# Multicultural Grassroots Initiatives

## Feedback for applicants

The Department of Home Affairs (the department) has provided the following general feedback for applicants of the Multicultural Affairs and Citizenship Program Multicultural Grassroots Initiatives grant opportunity.

Assessment of applications was in accordance with the procedure detailed in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines (the guidelines) and outlined in the selection process below.

## Overview

The application submission period opened on 8 October 2024 and closed on 4 November 2024.

The Multicultural Grassroots Initiatives grant opportunity provided funding to community-led grassroots organisations that embraced Australia's multicultural diversity and helped multicultural communities to become an active part of Australia's economic and social development.

The objectives of the grant opportunity are to:

- enhance the capacity of multicultural community led grassroots organisations to foster a cohesive multicultural Australia

- increase understanding of racial, religious and cultural diversity

- foster integration through increased levels of social participation by culturally and linguistically diverse Australians

- foster a sense of community and belonging among culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

The intended outcomes of the grant opportunity are:

- multicultural community-led grassroots organisations have increased capacity to engage in government grant funding processes and support a cohesive multicultural society

- increased tolerance and understanding of cultural diversity and reduced instances of discrimination and racism

- increased rates of social participation by multicultural community members

- increased rates of culturally diverse Australians expressing a sense of belonging.

## Selection Process

The Community Grants Hub (the Hub) undertook the initial screening for organisation eligibility and compliance against the requirements outlined in the guidelines. This information was provided to the department's grant opportunity delegate for final decisions on whether an application met the eligibility and compliance criteria.

The Hub undertook the preliminary assessment on all applications through an open competitive, grant process. Applications which underwent preliminary assessment were provided to the department's selection advisory panel (panel) for deliberation.

The panel established by the department, comprised of subject matter experts who assessed applications and provided advice to inform the funding recommendations to the Financial Delegate.

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The panel's consideration of assessed applications was, based on:

- meeting the compliance requirements outlined in the guidelines

- meeting the eligibility requirements outline in the guidelines

- how well the responses met the assessment criteria

- the volume of applications received and the extent to which applications compared against other applications

-  the provision and appropriateness of the requested attachments

- whether the project demonstrated value with relevant money

- the level of need of the target community the grant activity seeks to support

- identified risks and the proposed mitigation strategies for the department and the Commonwealth

- reasonable distribution of the types of activities funded delivery locations and recipient communities.

## Selection Results

There was a strong interest in the grant opportunity and applications were of a high standard. The preferred applicants demonstrated their ability to meet the grant requirements outlined in the guidelines based on the strength of their responses to the assessment criteria.

The Hub notified applicants of the outcome in writing, where their applications did not meet the requirements outlined in the guidelines.

This feedback is provided to assist grant applicants to understand what comprised a strong application and what was quality responses to the assessment criteria.

We would like to note that while AI-generated responses may assist in drafting answers, they do not necessarily enhance the quality or relevance of selection criteria responses. The most successful applications demonstrate a clear understanding and connection to the criteria.

## Criterion 1

**Need:**

- What community group(s) would participate in the grant activity?

- What problems the community faced and what did it need help with?

- How were these needs linked to the grant program objectives?

Strong applications:

- Outlined what community groups their project targeted and described their community group in detail.

- Referenced statistics and evidence describing the demographic of their community group.

- Described the problems and needs that the community had and what impact these had on their community group.

- Linked the needs of the community to specifically referenced elements of the grant program objectives and outcomes.

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## Criterion 2

**Outcomes:**

- What activity(s) would you deliver if successful?

- How would this activity help your community?

- How would your activity contribute to the grant program objectives?

Strong applications:

- Detailed the project they planned to deliver with reference to timeframes, activities, and objectives of the project.

- Linked the activities they planned to deliver with the needs of the community and explained how the activities would address each need.

- Described how their activity would have specifically contributed to the grant program objectives and outcomes.

## Criterion 3

**Capacity**

- How would you ensure relevant community groups participated in your grant activity or access the amenities obtained from your grant activity?

- What other organisations or stakeholders would you work with to deliver your activity?

- Have you delivered a similar activity in the past?

Strong applications:

- Described how they would engage community groups through promotion strategies, leveraging established connections and or partnerships with other organisations, targeted advertising campaigns via social media, community newsletters, radio and word of mouth.

- Identified and described the role of partner organisations and/or stakeholders and how they would have improved the delivery of the project.

- Detailed a similar project that they had completed in the past with reference to outcomes, activities. They also explained how the project was similar to the proposed project.

## Individual feedback

Individual feedback will not be provided for this grant opportunity.