

Questions and Answers

Safer Pathways for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Women

The following questions and answers are for this funding round only. New questions are added to the end of this document as they arise and are numbered chronologically.

Please also read the [Frequently Asked Questions page](#) on the Community Grants Hub website for general information about applying for grants.

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

The Application Form must be submitted by **2.00pm AEST on Thursday 25 May 2017**. 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. Are not for profit organisations eligible to apply?

Yes.

4. What attachments do I need to include in my application?

DSS is not requesting documents/attachments for this grant round.

Documents/attachments not requested by DSS will not be assessed as part of your application.

Organisations applying as a consortium or partnership **may** be asked to provide a letter of support from each consortium member/partner confirming willingness to work with the lead organisation in delivering the project.

5. How much funding is available for this Program?

Total funding of up to \$1.5 million is available over the 2017-18 and 2018-19 financial years. Applications will be considered for one-off time limited proposals of up to \$187,500 over this period. While no funding is available in 2019-20, projects may run until 30 November 2019.

6. Is the funding on-going?

No. Funding is available only over the 2017-18 and 2018-19 financial years and is not intended for ongoing service provision or projects. However, projects may run until 30 November 2019.

As part of the project, consideration should be given to how the results of the project can be sustained or expanded upon after the conclusion of this funding.

7. Can funding be used to deliver a new service, or expand an existing service?

No. Funding cannot be used to develop and deliver a new service or expand an existing service.

The funding can be used to assist service providers and communities to establish or improve sustainable service pathways for CALD women across community organisations and government agencies. For example, projects could seek to improve the way organisations work together in providing support to women and their children who have experienced violence.

Funding may be used to build upon recently developed or trialled practices, for example, trialling a practice or methodology that has successfully improved service pathways for CALD women in a new regional location.

Applicants could combine funding from this grant with financial or in-kind support obtained from other sources such as philanthropic donations or contributions from businesses.

8. When will the grant period start?

The grant period will commence on execution of the grant agreement.

9. How were the target Local Government Areas selected?

The target group for this grant is culturally and linguistically diverse women and their children, living in regional areas. The Local Government Areas (LGAs) identified as target locations for the Safer Pathways for CALD Women grant were identified based on:

- regional LGAs experiencing the highest female migrant settlement numbers over the last five years (Source: DSS Settlement Database);
- LGAs primarily classified as Inner or Outer Regional with a small number classified as Remote (Source: ABS Australian Standard Geographical Standard (ASGS) Remoteness classification);
- analysis of demographic data in identified LGAs to confirm high numbers of CALD females living in each LGA (Source: ABS 2011 Census and 2015 Estimated Female Resident Population);
- data from the DSS Data Exchange on existing DSS-funded services operating in LGAs to confirm sufficient service delivery infrastructure; and
- matching of LGAs to the DSS preferred geographical classification Statistical Area 3 (SA3).

Advice was also sought from DSS State and Territory Offices and the DSS Multicultural Liaison Officer Network.

10. What key performance indicators will we need to report on?

Successful applicants will be expected to report on:

- Their participation in action research to assess and refine processes in response to findings.
- The impact of their project on local service pathways. For example, the number of service providers that have implemented, improved, or are establishing pathways to family and domestic violence or sexual assault support services for CALD women and their children living in the LGA as a direct result of the project.

These indicators will be measured through action research reporting and reflected in an Activity Work Plan. Other indicators may be negotiated for individual projects when developing Activity Work Plans.

11. Can I run my project idea by you to get your opinion?

Due to probity reasons, it is not possible to comment on the eligibility of an organisation, an applicant, the suitability of a project or provide pre-assessment of an application prior to submission. Please refer to the statement of requirements in the funding round summary for more information.

12. Can single organisations submit more than one application?

A maximum of two applications can be submitted by any one organisation. Specifically, organisations can only submit two applications if the projects are different or where the same project would be delivered in different locations. Alternatively, organisations may want to consider whether different elements could be combined into a single project.

Should an Applicant submit more than two applications, only the two **latest** on time applications received will be progressed. If duplicate applications (i.e. applications that are for the same project and delivered in the same locations) are received, the **latest** of the duplicate applications received will be progressed.

13. What is the maximum amount of funds that can be provided under this grant round?

The Department wishes to identify and test a range of innovative and/or collaborative methods to improving access to family and domestic violence or sexual assault support services for CALD women living in regional areas. As there are limited funds available, the maximum grant that will be awarded to a lead organisation is \$375,000 over two years - \$187,500 per project with a maximum of two projects per organisation.

14. If we want to submit separate applications for projects servicing different communities, can these be the same project in each location?

Yes. Each application needs to address the selection criteria in relation to the specified community. For example, applications would need to address the unique needs and circumstances of the target community and specify how the project would be implemented and improve access to family and domestic violence or sexual assault support services for CALD women in that community.

Each application will be assessed on its own merits and applicants should not assume that identical applications for different locations will both be funded. Each project should be a stand-alone project and able to succeed with the requested funding. Refer to Questions 12 and 13 for related information.

15. What do you mean by CALD community?

For the purposes of this grant, the term 'CALD community' refers to a geographical location (Local Government Area (LGA)) with significant numbers of people born overseas in countries other than the main English speaking countries. It can be used more broadly to refer to people living in the LGA who are Australian-born and have at least one parent who was born overseas.

16. If my organisation is a part of a group of organisations, can we submit a joint application through a consortium (joint) arrangement?

A joint application can be submitted. The joint application must include details of each of the organisations under 'Activity Delivery' in the Application Form. The Community Grants Hub may ask for further information regarding the members of the consortium before any agreement being finalised. If a joint application is successful, the Department of Social Services will enter into a Grant Agreement with the nominated lead organisation.

17. What is a lead organisation

A lead organisation must be an incorporated body which is able to enter into the Grant Agreement.

If you submit a joint application, 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 take legal responsibility for performing the activities and meeting the outcomes of the Grant Agreement.

18. Would the Department prefer a consortium (joint) arrangement?

Individual and consortia/joint Applications will be considered equally.

19. Where can I get a copy of the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010-2022?

A copy of the *National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010-2022* and the *Third Action Plan 2016- 2019* can be found on the [DSS website](#).

20. What is action research?

Action research refers to a family of research approaches or methodologies that pursue action (or change) and research (or understanding) at the same time. It is distinct from traditional academic research in the sense that:

- The central goal of the research is positive change rather than solely the production of knowledge;
- Those involved in the research participate in ongoing testing and monitoring of improvements in practice settings; and
- Researchers work in a collaborative way to identify issues and develop processes for improvement.

The cycle for action research is typically described as:

Plan – Act – Collect - Reflect

Based on the reflection, further planning occurs to help inform the next steps of the project and the action research cycle begins again. A useful resource can be found on the [DSS website](#).

Applicants may find this kit, designed to support Reconnect and Newly Arrived Youth Support Service workers to incorporate Action Research in their day to day work, useful.

21. Why include an action research component to the grant objectives?

There are several reasons why the grant objectives involve an action research component. Action research provides a model for ongoing reflection on project directions and outcomes, and adaptation of the project where necessary. It offers a way to encourage open exploration of what

is and is not working, and provides a methodological approach to adjusting a project in real time to deal with aspects that are not working or to enhance what is working well. Importantly, action research supports rigorous reflection processes without requiring extensive theoretical knowledge or training.

The action research will help grant recipients to effectively capture and document the lessons learned. It helps support innovation without fear of failure, for example by recognising that identifying what to avoid is as important as identifying what works. In the case of this grant objective, action research will encourage knowledge and skills transfer and exchange within the funded organisation, between organisations and to others in the community.

22. What assistance is available to help with the action research requirements of the grant?

The Department will engage a specialist research organisation to provide assistance and support to successful applicants. This support will cover designing the research, undertaking action research and documenting/publishing information about the project and its outcomes. Details of the agreed support are expected to be provided to successful applicants by the time grant agreements executed.

As part of the action research support arrangements, successful organisations will be required to participate in up to three face-to-face workshops and would need to meet the cost of attendance of these from their grant funding.

23. Who will organise the face-to-face workshops and where and when will they be held?

The research organisation will facilitate these discussions. Further information will be provided to successful applicants as soon it is available.

24. The requirements also say information has to be published during the project. What does this mean?

As part of the grant requirements, funded organisations will be required to make information about their activities available to other organisations and communities. This includes other organisations delivering projects funded under this grant round, as well as other service providers or organisations interested in improving pathways to family and domestic violence and sexual assault support services for CALD women and their children in regional areas.

It is anticipated this could include information about the activities being planned and undertaken, how organisations went about working together, case studies and lessons learnt. Outcomes from the action research would form a key part of the information to be shared.

The form in which this information is published could also vary. Options include written documents, charts, diagrams, videos, or recordings.

The Department is also considering how the information may also be made available and promoted through other websites, including the website of the organisation engaged to deliver the action research component.

25. What are the contract conditions for this grant?

A copy of the Terms and Conditions for the Grant Agreement is included in the Application Pack.

26. 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.

27. What Feedback will be available for this funding round

A Feedback Summary will be published on the 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.

28. Where should I go for further information?

Please email your enquiries to support@communitygrants.gov.au or for general enquiries call the Grants Hotline on 1800 020 283 or TTY 1800 555 677.

New Questions and Answers added 19 April 2017

29. Can you advise whether the target group for these grants includes Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women? Aboriginal women are more likely than any other group to experience domestic violence and we have not yet seen any Aboriginal specific programs under this initiative.

No. For the purposes of this grant, the culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) target group includes people born overseas in countries other than the main English speaking countries and people living in the target LGA who are Australian-born and have at least one parent who was born overseas.

As stated in the Funding Round Summary, these grants are intended to fund projects to support CALD women living in regional areas and respond to consultations held with CALD representatives in 2015 and 2016.

DSS acknowledges the high rate of violence against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women. While these grants are not intended to fund projects that target this client cohort, the [Third Action Plan](#) has a strong focus on addressing violence against Indigenous women and their children. As a national priority, the Australian Government has announced over [\\$25 million](#) in Indigenous-specific services and initiatives for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians experiencing domestic and family violence. Future grant opportunities stemming from the Third Action Plan will be advertised on the [Community Grants Hub](#) website.

New Questions and Answers added 21 April 2017

- 30. After reading through the Funding Round Summary it appears to be aimed primarily at younger women with children (not older people with adult children), although there is no explicit age limit within any of the papers that we could identify. Is there an age restriction, limit or focus within the broader target group of “CALD women with children”?**

No, this grant is not aimed primarily at younger culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) women with children and is not intended to exclude CALD women with older children or CALD women without children.

New Questions and Answers added 1 May 2017

- 31. We support girls and women affected by sexual exploitation with mental health programs, supporting recovery from trauma. We define sexual exploitation as any attempt to profit financially, socially or politically from the use of girls' or women's bodies. It can include: forced or child prostitution; sex trafficking; debt or religious bondage; early, child or forced marriage; illegal and street-based sex work; and other forms of sexual slavery and servitude.**

I am wondering if this area of what we see as a form of violence against women fits within the parameters of what this grant will be funding?

Yes. The objective of this grant is to improve access to support services for culturally and linguistically diverse women affected by domestic or family violence and sexual assault. As sexual assault can occur in the context of forced or child prostitution; sex trafficking; debt or religious bondage; early child or forced marriage; illegal and street-based sex work; and other forms of sexual slavery and servitude, your definition of sexual exploitation fits within the parameters of this grant.

New Questions and Answers added 18 May 2017

- 32. Where will the face-to-face workshops be located so we are able to budget for transportation?**

The research organisation will facilitate these discussions once applicants have been found successful, and workshop locations may be influenced by the location of successful projects. It is likely that interstate travel will be required 2-3 times throughout the life of the project. Further information will be given to successful applicants as soon as viable.

New Questions and Answers added 19 May 2017

- 33. Can we apply for funds to be used for research?**

Applicants may not apply for funds under this grant to conduct independent research. Successful applicants may, however, allocate resources within the funding envelope to implement the action research methodology in order to continuously reflect on and improve their project to help achieve outcomes. Each application will be assessed on its own merits including value for money. Please note that the assistance and support to be provided by the DSS-appointed specialist research

organisation does not include actually undertaking the action-research on behalf of successful applicants. The specialist research organisation will assist and support successful applicants in trialling and refining projects that identify and reduce barriers to accessing support services for CALD women living in regional locations who are experiencing, or at risk of, family and domestic violence or sexual assault. This support will also cover documenting/publishing information about the project and its outcomes.

34. Are we permitted to engage QldDFVR to conduct the research?

Applicants may not apply for funds under this grant to conduct independent research. Please note Clause 28 of the [DSS Comprehensive Grant Agreement – Terms and Conditions](#) available on the Grants Hub website for information about engaging subcontractors.

35. In order to ensure the project and accompanying research is adequately resourced, can we make two applications, one for the project and one for the research?

Applicants may not apply for funds under this grant to conduct independent research. Each application will be assessed on its own merits and applicants should not assume that two applications will both be funded. Each project should be a stand-alone project and able to succeed with the requested funding. Applicants should weigh the risks and consider the below information in making their decision:

- As there are limited funds available, the maximum grant that will be awarded to a lead organisation is \$375,000 over two years - \$187,500 per project with a maximum of two projects per organisation.
- A joint application can be submitted. The joint application must include details of each of the organisations under 'Activity Delivery' in the Application Form. The Community Grants Hub may ask for further information regarding the members of the consortium before any agreement being finalised. If a joint application is successful, the Department of Social Services will enter into a Grant Agreement with the nominated lead organisation.
- **A maximum of two applications can be submitted by any one organisation.** Specifically, organisations can only submit two applications if the projects are different or where the same project would be delivered in different locations. Alternatively, organisations may want to consider whether different elements could be combined into a single project.
- Should an Applicant submit more than two applications, only the two **latest** on time applications received will be progressed. If duplicate applications (i.e. applications that are for the same project and delivered in the same locations) are received, the **latest** of the duplicate applications received will be progressed.

36. If the answer to Question 3 is yes, can George Street Neighbourhood Centre Association as lead agency in the consortium, be the Applicant for the two applications, or would QldCDFVR need to be the applicant for the research application?

Joint applications can be submitted. A joint application must include details of each of the organisations under 'Activity Delivery' in the Application Form. The Community Grants Hub may ask for further information regarding the members of the consortium before any agreement being finalised. If a joint application is successful, the Department of Social Services will enter into a Grant Agreement with the nominated lead organisation.