Family Violence and Cross-examination of   
Parties Scheme Guidelines

| Opening date: | 30 January 2019 |
| --- | --- |
| Closing date and time: | 2pm AEDT on 12 February 2019 |
| Commonwealth policy entity: | Attorney-General’s Department |
| Administering entity: | Community Grants Hub |
| Enquiries: | If you have any questions, please contact  Community Grants Hub  Phone: 1800 020 283  Email: [support@communitygrants.gov.au](mailto:support@communitygrants.gov.au)  Questions must be sent no later than 5 February 2019 |
| Date guidelines released: | 30 January 2019 |
| Type of grant opportunity: | Closed non-competitive |

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1. Family Violence and Cross-examination of Parties Scheme Grant Opportunity Processes

**The Program is designed to achieve Australian Government objectives**

This grant opportunity is part of the above grant program which contributes to the Attorney-General’s Department (AGD) Outcome 1. AGD worked with stakeholders to plan and design the grant program according to the *Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines 2017*.



**The grant opportunity opens**

The Community Grants Hub (the Hub) publish the grant guidelines and advertise on the [GrantConnect](https://www.grants.gov.au/?event=public.home) and [Community Grants Hub](https://www.communitygrants.gov.au/grants) websites.



**You complete and submit a Service Delivery Plan Application Form**

You must read these grant opportunity guidelines before you submit your Service Delivery Plan Application Form. These guidelines can be found on [GrantConnect](https://www.grants.gov.au/?event=public.home), the Australian Government’s whole-of-government grants information system. Note: Any addenda for this grant opportunity will be published on GrantConnect, and by registering on this website you will be automatically notified of any changes.



**The Hub reviews all grants applications**

The Hub checks the application against the eligibility criteria and notify you if you are not eligible. The Hub then assesses your Service Delivery Plan Application Form including an overall consideration of the value with relevant money.



**The Hub will make grant recommendations to the decision maker**

The Hub will make recommendations to the Deputy Secretary, Legal Services and Families Group, AGD and the decision maker on the merits of each application.



**Grant decisions are made**

The decision maker, Deputy Secretary, Legal Services and Families Group and AGD, decides which grant applications are successful.



**The Hub notify you of the outcome**

The Hub advises you of the outcome of your application in writing.



The Hub enters into a grant agreement

AGD will enter into agreements with successful applicants. The type of grant agreement is based on the nature of the grant and is proportional to the risks involved.



**Delivery of grant**

You undertake the grant activity as set out in your grant agreement. The Hub, on behalf of AGD, manages the grant by working with you, monitoring your progress and making payments.



**Evaluation of the Family Violence and Cross-examination of Parties Scheme**

AGD will evaluate the specific grant activity and grant opportunity as a whole. AGD base this on information you provide to the Hub.

* 1. Role of the Community Grants Hub

This grant opportunity will be administered by The Community Grants Hub on behalf of AGD under a whole-of-Australian Government initiative to streamline grant processes across agencies.

1.2 About the grant program

The Family Violence and Cross-examination of Parties Scheme (the Program) will fund legal aid commissions (LACs) to provide legal representation to parties subject to the ban on direct cross-examination under the measures in Division 4 of Part XI of the *Family Law Act 1975* (the Act) (as amended by the *Family Law Amendment (Family Violence and Cross-examination of Parties) Act 2018*) and under any equivalent measures in the *Family Court Act 1997* (WA)*.*

The Act prohibits direct cross-examination in family law matters where there is an allegation of family violence between parties and there is a charge or conviction, a final family violence order or a family law injunction for personal protection. The court also has discretion to make an order that direct cross-examination is prohibited if there is an allegation of family violence but those circumstances do not apply. When the ban applies, cross-examination must be conducted by a legal representative.

These measures are intended to prevent the re-traumatisation of victims of family violence, maintain procedural fairness for all parties and ensure that victims do not settle their matter and enter into unsafe arrangements because of a fear of direct cross-examination.

Under the Program, LACs will provide legal representation for the hearing in which cross-examination is to occur, including the necessary preparatory work for that hearing. Opportunities for settlement through late-stage legally-assisted family dispute resolution may also be explored where appropriate.

The objectives of the Program are to ensure that:

1. LACs have sufficient resources to provide legal representation for parties subject to the ban on direct cross-examination.
2. LACs do not need to reallocate funding away from other Commonwealth service priorities, such as other family law matters, to meet the cost of matters affected by the ban on direct cross-examination.
3. Cross-examination can occur in matters in which direct cross-examination is banned.

Funding under the Program will be available for all family law matters where direct cross-examination is prohibited under the measures in the Act. Funding will also be available for family law matters in Western Australia where direct cross-examination is prohibited under equivalent measures in the *Family Court Act 1997* (WA).

The Hub administers the program according to the [*Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines 2017*](http://edit.finance.gov.au/sites/default/files/commonwealth-grants-rules-and-guidelines.pdf).

* 1. Legislative authority

The legislative authority for the Program is contained in Item 402.006 in *Schedule 1AA* and Item 185 in *Schedule 1AB* to the *Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997.*

* 1. About the grant opportunity

These guidelines contain information for the Program.

This document sets out:

* the purpose of the grant opportunity
* the eligibility and assessment criteria
* how to apply for the grant opportunity
* how grant applications are checked and assessed
* responsibilities and expectations in relation to the opportunity
* how grantees will be monitored and evaluated.

You must read this document before filling out an application.

1. Grant amount

The Australian Government will provide up to $8.278 million (GST exclusive) over five years for the Program**,** starting in 2018-19.

|  | 2018-19 | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | **Total** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Family Violence Cross-examination of Parties Scheme | $0.400m[[1]](#footnote-2) | $1.926m | $1.954m | $1.984m | $2.014m | **$8.278m** |

The grant period will span five financial years. The funding period will be from establishment until 30 June 2023, unless terminated earlier as determined by the parties and the conditions of the grant agreement.

An estimate of the funding allocation for each jurisdiction is set out in the table below, grant applications based on these amounts will be considered. The allocations have been calculated using data from the Australian Institute of Family Studies 2018 report *Direct cross‑examination in family law matters* and National Legal Aid’s estimated cost of providing legal assistance under the Program. Establishment costs of $100,000 will also be provided to the Legal Services Commission of SA.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Legal Aid Commission** | **Estimated allocation** |
| Australian Capital Territory | $240,662 |
| New South Wales | $1,740,791 |
| Northern Territory | $155,920 |
| Queensland | $1,796,945 |
| South Australia | $878,142 |
| Tasmania | $296,818 |
| Victoria | $1,973,432 |
| Western Australia | $1,195,290 |
| **Total** | **$8,278,000** |

1. Grant eligibility criteria

We cannot consider your application if it does not meet **all** the eligibility criteria.

3.1 Who is eligible to apply for a grant?

Only LACs can apply for grant funding under the Program.

A LAC is a statutory body established pursuant to legislation in the relevant state or territory to provide legal aid services.

To be eligible to apply, you must be one of the listed invited LACs and have received an invitation to apply through GrantConnect.

| **Invited organisation** |
| --- |
| Legal Aid Commission ACT |
| Legal Aid Commission of NSW |
| Northern Territory Legal Aid Commission |
| Legal Aid Queensland |
| Legal Services Commission of SA |
| Legal Aid Commission of Tasmania |
| Victoria Legal Aid |
| Legal Aid Commission of WA |

The list of eligible applicants was determined in line with the purpose and objective of the Program to reimburse LACs for costs incurred providing legal representation to parties subject to the ban on direct cross-examination under the measures in Division 4 of Part XI of the *Family Law Act 1975* (the Act) and equivalent measures in the *Family Court Act 1997* (WA).

No further organisations will be invited to apply.

3.2 Who is not eligible to apply for a grant?

You are not eligible to apply for this grant opportunity if you are not one of the LACs invited.

1. Eligible grant activities
   1. What can the money be used for?

Funding will be available for the cost of providing legal representation for the hearing in which cross-examination is to occur, including the necessary preparatory work for that hearing and, where appropriate, late-stage legally-assisted family dispute resolution.

Funding will also be available to the Legal Services Commission of South Australia for work to establish the Program in each LAC. This may include the following activities:

* setting up IT systems
* establishing panels, including developing standards, case management forms, best practice guidelines, and training
* developing application forms and processes
* developing and implementing administrative processes with the court.

You can only spend grant funds on eligible grant activities as defined in the grant details in your grant agreement.

1. The grant selection process

This grant opportunity is a closed non-competitive selection process. This means the Attorney-General’s Department has identified suitable LACs and invited them to apply.

1. The assessment criteria

You will need to address the following assessment criteria in your Service Delivery Plan Application Form.

**Provide a description of how your organisation will deliver the services in accordance with the requirements of the grant.**

In responding to this criteria you should:

* Provide a description of the services you will provide, including an outline of the service delivery models that your organisation will use to deliver the activity.
* Outline how your organisation will use grant funding to develop and implement the activity.
* Describe how your organisation will have sufficient resources to provide legal representation.
* Identify how your organisation will measure outcomes and meet reporting requirements.

The application form includes word limits – up to 900 words per criteria. The application form will not accept words beyond this limit.

1. The grant application process
   1. Overview of application process

You must read these grant guidelines, the Service Delivery Plan Application Form, the grant agreement terms and conditions, questions and answers and draft grant agreement prior to submitting an application.

You are responsible for ensuring that your application is complete and accurate. Giving false or misleading information will exclude your application from further consideration.

Please keep a copy of your application and any supporting papers.

* 1. Application process timing

You must submit an application between the published opening and closing dates and times.

The Community Grants Hub will not accept late applications unless an applicant has experienced exceptional circumstances that prevent the submission of the application. Broadly, exceptional circumstances are events characterised by one or more of the following:

* reasonably unforeseeable
* beyond the applicant’s control
* unable to be managed or resolved within the application period.

Exceptional circumstances will be considered on their merits and in accordance with probity principles.

**How to lodge a late application**

Applicants asking to submit a late application are required to submit a late application request to the Community Grants Hub Hotline via [support@communitygrants.gov.au](mailto:support@communitygrants.gov.au).

The request should include a detailed explanation of the circumstances that prevented the application being submitted before the closing time. Where appropriate, supporting evidence can be provided to confirm the claim.

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

The delegate or their appointed representative[[2]](#footnote-3)[1] will determine if a late application will be accepted. The delegate’s decision is final and no review or appeals process will be allowed.

Once the outcome is made, the Community Grants Hub will let the applicant know if their request is accepted or declined.

The expected commencement date for the granting activities is March 2019 and the expected completion date is by 30 June 2023.

Table 1: Expected timing for this grant opportunity

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Activity | Timeframe |
| Application period | Open: 30 January 2019 Close: 2pm AEDT on 12 February 2019 |
| Review of applications | Up to 1 week |
| Approval of outcomes of selection process | Up to 2 weeks |
| Negotiations and award of grant agreements | Up to 2 weeks |
| Notification to unsuccessful applicants | Up to 1 week |
| Activity commences | March 2019 |
| End date | June 2023 |

* 1. Completing the Service Delivery Plan

You must complete a Service Delivery Plan, using the online application form provided as part of the grant opportunity documents on the GrantConnect website.

The application form can only be accessed by invitees for this grant opportunity. The application form includes help information.

This is an online application form that you must submit electronically. If you have any technical difficulties please contact 1800 020 283 or email [support@communitygrants.gov.au](mailto:support@communitygrants.gov.au).

The Community Grants Hub may not accept any additional information, or requests from the invited applicant to correct your Service Delivery Plan after the closing time.

The Community Grants Hub may ask you for more information about your application or your Service Delivery Plan if clarification is required.

* 1. Attachments to the application

The following document must be attached to your application for it to be considered compliant and for it to proceed to assessment. A template is provided for your use with the grant opportunity documents as specified:

* activity work plan – mandatory template attached.

The purpose of this attachment is for organisations to provide their draft plan on how they expect to meet the objectives of the program.

The draft activity work plan will be reviewed as part of the assessment process but can be further negotiated and finalised after the grant agreement is executed. You must attach supporting documentation according to the instructions provided within the application form. You should only attach requested documents. We will not consider information in attachments we have not asked for.

Please note: There is a 2mb limit for each attachment.

* 1. Questions during the application process

Only the invited applicants’ questions will be responded to during the application period, please call the Community Grants Hub on 1800 020 283 or email to [support@communitygrants.gov.au](mailto:support@communitygrants.gov.au).

The Community Grants Hub will respond to emailed questions within five working days. Answers to questions will be posted on [GrantConnect](https://www.grants.gov.au/) and only accessible by invited applicants.

The question period will close at 5.00pm AEDT on 5 February 2019**.** Following this time, only questions relating to using and/or submitting the application form will be answered.

1. Assessment of applications

The assessment centre will assess each eligible and compliant application on its individual merit. The assessment centre uses fully trained Community Grants Hub staff for consistent assessment of all applications.

AGD uses this information to help them develop recommendations on applications and whether your project represents value for money and achieves program objectives as outlined at section 1.2.

If the selection process identifies that additional information or clarification is required, you may be contacted to provide further information.

* 1. Who will approve grants?

The Deputy Secretary, Legal Services and Families Group and AGD (the decision maker) will make the final decision to approve a grant.

The decision maker’s decision is final in all matters, including the:

* approval of the payment
* funding amount to be paid, in full or part.

There is no appeal mechanism for decisions to approve or not approve a grant.

1. Notification of application outcomes

You will be advised of the outcomes of your application in writing, following a decision by the decision maker.If you are successful, you will also be advisedabout any specific conditions attached to the grant.

If your application is found unsuccessful you will be notified by the Hub. You may submit a new application on the matter, which addresses the anomalies and meets the eligibility and assessment criteria, during a future selection process.

* 1. Feedback on your application

A feedback summary will be published on the Community Grants Hub website to provide all organisations with easy to access information about the grant selection process and the main strengths and areas for improving their applications.

Individual feedback will not be provided for this grant opportunity.

1. Successful grant applications
   1. The grant agreement

If you are successful and you choose to accept a grant offer, you must enter into a legally binding agreement, the [*Commonwealth Simple**Grant Agreement*](http://www.finance.gov.au/financial-framework/financial-management-policy-guidance/grants/grant-agreement-template-project.html)**,** represented by the Hub and AGD. Simple terms and conditions for the grant agreement will apply and cannot be changed. An activity work plan will be used to outline the specific grant requirements.

Any additional conditions attached to the grant will be identified in the grant offer or during the grant agreement negotiations.

* 1. How the grant will be paid

The Hub will make an initial upfront payment on execution of the grant agreement. We will then make subsequent payments according to the agreed schedule set out in the grant agreement.

* 1. Grant agreement variations

We recognise that demand for the Program may vary from what has been predicted. In these circumstances, you can request a grant agreement variation, including:

* an increase to the agreed amount of grant funds
* a decrease to the agreed amount of grant funds.

If you want to propose changes to the grant agreement, you must put them in writing before the grant agreement end date. Contact your Funding Arrangement Managerfor further information. AGD will not consider changes after the grant agreement end date.

You should not assume that a variation request will be successful. AGD will consider your request based on factors such as:

* how it affects the activity outcome
* consistency with the program policy objective and any relevant policies of the department
* changes to the timing of grant payments
* availability of program funds.

You will be notified of the outcome of your request for variation.

1. Announcement of grants

If successful, your grant will be listed on [GrantConnect](https://www.grants.gov.au/?event=public.home) no later than 21 calendar days after the date of effect as required by Section 5.3 of the *Commonwealth Grant Rules and Guidelines 2017*.

1. Delivery of grant activities
   1. Your responsibilities

You must submit reportsin line with the timeframes in the [grant agreement](file://prod.protected.ind/User/user03/LLau2/insert%20link%20here).

Reports may include:

* activity work plan reports – these are reports against deliverables listed in the agreed activity work plan
* progress reports.
  1. The Community Grants Hub’s responsibilities

TheHub will:

* meet the terms and conditions set out in the grant agreement
* provide timely administration of the grant
* evaluate the grantee’s performance.

The Hub will monitor the progress of your project by assessing reports you submit. Occasionally we may need to re-examine claims, seek further information or request an independent audit of claims and payments to confirm details of your reports if necessary.

Your performance against the grant agreement will be monitored on an on-going basis by the Funding Arrangement Manager assigned by the Hub. They will work with you to ensure all milestones recorded in your grant agreement are met.

* 1. Grant payments and GST

If applicable, GST will be payable on this grant funding. Payment details will be set out in the grant agreement.

If you receive a grant, you should consider speaking to a tax advisor about the effect of receiving a grant before you enter into a grant agreement. You can also visit the [Australian Taxation Office website](http://www.ato.gov.au/) for more information.

* 1. Evaluation

AGD will evaluate a range of issues, including but not limited to the performance of the program, including the efficiency of implementation and effectiveness of the program meeting the outcomes.

Your grant agreement requires you to provide information to help with this evaluation.

1. Probity

The Australian Government will make sure that the programprocess is fair, according to the published guidelines, incorporates appropriate safeguards against fraud, unlawful activities and other inappropriate conduct and is consistent with the *Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines 2017*.

**Note:** These guidelines may be changed from time-to-time byAGD. When this happens the revised guidelines will be published on [GrantConnect](https://www.grants.gov.au/) and the [Community Grants Hub](http://www.communitygrants.gov.au/) websites.

* 1. Complaints process

**Complaints about the Program**

AGD will reply to complaints about the Program.All complaints about the Program, including grant decisions, must be lodged in writing.

Any questions you have about grant decisions for the Program should be sent to [FSBCoord@ag.gov.au](mailto:FSBCoord@ag.gov.au).

**Complaints about the process**

Applicants can contact the complaints service with complaints about Community Grants Hub’s service(s) or the application process.

Details of what constitutes an eligible complaint can be provided upon request by the Community Grants Hub. Applicants can lodge complaints using the [complaints form](https://www.dss.gov.au/contact/feedback-compliments-complaints-and-enquiries/feedback-form) on the Department’s website or by phone or mail.

Phone: 1800 634 035

Mail: Complaints

GPO Box 9820

Canberra ACT 2601

**Complaints to the Ombudsman**

If you do not agree with the way AGDhas handled your complaint, you may complain to the Commonwealth Ombudsman. The Ombudsman will not usually look into a complaint unless the matter has first been raised directly with the Community Grants Hub or AGD.

The Commonwealth Ombudsman can be contacted on:

Phone (Toll free): 1300 362 072  
Email: [ombudsman@ombudsman.gov.au](mailto:ombudsman@ombudsman.gov.au)   
Website: [www.ombudsman.gov.au](http://www.ombudsman.gov.au/)

* 1. Conflict of interest

Any conflicts of interest could affect the performance of the grant. There may be a [conflict of interest](http://www.apsc.gov.au/publications-and-media/current-publications/aps-values-and-code-of-conduct-in-practice/conflict-of-interest), or perceived conflict of interest, if relevant AGD, the Hub’sstaff, any member of a committee or advisor and/or you or any of your personnel has a:

* professional, commercial or personal relationship with a party who is able to influence the application selection process, such as an Australian Government officer
* relationship with an organisation, or in an organisation, which is likely to interfere with or restrict the applicants from carrying out the proposed activities fairly and independently
* relationship with, or interest in, an organisation from which they will receive personal gain because the organisation receives funding under the Program.

You will be asked to declare, as part of your application, any perceived or existing conflicts of interests or that, to the best of your knowledge, there is no conflict of interest.

If you later identify that there is an actual, apparent, or potential conflict of interest or that one might arise in relation to a grant application, you must inform theAGD and the Hub in writing immediately. Committee members and other officials including the decision maker must also declare any conflicts of interest.

The chair of the Selection Advisory Panel will be made aware of any conflicts of interest and will handle them as set out in Australian Government policies and procedures. Conflicts of interest for Australian Government staff will be handled as set out in the Australian Public Service Code of Conduct (Section 13(7)) of the *Public Service Act 1999*.

* 1. Privacy: confidentiality and protection of personal information

We treat your personal information according to the 13 Australian Privacy Principles and the *Privacy Act 1988*. This includes letting you know:

* what personal information we collect
* why we collect your personal information
* who we give your personal information to.

You are required, as part of your application, to declare your ability to comply with the [*Privacy Act 1988*](http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/C2014C00757)*,* including the Australian Privacy Principles and impose the same privacy obligations on any subcontractors you engage to assist with the activity. You must ask for the Australian Government’s consent in writing before disclosing confidential information.

Your personal information can only be disclosed to someone else if you are given reasonable notice of the disclosure; where disclosure is authorised or required by law or is reasonably necessary for the enforcement of the criminal law; if it will prevent or lessen a serious and imminent threat to a person’s life or health; or if you have consented to the disclosure.

The Australian Government may also use and disclose information about grant applicants and grant recipients under the Program in any other Australian Government business or function. This includes giving information to the Australian Taxation Office for compliance purposes.

We may reveal confidential information to:

* employees and contractors of our department so we can research, assess, monitor and analyse our programs and activities
* employees and contractors of other Commonwealth agencies for any purposes, including government administration, research or service delivery
* other Commonwealth, State, Territory or local government agencies in program reports and consultations
* the Auditor-General, Ombudsman or Privacy Commissioner
* the responsible Minister or Parliamentary Secretary
* a House or a Committee of the Australian Parliament.

We may share the information you give us with other Commonwealth agencies for any purposes including government administration, research or service delivery and according to Australian laws, including the:

* *Public Service Act 1999*
* *Public Service Regulations 1999*
* *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act*
* *Privacy Act 1988*
* *Crimes Act 1914*
* *Criminal Code Act 1995*

We’ll treat the information you give us as sensitive and therefore confidential if it meets all of the four conditions below:

1. you clearly identify the information as confidential and explain why we should treat it as confidential
2. the information is commercially sensitive
3. revealing the information would cause unreasonable harm to you or someone else
4. you provide the information with an understanding that it will stay confidential.

The grant agreement will include any specific requirements about special categories of information collected, created or held under the grant agreement.

* 1. Freedom of information

All documents in the possession of the Australian Government, including those about the Program, are subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* *(FOI Act).*

The purpose of the FOI Act is to give members of the public rights of access to information held by the Australian Government and its entities. Under the FOI Act, members of the public can seek access to documents held by the Australian Government. This right of access is limited only by the exceptions and exemptions necessary to protect essential public interests and private and business affairs of persons in respect of whom the information relates.

All Freedom of Information requests must be referred to the Freedom of Information Coordinator in writing.

By mail: Freedom of Information Coordinator

Department of Social Services

Government and Executive Services Branch

GPO Box 9820

Canberra ACT 2601

By email: [foi@dss.gov.au](mailto:foi@dss.gov.au)

1. Consultation

The Australian Government consulted extensively on the *Family Law Amendment (Family Violence and Cross-examination of Parties) Act 2018* to strike the right balance between protecting vulnerable parties while ensuring procedural fairness. Through this process, there was broad consensus that when direct cross-examination is banned, legal representation should be available through LACs. LACs are best placed to provide representation under the measures in the Act because, unlike other legal assistance providers, LACs have national coverage and currently provide representation services in all family court registries.

The Australian Government has worked closely with National Legal Aid (NLA) to determine the level of funding required for the Program. An average estimated cost per party for providing legal assistance under the measures in the Act was determined in consultation with NLA. The number of cases and parties likely to utilise the Program was informed by recent research on the prevalence of direct cross-examination of victims of family violence by alleged perpetrators in family law proceedings, conducted the Australian Institute of Family Studies. The Government has also factored in a 20 per cent increase in matters to which the ban will apply, to take into account a possible increase in the number of victims of family violence willing to proceed to trial once the measures are in place.

1. Glossary

| **Term** | **Definition** |
| --- | --- |
| assessment criteria | The specified principles or standards against which applications will be judged. These criteria are also used to assess the merits of proposals and, in the case of a competitive granting activity, to determine applicant rankings. |
| commencement date | The expected start date for the grant activity. |
| completion date | The expected date that the grant activity must be completed and the grant spent by. |
| Commonwealth entity | A Department of State, or a Parliamentary Department, or a listed entity or a body corporate established by a law of the Commonwealth. See subsections 10(1) and (2) of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013.* |
| [*Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines (CGRGs)*](https://www.finance.gov.au/sites/default/files/commonwealth-grants-rules-and-guidelines.pdf) | Establish the overarching Commonwealth grants policy framework and articulate the expectations for all non-corporate Commonwealth entities in relation to grants administration. Under this overarching framework, non-corporate Commonwealth entities undertake grants administration based on the mandatory requirements and key principles of grants administration. |
| date of effect | This will depend on the particular grant. It can be the date in which a grant agreement is signed or a specified starting date. Where there is no grant agreement, entities must publish information on individual grants as soon as practicable. |
| decision maker | The person who makes a decision to award a grant. |
| eligibility criteria | The principles, standards or rules that a grant applicant must meet to qualify for consideration of a grant. Eligibility criteria may apply in addition to assessment criteria. |
| funding arrangement manager | The officer responsible for the ongoing management of the grantee and their compliance with the grant agreement. |
| grant | A grant is an arrangement for the provision of financial assistance by the Commonwealth or on behalf of the Commonwealth:   1. under which relevant money or other Consolidated Revenue Fund (CRF) money, is to be paid to a grantee other than the Commonwealth 2. which is intended to help address one or more of the Australian Government’s policy outcomes while assisting the grantee achieve its objectives. |
| grant activity | Is the project /tasks /services that the grantee is required to undertake with the grant money. It is described in the grant agreement. |
| grant agreement | Sets out the relationship between the parties to the agreement, and specifies the details of the grant. |
| grant opportunity | Refers to the specific grant round or process where a Commonwealth grant is made available to potential grantees. Grant opportunities may be open or targeted, and will reflect the relevant grant selection process. |
| grant program | A ‘program’ carries its natural meaning and is intended to cover a potentially wide range of related activities aimed at achieving government policy outcomes. A grant program is a group of one or more grant opportunities under a single [entity] Portfolio Budget Statement Program. |
| grantee | An individual/organisation that has been awarded a grant. |
| Portfolio Budget Statement Program | Described within the entity’s Portfolio Budget Statement (PBS), PBS programs each link to a single outcome and provide transparency for funding decisions. These high level PBS programs often comprise a number of lower level, more publicly recognised programs, some of which will be grant programs. A PBS program may have more than one grant program associated with it, and each of these may have one or more grant opportunities |
| selection criteria | Comprise eligibility criteria and assessment criteria. |
| selection process | The method used to select potential grantees. This process may involve comparative assessment of applications or the assessment of applications against the eligibility criteria and/or the assessment criteria. |
| value with money | Refers to ‘value with relevant money’ which 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.  When administering a grant opportunity, an official should consider the relevant financial and non-financial costs and benefits of each proposal including, but not limited to:   * the quality of the project proposal and activities * fitness for purpose of the proposal in contributing to government objectives * that the absence of a grant is likely to prevent the grantee and government’s outcomes being achieved * the potential grantee’s relevant experience and performance history. |

1. Includes $0.100m establishment costs. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. [1] This may be the Hub delegate or nominated staff member of the client agency at the Executive Level 2 level or above. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)