed research, or other appropriate sources.

The department will consider applications for new and innovative approaches to primary prevention, as well as approaches that seek to expand or build on existing activities that have proven successful.

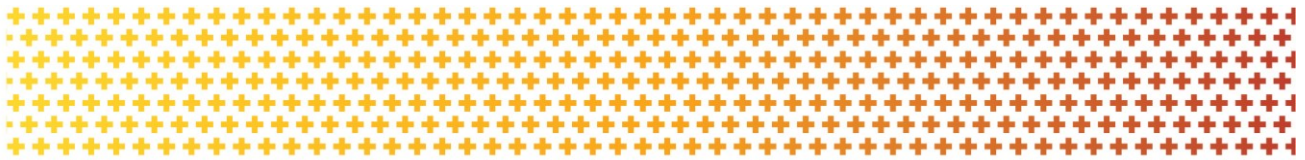
2. Where am I required to deliver my project if selected?

The department will consider applications for prevention projects across Australia of any size - regional, state or national and in a range of locations where there is a demonstrated need for prevention activities. Your project can be within a specific geographic location, online or within a priority community or cohort.

See Section 5.2 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines for more information.

3. Why do digital products have to comply with the Digital Transformation Agenda and what does that mean?

All Australian Government services and products that are public facing; owned by non-corporate Commonwealth entities; new informational or transactional services; or existing high-volume transactional services must adhere to the Digital Service Standards.



The Digital Service Standard is a set of best-practice principles designed to help digital teams to build services that are simple, clear and fast. You can find more information on the Digital Service Standards at the Digital Transformation Agency [website](http://www.dta.gov.au) (www.dta.gov.au).

4. Will I be held to the detail in the Activity Work Plan?

The purpose of the attachment is for organisations to outline a draft plan on how the objectives of the program will be met.

The department expects the final Activity Work Plan (to be agreed with the department) to strongly reflect the project your application proposed to deliver, including the deliverables and timeframes.

A final Activity Work Plan must be agreed up to 60 days after the execution of the grant agreement with a successful organisation.

Reporting and evaluation

1. Am I required to independently evaluate the activity?

The Community-led Projects to Prevent Violence against Women and their Children grant activity will be evaluated by the department, or an evaluator of the department's choosing. More information is provided at Section 12.7 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

2. What information will I have to provide for the evaluation?

To support a grant program evaluation, the department and the funded organisation will agree on the data that will be required as part of the reporting requirements during grant agreement negotiations. More information is provided at Section 12.7 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

3. What privacy provisions will be in place for the evaluation?

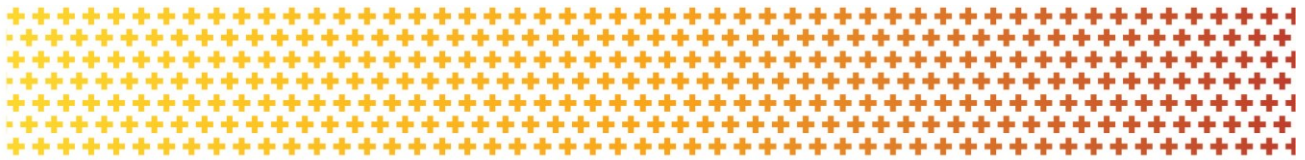
The evaluator will be required to comply with the [Privacy Act 1988](#) and the [Australian Privacy Principles](#), as well as standard confidentiality requirements.

4. How am I required to report progress?

The successful organisation will be required to provide six-monthly reports against their Activity Work Plan (to be approved by the department) including (but not limited to) evidence of progress against agreed milestones, outcomes and expenditure to date.

You will also be required to submit a final report providing:

- if and how outcomes have been achieved
- agreed evidence as specified in the grant agreement
- total eligible expenditure incurred.



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

No. Successful applicants will report against an Activity Work Plan to be approved by the department.

Funding

1. Is the funding ongoing?

No. Funding is only available across the 2019–20 to 2021–22 financial years.

2. How much funding is available? Can I apply for more than the amount of funding specified in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines?

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

You can apply for **no more than** \$550,000 GST exclusive in total over the three years of the grant period. The minimum total grant amount is \$350,000 GST exclusive over three years.

3. 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 of the *National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010-2022*.

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

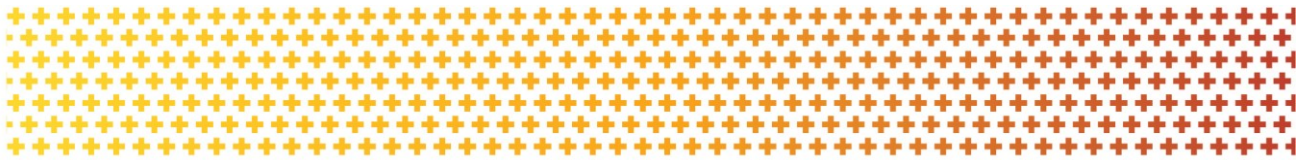
4. Will I be held to the draft budget?

The purpose of the attachment is for organisations to outline a draft budget for the proposed project.

The department expects the final budget (to be agreed with the department) to generally reflect the budget your application proposed to deliver. The agreed budget should not be dramatically different from the draft in terms of cost.

5. 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.

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

No. 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.

7. 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. Payment will be made available once the grant agreement has been executed, and as per the payment schedule in the grant agreement.

We expect that grant agreements will be in place for activities to commence in February 2020.

Question 8 added 28 August 2019

8. Are salaries or wages directly associated with the delivery of the grant an eligible expenditure item for Community-led Projects to Prevent Violence against Women and their Children?

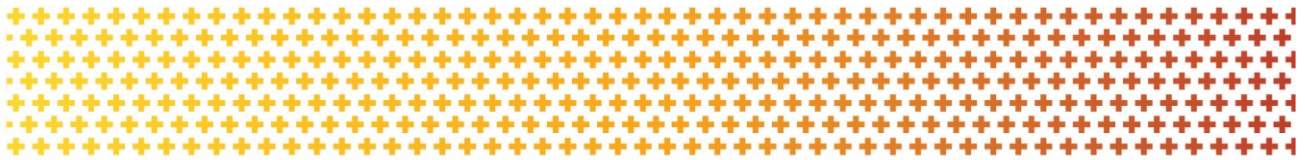
Yes, salaries or wages are an eligible expenditure item, provided they are solely attributed to the delivery of the grant.

Question 9 added 27 September 2019

9. Can you please clarify Section 5.4 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines where it states that the funds cannot be used for Early Intervention, however in Criterion 4, it asks the applicant to "explain how your project will promote gender equality and prevent violence before it occurs within your target group or community"?

Only primary prevention activities are eligible for funding under this grant opportunity. We are seeking projects designed to stop violence before it starts by addressing the structural and gendered factors that drive and reinforce violence against women.

Section 5.1 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines provides a sample list of prevention activities the department would consider but applicants are welcome to propose other primary prevention activities.



Preventing violence before it happens is a key priority of the Fourth Action Plan of the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010-2022. Please see page 19 of the Fourth Action Plan for an outline of the distinction between primary prevention and other work to address violence against women and their children.

Application process

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

Applications must be submitted by **11:00pm AEDT on 9 October 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?

Extensions can only be given due to exceptional circumstances per Section 7.3 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

Written requests to lodge a late application will only be accepted within three days after the grant opportunity has closed.

The Delegate or their appointed representative will determine whether a late application will be accepted. The decision of the delegate will be final and not be subject to a review or appeals process.

3. How many applications can I submit?

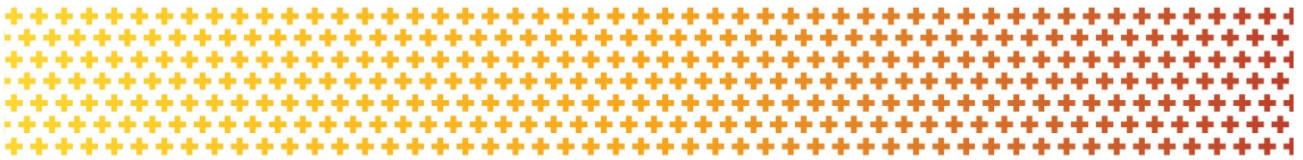
Your organisation can only submit one application.

4. Do word limits apply to my application?

Yes, there is a total word limit of approximately 525 words (3,500 characters) for addressing each selection criterion.

5. When will my organisation know the outcome of my application?

You will be notified of the outcome of your application at the end of the selection process. This is expected to be in December 2019. For probity reasons, it is not possible to give you information about the status of individual applications during the assessment process.



6. 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 will not be available for this grant opportunity.

7. Where should I go for further information?

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

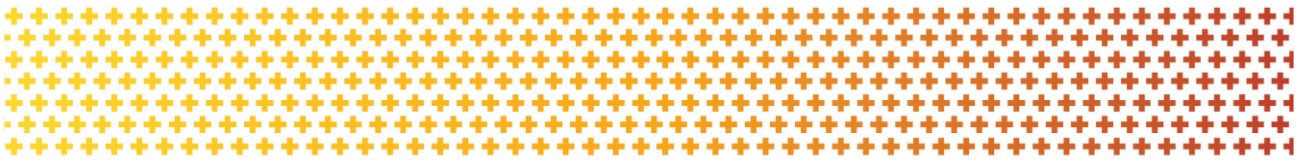
Remember to quote: Community-led Projects to Prevent Violence against Women and their Children – 2018-2566

Questions 8 updated 28 August 2019

8. Can you please confirm that Section 5.1 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines is correct?

The Grant Opportunity Guidelines have been updated and replaced on the GrantConnect and Community Grants Hub websites with updated wording for Section 5.1.

Question 9 updated 04 October 2019



9. May I please ask a query about evaluation and data collection requirements for measuring the outcomes and impact of the Community-led Projects to Prevent Violence Against Women and their Children Grant?

If DSS only choose an evaluator after the project has been completed, our concern is that the projects ongoing monitoring and data collection type (amount of qualitative and quantitative), targeted cohort numbers, measurement indicators, timeframe of data collection and sources will not be aligned with the methodologies of your chosen evaluator. For example, if DSS's chosen evaluator decides to do either a comparative, case study or cost benefit analysis or decides to use a mixed methods or quasi-experimental design, then the ongoing data required to be collected needs to be determined at the onset of the project to ensure data fidelity is maintained according to the evaluation design.

Would an evaluator with their desired pre-determined evaluation methodology inform the finalisation of the activity work plan to ensure that the grantee collects the correct data type at the time periods required? We would anticipate that data would need to be collected pre-intervention and potentially 6 and 12 months post intervention, however the chosen grantee is not leading the evaluation. If the evaluator prefers more qualitative data than quantitative data then we would need to budget for recruiting and conducting for semi-structured interviews or focus groups during the grant period.

An evaluation will be undertaken of the Community-led grant program as a whole, as well as its individual projects, by the department, or an evaluator of the department's choosing. The evaluation will explore whether the intended outcomes have been met and the projects have aligned with Our Watch's Change the Story, Change the Picture, Counting on Change and other key primary prevention strategies.

Successful applicants will be provided with more detailed advice on the nature and scope of the evaluation, including any data required to be collected. To support a grant program evaluation, the department and the funded organisation will agree on the data that will be required as part of the reporting requirements during the grant agreement negotiations (i.e. prior to the projects commencing).