



Australian Government

**Community  
Grants Hub**  
Improving your grant experience



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# Fostering Integration Grants

## Questions and Answers

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

The application form must be submitted by **11.00pm AEDT on 5 November 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 for this program?

The Australian Government has allocated a total of \$2.3 million GST exclusive for the 2019-20 financial year for Fostering Integration Grants.

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 \$5,000 and up to a maximum of \$60,000 (GST exclusive) for up to 12 months will be considered.

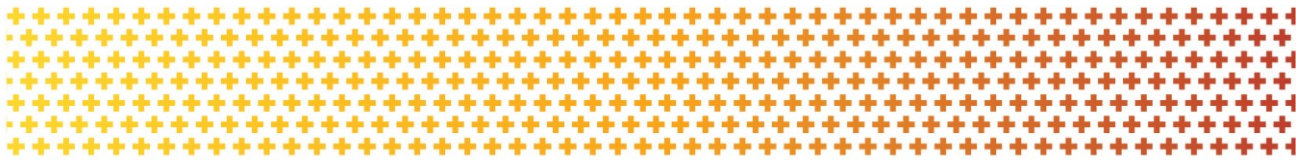
### 4. Is the funding on-going?

No, the funding is for one year only.

### 5. Since the funding is for the 2019-20 financial year do the activities have to be completed by 30 June 2020?

No, the activities can run for up to 12 months from the date the grant agreement is signed, and will need to be completed by the end of June 2021.

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## 6. 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.

## 7. 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.

## 8. Do character limits apply to my application?

Yes, the application form includes character limits – up to 2,000 characters (approx. 300 words) per criterion response. The application form will not accept characters beyond this limit. Please note spaces are included in the character limit.

## 9. Do I need to answer each question on the application form?

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.

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

In accordance with section 7 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines, the Community Grants Hub will accept only one application per organisation in each State or Territory. If you submit more than one application **for the same** State or Territory, the Community Grants Hub will only consider the most recent accepted application submitted **before** the closing date and time.

## 11. Can I amend my application after it has been submitted?

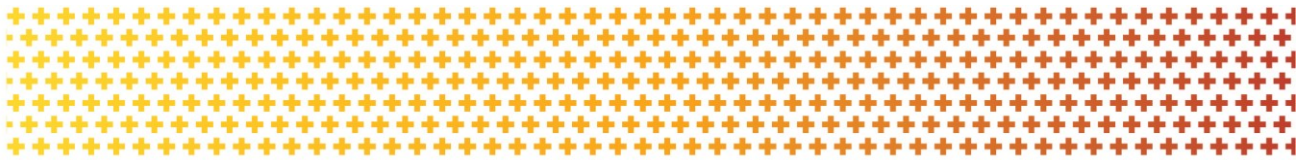
No, you cannot update your submitted application; however, you can complete a new application. The Community Grants Hub will only consider the most recent accepted application submitted **before** the closing date and time of the grant opportunity. You cannot change your application after the closing date and time.

## 12. What is considered a culturally diverse community-specific organisation?

An organisation that directly represents or provides services to a specific culturally diverse community.

Culturally diverse community-specific organisations are considered to be well placed to help their communities to connect with each other, with more established communities and with the Australian community at large.

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**13. We are a small culturally diverse community organisation but do not have much grant management experience. Can we still apply?**

Organisations that meet the eligibility criteria are welcome to apply regardless of their experience in managing grants.

The Selection Advisory Panel will consider how well your application meets **all** of the selection criteria.

It is important that your application clearly explains how your organisation directly represents a culturally diverse community, whether you are strongly connected to that community and whether you have a physical presence in the community.

**14. We are a faith-specific organisation, can we apply?**

Yes, provided you meet the eligibility criteria in section 4.1 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

**15. 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 \(ASGS\) 2016](#). You can find general information about the ASGS on the [ABS' 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.

**16. What if my proposed project will be delivered in more than one state?**

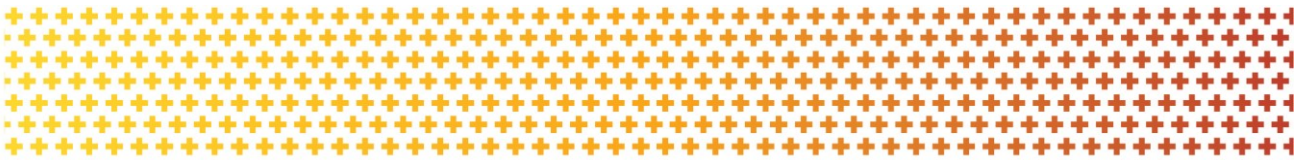
A single application can deliver activities in more than one state/territory but can only seek the maximum funding of \$60,000. The coverage areas should be clearly identified in the Statistical Areas of the grant application.

If you plan to deliver activities in multiple states you can also submit multiple applications (one per state/territory).

**17. I'm applying on behalf of a consortium. How many members can I identify in my application form?**

The application form limits applicants to recording up to 10 consortium members. 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:

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- 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
  - name of the grant opportunity that you are applying for
  - **Submission Reference ID** of your application form.

### **18. 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 and satisfy all other eligibility criteria listed in section 4.1 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

Well-established eligible organisations may wish to nominate as a lead organisation and engage and work collaboratively with culturally diverse community-specific organisations to ensure they have stronger community knowledge and connections.

Eligible organisations can form consortia with ineligible organisations.

### **19. 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 they meet the criteria
- how they compare to other applications
- whether they provide value for money.

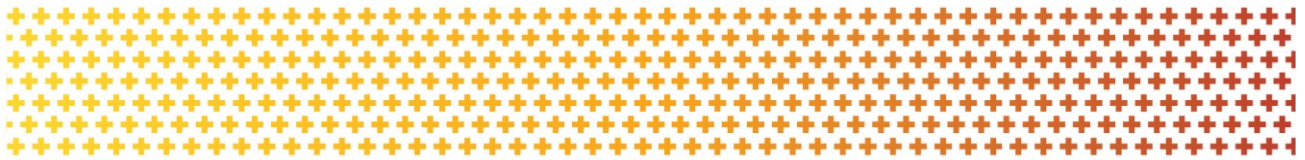
### **20. Is there provision to attach letters of support to the application?**

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 7.1 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

### **21. 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.

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**22. Is a public event such as a multicultural festival an eligible activity?**

In accordance with section 5 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines, applications for multicultural festivals and events that showcase elements of cultural heritage to the broader community in order to increase understanding and awareness of racial, religious and cultural diversity will be considered provided they meet all eligibility criteria and address the assessment criteria.

**23. 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](#).

**24. Can organisations who provide settlement services to refugee and humanitarian migrants apply for a Fostering Integration Grant?**

Grants for projects that include refugees or humanitarian migrants in combination with other migrants in the community may be approved if they complement but **do not** duplicate or replicate existing settlement services available from the Department of Home Affairs.

**25. 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 acceptance. 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.

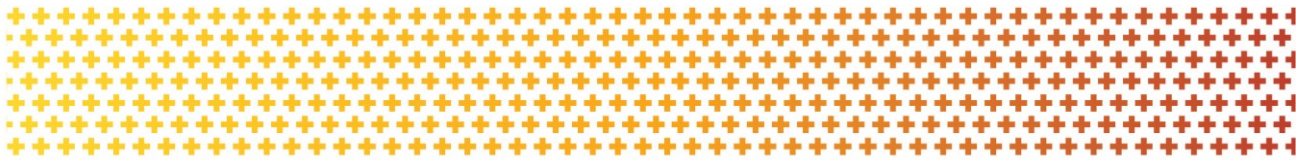
**26. Can I charge migrants to participate in activities funded by a Fostering Integration Grant?**

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

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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.

## 27. What is integration?

Integration refers to the process in which migrants become more connected 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 Australian laws and norms.

A successfully integrated migrant:

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

## 28. 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.

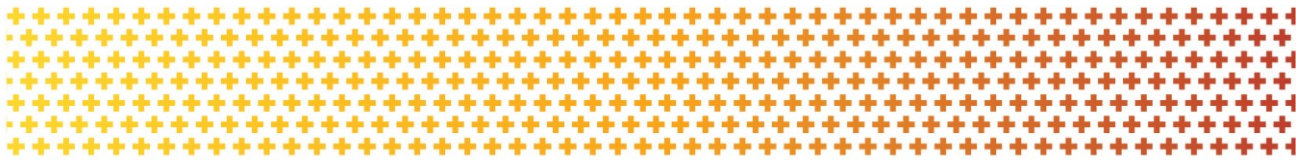
A socially cohesive society is one which works towards the wellbeing of all its members, creating a sense of belonging; promoting trust and offering its members the opportunity of improving their social and/or economic status.

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.

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**29. 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.

**30. Where should I go for further information?**

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

**Questions 31 - 42 added 14 October 2019**

**31. We were successful in the last round, can we apply again?**

Yes, provided you meet the eligibility criteria in section 4.1 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines. All applications are assessed on their merits against the selection criteria including the community need.

If you are applying to deliver the same activities, you will need to provide strong evidence of why the need still exists and how the project could continue beyond the grant period.

**32. Will assessors be specifically aiming to fund projects which have not previously been funded?**

No, all applications are assessed on their merits against the selection criteria regardless of whether they have been funded previously.

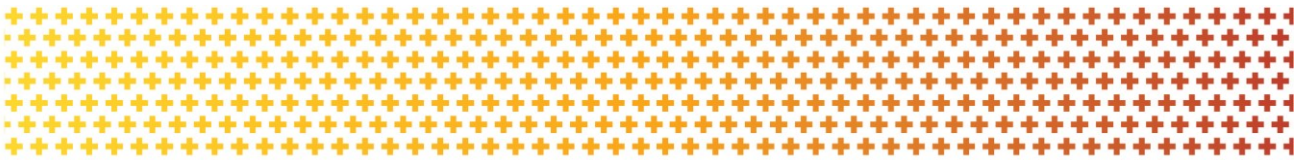
**33. Can we use FIG funds to deliver multiple activities?**

Yes. Multiple activities must be achievable with clear outcomes for each and within a maximum of \$60,000 for all activities.

**34. If delivering a workshop to a community group, can this be delivered in their own language or does it have to be delivered in English?**

The department understands the importance of delivering some workshops in the participants own languages to obtain the best outcomes. It is also important to encourage the use of the English language through other avenues to increase the participant's ability to successfully participate in the wider community.

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**35. What is meant by civics information sessions? What type of information would this include?**

Civics and citizenship information sessions are ways of helping your community to understand Australia's political systems, Australian laws and values, citizenship rights and responsibilities. The sessions should give participants the knowledge, understanding and skills to fully participate as active citizens in Australian society.

**36. If we are actively engaged with several community groups, could we apply for an overarching (one) grant but use it to deliver a program to, or work on project with, each group?**

Yes. Multiple programs must be achievable within a maximum of \$60,000 for all activities.

**37. If we were to propose using a grant to support several activities across a number of migrant groups, is it possible that only part of the grant would/could be approved?**

Yes, it is possible that only parts of a proposal may be approved for funding.

**38. Is the FIG the same as Settlement, Engagement and Transition Support (SETS) grants?**

No. FIG is not restricted to a multicultural community or those who arrived less than 5 years ago. FIG projects must not duplicate the purpose or outcomes of other funded programs including SETS.

**39. My organisation is inexperienced at writing grant applications. What tips or assistance can you offer for a successful application?**

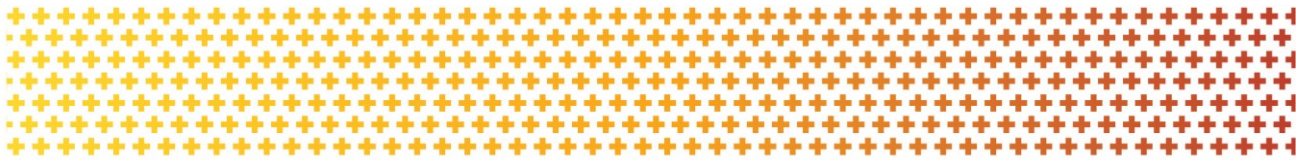
Check the [Community Grants Hub website](#) for resources to walk you through the application process. The Community Grants Hub website also offers [generic feedback](#) on the last FIG round. Additionally some organisations such as local councils offer grant-writing workshops. To maintain fairness and the integrity of the application process, we cannot provide applicants with individual assistance to develop their applications for funding.

**40. Can an organisation apply for a FIG while the same project is being partially funded by another source - for the part that has not been funded?**

Organisations are not required to fund their projects in full through a FIG. It is a matter for organisations to determine how they will fully fund the project if not through the grant funding. Sources of other funding can be detailed in the application form.

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#### 41. Why has eligibility been restricted this round?

Priority has been given to smaller grass roots organisations and eligibility has been amended to reflect the round's focus.

Eligible organisations must be not-for-profit, legally registered in Australia and one of the following:

- Indigenous Corporation
- Cooperative
- Incorporated Association
- Trustee on behalf of a Trust (a copy of the Trust Deed must be provided with the application).

#### 42. We meet a number of the eligibility criteria in section 4, but we are a company and in section 4.2 it states that companies are ineligible to apply. Are we able to still apply?

Eligibility requirements are outlined section 4 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

Examples where you are **ineligible** to apply include:

- A company that is a charity and a not-for-profit and meet all the other eligibility criteria.
- A company limited by guarantee with DGR2 and registered with ACNC.
- A not for profit registered charity that is a company limited by guarantee.

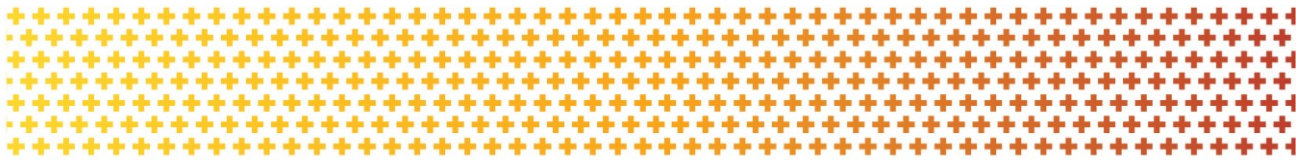
A company is incorporated under the Corporations Act 2001. Companies are registered with the Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC). ASIC issues every company in Australia with a unique, nine-digit number called an Australian Company Number (ACN).

#### **Question 43 added 28 October 2019**

#### 43. Could you please clarify/define what is meant by 'small' not-for-profit organisations (as opposed to 'larger and well-established organisations')? Would this criteria relate to factors such as annual revenue, number of staff, and/or years of operation?

For the purpose of this FIGs funding round, small not-for-profit organisations are considered to be local grassroots organisations as opposed to national or state based organisations. These small organisations are generally run by volunteers who are representing a culturally diverse community. The Selection Advisory Panel will consider all applications and make decisions on a case-by-case basis.

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**Questions 44 - 47 added 31 October 2019**

**44. Can you please provide guidance on whether sporting equipment is an eligible expenditure?**

Yes, sporting equipment such as balls, cones, bibs, whistles and uniforms that can be directly attributed to the proposed activities is eligible expenditure.

**45. Can you please provide a definition of ‘Major capital expenditure’?**

For the purposes of Fostering Integration Grants, ‘Major capital expenditure’ would generally relate to the purchase, improvement or maintenance of buildings, for example repairing a roof, and the purchase of land, large equipment items or vehicles.

**46. Can you please provide a definition of ‘Minor capital expenditure’?**

For the purposes of Fostering Integration Grants, ‘Minor capital expenditure’ would generally relate to the purchase of smaller items such as a mobile phone, computer or iPad for the project officer, PA systems, hand tools, safety equipment or sporting equipment. Please note this is not an exhaustive list and the final decision on what is eligible will be made by the program delegate.

**47. Please provide context around why this grant is being restricted to certain entity types?**

The eligible entity types for the 2019-20 round have been changed to achieve the government’s goal of targeting the funding at small grass roots organisations that directly represent a specific culturally diverse community. It is hoped that well-established organisations will partner with these smaller eligible organisations to assist them with the application process and to help them gain experience to deliver a successful project.

Should funding become available for the FIGs program in future years, eligibility criteria for entity types will be reconsidered.

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