



Australian Government

Community
Grants Hub

Improving your grant experience



Mutual Understanding, Support, Tolerance, Engagement and Respect – Multicultural Community Amenities Grants in the Northern Territory

General feedback for applicants

Overview

The objectives of the Multicultural Community Amenities Grants in the Northern Territory grants program are to more effectively facilitate integration and diversity activities, which encourage diverse communities to come together around a shared opportunity or challenge, and in turn help build understanding and trust.

The intended outcomes of the program are as follows:

- Communities will be strong, resilient and cohesive including in tough times and emergencies.
- Transformation will take place at the community level with changes made in the systems and structures that help to shape people's lives.
- Communities will be better connected and people will participate socially and economically and thrive in well-functioning communities.

Projects funded through this grant opportunity will contribute to:

- ensuring multicultural communities have updated communal spaces that will support their members to be strong, resilient and cohesive, including in tough times and emergencies
- fostering transformation at the community level through updated amenities that will encourage changes to the systems and structures that shape the lives of multicultural communities
- developing facilities to support communities to be better connected and to participate socially and economically and thrive in well-functioning communities
- assisting Northern Territory multicultural services and community groups to improve their existing amenities so they can increase their access to and participation in social, economic and sporting life in the Northern Territory of Australia
- encouraging Northern Territory multicultural services and community groups to develop and use communal spaces to host events and/or gatherings.

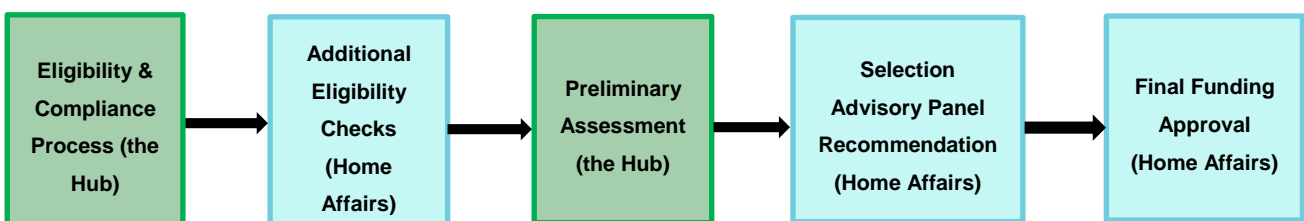
Selection results

The application period for the Multicultural Community Amenities Grants in the Northern Territory opened on 2 November 2020 and closed at 11:00 PM AEDT on 7 December 2020. The Australian Government announced a total of up to \$2 million (GST exclusive) over one year for the 2020–21 financial year for the Multicultural Community Amenities Grants in the Northern Territory.

Successful applicants will be notified and information about the applications will be published on [GrantConnect](#).

Selection process

The Community Grants Hub (the Hub) administered an open competitive selection process on behalf of the Department of Home Affairs (Home Affairs). An ‘open competitive’ process ensured all eligible applicants had an equal opportunity to apply.



All 34 applications underwent eligibility and compliance checks against the eligibility criteria as outlined in sections 4 and 5 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

To be eligible, a grant activity must meet the program’s intent under section 2.1 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

New building works and/or the purchase of equipment and furnishings to improve existing amenities may be considered if it could be demonstrated they are relevant to the project and meet the objectives defined in section 2.1 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines and they demonstrate value for money.



Applicants should be realistic when costing projects.

Organisations offered funding under this program for building works must:

- have council approval where relevant
- specify who owns the premises (land and building).

The Hub completed a preliminary assessment of the eligible applications' responses against the assessment criteria. 33 applications were identified as eligible to proceed to assessment.


Following preliminary assessment by the Hub, all outcomes were referred to a Selection Advisory Panel (the panel) made up of 5 voting members, providing an appropriate mix of policy, program and industry knowledge, who made funding recommendations to the Decision Maker.

Members of the panel considered whether the applications provided *value with relevant money*¹, having regard to:

- the initial preliminary score against the assessment criteria facilitated by the Hub
- the overall objective/s to be achieved in providing the grant
- whether the proposed project is in scope
- whether the application is from organisations able to demonstrate ability to provide multicultural services and support in the Northern Territory
- the relative value of the grant sought
- extent to which the geographic location of the application matched identified priorities
- the extent to which the evidence in the application demonstrates it will contribute to meeting the outcomes/objectives
- how the grant activities will target improved amenities and community groups
- the relative merit of each application.

Following recommendations from the panel, the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs approved those projects and amounts of funding to be awarded to successful grant recipients.

¹ 'Value with relevant money' is a judgement based on the grant proposal representing an efficient, effective, economical and ethical use of public resources and determined from a variety of considerations.



Criteria-specific feedback to assist future Multicultural Community Amenities Grants in the Northern Territory applicants

Criterion 1: Need


Demonstrate a strong need for a Multicultural Community Amenities project within your community.

You must demonstrate this through identifying:

- the community group/s your project will target – describe their characteristics, which may include the size of the community, ethnicity, and geographical location
- why your community requires assistance – describe and provide evidence of the issues you are seeking to address
- how the project will improve the quality or standard of facilities available to the community

Strong responses included:

- evidence specific to the particular target group as opposed to general information about the project
- quantitative evidence from relevant and recent data sources such as an Australian Bureau of Statistics Census, and/or strong anecdotal evidence including why the target group needs assistance
- relevant and current evidence to support the need of the target community, detailing the issues and gaps facing the target community, including specific identification of resources.
- relevant evidence of historical issues facing the target area/group.



Criterion 2: Project

Describe your project in detail.

You must identify:

- the amenities planned and how you will deliver them
- the economic and community benefits of the proposed project
- how it will address the grant objectives outlined in section 2.1 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

Examples of how your project could demonstrate the economic and community benefits include making a region a more attractive place to live, improving community connections and social cohesion, the degree to which the project delivers benefits beyond the construction phase, and how the project addresses disadvantage within the community.

Strong responses included:

- a detailed outline of the project/activity and how it will be delivered, such as planned amenity, and number of participants expected to participate or benefit
- the specific outcome/s the proposed activity would address and how these outcomes are closely aligned with, and will contribute to, the program objectives, and also benefit the broader community
- an indication of how the project will build capacity for the community. Examples include improvements to existing facilities, strengthening relationships between communities etc.



Criterion 3: Project Delivery

Describe your organisation's experience working with and delivering projects for your community.

You must identify:

- your readiness to commence the project with appropriate approvals planned for or in place
- your experience with similar projects including managing similar grant funding
- your access to people with the right skills and experience
- your consultation with your community regarding the design of your project and the level of support (including in-kind) by the community and from other sources.

Strong responses included:

- information that demonstrates the organisation's knowledge and understanding of the target community with strategies to promote the project and ensure its accessibility to this community
- details on the project benefits for other communities and strategies to promote and share the resources
- the specific outcome/s the proposed activity would address and how these outcomes are closely aligned with, and will contribute to, the program objectives, and also benefit the broader community.