



Multicultural
NSW

Stronger Together Project Grants 2027



STRONGER *together*

Information and Guidelines

The Multicultural NSW **Stronger Together Project Grants Program** supports multicultural projects that meet a community need at the grassroots level and support community harmony across New South Wales.



Project Grants range from **\$20,000** to a maximum of **\$50,000**



Funding is available for projects delivered between 1 January 2027 and 31 December 2027.



Applications close at **4pm** on **Monday 14 September 2026**. There are no extensions available for this deadline.

Eligibility

To be eligible for a Stronger Together Project Grant, applicants must:

- be a registered non-profit organisation
- deliver a project in NSW
- confirm past and current funding sources for the past three years including from Multicultural NSW
- have acquitted all prior grants from Multicultural NSW
- show how the project will measure outcomes
- outline how the project is cost effective and viable with an accurate budget
- have all appropriate insurances and licences
- submit an application using the Multicultural NSW SmartyGrants portal before the closing date
- deliver the project within the timeframe for the grant
- promote the Multicultural NSW and NSW Government funded project on their website and social media platforms
- show co-contributions from other sources towards the project. It is unlikely that the project will be funded if there is no co-contribution
- confirm other funding sources that are contributing to the total project budget.

- applications that seek support to fund the core business of the organisation. This includes supplementing, increasing or continuing ongoing service delivery
- projects that duplicate existing services
- capital expenses, including but not limited to building works (including maintenance) and equipment purchases
- media productions that have not been endorsed by Multicultural NSW prior to publication.

Grant funding will not be awarded to any organisation that:

- does not demonstrate a commitment to NSW Multicultural Principles
- has Redress sanctions as described in the National Redress Scheme
- is subject to a winding up order or has an appointed administrator
- has a pending or ongoing legal case that can affect the delivery of the proposed project
- is bankrupt
- has no sound financial management and governance.

Multicultural NSW may seek confirmation or clarification regarding a project and funds sought as part of this program before funds are released.

What items cannot be funded?

The following activities are excluded from receiving grant funding:

- political activities
- commercial or fundraising activities
- celebration of national or independence days
- festival and events, including film and writers' festivals
- single faith religious activities/projects. Multi-faith activities/projects which involve people from more than one religion can apply
- activities that are dependent on recurrent annual funding

Project budgets and use of funding

A detailed budget must be provided in the grant application.

In-kind contributions should also be outlined in the grant application.

The budget income and expenditure must balance.

Multicultural NSW strongly encourages co-contributions from applications towards the project. It is unlikely that an application will receive a grant if there is no co-contribution.

Funding restrictions apply for the following items:

- **Catering** - No more than 10% of the budget can be used for catering.
- **Administration** - No more than 20% of the budget can be used for administrative costs related to the grant funded project delivery. Administration costs include existing organisation staffing.
- **Insurances** - No portion of the grant funding can be used towards insurance costs, including, but not limited to, Public Liability Insurance, Workers Compensation Insurance and Volunteers Insurance.
- **Capital expenditure or purchases** - No portion of the grant funding can be used towards capital expenditure or purchase costs, including, but not limited to, building costs or maintenance and equipment purchase.
- **Cash prizes or gifts** - No portion of the grant funding can be used towards cash prizes or gifts, including gift vouchers.
- **Independent audit fees** - No portion of the grant funding can be used towards financial independent audit fees.

Assessment criteria – what are we looking for

Application meets eligibility criteria and is not an excluded activity.

Applications from ineligible organisations or for excluded activities are not eligible for consideration.

Application form is complete and submitted on time.

Incomplete applications will not be progressed for assessment.

Applications that are not submitted online through the Multicultural NSW SmartyGrants portal before the closing date (Monday 14 September 2026, 4pm) will not be progressed for assessment.

Applicants need to register with SmartyGrants to apply. If the organisation has used SmartyGrants to apply for a grant with Multicultural NSW before, they will already be registered.

Attachments can be uploaded through the online application form.

Application is appropriate to the program.

Successful applications will clearly and convincingly show:

- how the project will deliver the grant aim
- how the project meets the grant criteria.

Application demonstrates capacity to successfully deliver the project.

Successful applications will clearly demonstrate the organisation's capacity to deliver the project within the available delivery period and within budget.

Applications should clearly identify resources that will be committed to ensure the project is a success.

A work plan and risk mitigation strategy should be included with the application.

Application presents good value for money.

Successful applications will clearly demonstrate value for money with a well-considered, proportionate, clearly itemised budget.

Grants will be awarded for projects from a diverse range of community organisations, for a diverse range of activities and approaches, and in diverse localities across New South Wales.

Applications are assessed in comparison to all other applications and in comparison to similar applications in terms of locality, cultural focus, and type of activity or approach.

Multiple applications.

Eligible organisations can submit more than one application for different projects. If successful, organisations will only receive one grant within the same funding round.

Available funding pool.

Multicultural NSW always receives more funding requests than the amount of funding available. Successful applications will be of a high standard.

The limited funding pool and competitive assessment process mean that even strong, well-prepared applications cannot always be supported.

Due to the high volume of applications, Multicultural NSW only provides general feedback to unsuccessful applicants.

Funding agreements

Terms and Conditions will apply to the grant funding agreement. Successful organisations are required to:

- review and understand the funding agreement Terms and Conditions
- acknowledge that an agreement based on those Terms and Conditions will apply to the grant
- if a grant is awarded, they will agree to comply with these Terms and Conditions in acquitting the grant.

Acquittal for this grant requires an independent audit of the grant financial statements and information. Grant funding cannot be used for the independent audit costs.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE: 4pm on Monday 14 September 2026

For more information, visit multicultural.nsw.gov.au

