



LGBTIQA+ Inclusion Grants 2025-26

DOCG202552339

Tier One Grants Program Guidelines

**Closing Time: 3:00 pm, Monday, 16 February 2026,
Perth, Western Australia**

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Guidelines

About the LGBTIQA+ Inclusion Grants

The LGBTIQA+ Inclusion Grants 2025-26 (Inclusion Grants) provide funding opportunities to eligible organisations supporting implementation of Western Australia's (WA) LGBTIQA+ Inclusion Strategy (Strategy) and initial five-year Action Plan. Pilots, projects and initiatives that advance better outcomes for LGBTIQA+ people and communities towards building a safe and more inclusive WA will be considered. These guidelines provide information on funding available in the first year of the grants program to be released during the 2025-2026 financial year, with further grant opportunities being made available each year to 2028-29.

The focus of the Inclusion Grants is to support initiatives that align with the priority areas of the Strategy:

- Belonging, connection and visibility
- Safety, equity and wellbeing

The LGBTIQA+ Inclusion Grants Program 2025-26 consists of two separate grant application opportunities:

1. **LGBTIQA+ Inclusion Grants 2025-26 - Tier One Grants – DOCG202552339.**
Individual grants of up to \$10,000 (excl. GST) up to a total funding pool of \$152,000.
2. **LGBTIQA+ Inclusion Grants 2025-26 - Tier Two Grants – DOCG202552537.**
Individual grants of up to \$25,000 (excl. GST) up to a total funding pool of \$100,000 for collaborative pilots, projects and initiatives.

Eligible organisations can submit more than one application to each grants program. Department of Communities (Communities) is seeking to award grants to multiple organisations for a range of projects that will benefit LGBTIQA+ people and communities across WA. If organisations submit applications in both grant tiers, Communities will award grants following evaluation of all applications that are determined to best meet the intersectional and diverse needs of LGBTIQA+ people and communities and demonstrate innovation and value for money under either grant application opportunity.

If your organisation is an auspice on behalf of an unincorporated organisation, you can submit applications for your own organisation and be an auspice for multiple unincorporated organisations.

About the LGBTIQA+ Inclusion Grants 2025-26 – Tier One Grants Program DOCG202552339

These Guidelines relate to the LGBTIQA+ Tier One Grants Program DOCG202552339 only.

Background Information

Department of Communities (Communities) is seeking proposals to fund pilots, projects and initiatives that work towards creating better outcomes for LGBTIQA+ people and communities that align with priority areas outlined in the LGBTIQA+ Inclusion Strategy (Strategy) and implementation areas of the Action Plan.

The Strategy outcomes are aimed at supporting the health, wellbeing and full social and economic participation of LGBTIQA+ people and communities in WA. Although many LGBTIQA+ people in WA enjoy lives of meaning and connection, we know that some LGBTIQA+ people still face discrimination, stigma and social exclusion and this can contribute to lower health, social, economic and mental health outcomes. We also know that LGBTIQA+ people with intersecting identities experience further disadvantage and marginalisation. Intersecting identities include but are not limited to:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- Intersex people
- Older LGBTI people
- People with Disability
- Rainbow families
- Rainbow migrants
- Trans and Gender Diverse people
- Young people

Inclusive communities promote the conditions for everyone to thrive. For LGBTIQA+ people, this can mean greater self-determination and access to opportunities, improved wellbeing, stronger social connections and safer places and spaces to participate at work and in the community. Inclusion strengthens communities by ensuring everyone can contribute and belong.

LGBTIQA+ Inclusion Grant Program Aims

The aim of the LGBTIQA+ Inclusion Grant Program is to provide opportunities for incorporated not-for-profit community organisations, Aboriginal Controlled Community Organisations (ACCOs), local government authorities, or unincorporated organisations or community groups, applying through the auspice of an incorporated body or a local government authority with a focus on delivering better outcomes for LGBTIQA+ people and communities to:

- Implement LGBTIQA+ inclusive practices, programs and services.
- Strengthen workforce capability and leadership in supporting LGBTIQA+ people.
- Building partnerships across sectors for an integrated approach to activities aimed at developing better outcomes for LGBTIQA+ people and communities.

Alignment with the LGBTIQA+ Inclusion Strategy

Your grant application should be informed by the LGBTIQA+ Inclusion Strategy Priority Areas 1 and 2: (The Strategy can be found [here](#).)

- Belonging, connection and visibility
- Safety, equity and wellbeing

Target Program Outcomes

The successful grant recipients will contribute to the overall outcomes of the grants program through:

- Promoting better outcomes and participation of LGBTIQA+ people across WA, with a focus on developing their sense of belonging, connection and visibility, and/or safety, equity and wellbeing.
- Improving access and outcomes for LGBTIQA+ people and communities, particularly in regional or remote WA.
- Strengthening partnerships with community-based and Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations to support culturally safe, inclusive, and evidence-based practices.

Grant Funding Available

A total grant funding pool of up to \$152,000 (exc. GST) is available for the LGBTIQA+ Inclusion Grants 2025-26 - Tier One Grants Program. Eligible organisations can apply for grant funding of up to a maximum of \$10,000 (exc. GST).

Communities reserves the right to make minor adjustments to the total grant funding pool of the two LGBTIQA+ grant application opportunities if there is remaining unallocated budget.

Grant Period

Grants will be awarded for projects expected to last up to a maximum of 24 months. For successful organisations, grant funding will be paid in full in financial year 2025-26 upon receipt of a Grant Award Letter, regardless of the length of project duration.

All proposed project start dates are required to be after 18 May 2026.

Who can apply for this Grant funding?

To be eligible to apply for a grant through the LGBTIQA+ Inclusion Initiatives Grant Program, applicants must be operating fully in Western Australia and be:

- an incorporated not-for-profit community organisation; or
- an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation; or
- local government authority; or
- an unincorporated organisation or community group, applying through the auspice of an incorporated body or a local government authority. The auspice organisation will assume administrative responsibility and accept and adhere to all terms and conditions of the grant, maintain financial records and provide reporting information for successful applications. Grant funds will be paid to the auspice organisation, please refer to page 9 for further information on how to proceed using an auspice organisation.

A group or organisation is not-for-profit if its governing documents prohibit distribution of profits to individual members while the organisation is operating and upon its wind-up.

Who cannot apply for this Grant funding?

Entities not eligible to apply for funding through this program include:

- Commonwealth or State Government agencies;
- individuals;
- sole traders*;
- commercial, for-profit organisations;
- organisations that do not have an established service delivery presence within Western Australia;
- unincorporated, community sector organisations (unless applying through an auspice who is an incorporated body or a local government authority); and
- organisations located in the Indian Ocean Territories.

***A note to sole traders:**

Sole traders are not eligible to submit an application to this Grants Program either as an applicant or auspiced by an eligible incorporated not-for-profit organisation or local government authority.

If you are a sole trader and wish to be involved in relevant project delivery, you will need to be included as a consultant or partner in a grant application where the main applicant is an eligible applicant, as outlined overpage.

Organisations that have outstanding acquittal or evaluation requirements from a previous Communities' grant or program funding are ineligible to apply until the required documentation has been submitted. Please contact Communities if there are any queries about an organisation's acquittal status.

Items eligible for grant expenditure

A range of items associated with staging an event/activity or directly related to the delivery of the project such as:

- minor administration costs such as postage and phone calls;
- hire of equipment, transport and venue hire;
- publication costs of resources and material created through the project;
- resource materials, publicity, communications and marketing costs;
- food and non-alcoholic beverages for community engagement activities;
- staff wages/salaries directly related to the project;
- consultants and facilitators;
- intrastate travel;
- audit costs; and
- project evaluation.

Items not eligible for grant expenditure

The below items are not eligible for grant funding:

- purchase of infrastructure and capital equipment;
- operating costs of the organisation or costs not directly related to project delivery;
- prizes and gifts, including cash;
- alcohol;
- interstate and overseas travel;
- retrospective costs (any money spent before a grant is approved);

- projects involving fundraising, unless the funds raised are expended on the project;
- projects that duplicate an existing or similar project or service within the community (projects that build upon an existing program may be considered);
- projects that are traditionally funded through other sources (e.g., school activities or sporting/cultural events); and
- projects that could be delivered through an existing service agreement or grant agreement the organisation has with the Communities.

What types of projects might be Grant funded?

One-off, pilots, programs or initiatives that support better outcomes for LGBTIQA+ people, including:

- LGBTIQA+ education and awareness initiatives
- LGBTIQA+ leadership initiatives
- Community group programs and initiatives to support LGBTIQA+ participation
- LGBTIQA+ individual advocacy support

Applicants may choose to engage relevant consultants in delivery of aspects of their projects.

Assessment Criteria

All proposed projects will need to demonstrate value for money, including provision of a clear, realistic budget that includes verified costs for activities that meet the Grant Program Aims and Target Program Outcomes.

Applications will be assessed on value for money, and against the below criteria:

- The project aligns with at least one of the targeted Strategy Priority Areas 1 and or 2 (see [Alignment with LGBTIQA+ Inclusion Strategy](#)).
- The project demonstrates positive and long-lasting benefits for LGBTIQA+ people and communities and the broader community, where applicable.
- Evidence of sound project planning and ability to manage the project, including clearly defined project outcomes that address at least one of the targeted Strategy Priority Areas 1 and or 2.

All the above criteria have equal weighting, and the application will be assessed on its merit in its entirety.

All information provided in the Application Form, and any supporting attachments, will be reviewed by an independent evaluation panel against the assessment criteria outlined above. The evaluation panel will not review any information not contained within the application or attachments when making its assessment, for example if URL's are referenced in an application the evaluation panel will not access this external information when evaluating the application.

After meeting the assessment criteria, Communities may also prioritise applications with consideration to the following:

- Supporting projects that consider the needs of LGBTIQA+ people and communities who may experience intersecting forms of disadvantage and discrimination;
- Funding a range of organisations and projects across WA, including regional and remote areas.

Outcome notification

All organisations that apply for funding will be notified in writing of the outcome of their submission by 18 May 2026.

Successful applicants

Successful applicants will be required to:

- provide a report on completion of the project.
- provide a certified statement of income and expenditure for the funded project.

Reporting will include the requirement to provide event photographs, if applicable, and approval for these to be used by Communities for media and promotional opportunities.

Once the project is completed, the acquittal report must be submitted via SmartyGrants within two months of the project end date to meet the Grant Conditions.

Any unspent grant funds, or grant funds not expended in accordance with the grant program, must be returned to Communities.

How to apply

1. Carefully read these Guidelines.
2. Complete the online Application Form on SmartyGrants.
3. Upload any supporting documents, if required.
4. Ensure the application is reviewed and approved by the authorised delegate of the organisation.
5. Submit the application on SmartyGrants.

Late applications will not be accepted, as the SmartyGrants portal will automatically close at the advertised closing time. We strongly recommend submitting your application well before the deadline to avoid any last-minute issues.

Once your application has been submitted through SmartyGrants, you will receive an automated email confirmation acknowledging receipt. This email will include a copy of your submitted application and a reference number for future correspondence. If you do not receive this confirmation email within a short time after submission, please check your junk or spam folder. Please check your SmartyGrants account as it is likely your application has not been fully submitted. However, if you have submitted and still not received confirmation, please contact Communities via email at grants@communities.wa.gov.au to confirm that your application has been successfully received.

Submitting an application

Closing Time: 3.00pm

Closing Date: Monday, 16 February 2026

Applications **must** be submitted on **SmartyGrants**.

Instructions for Unincorporated Groups Applying with an Auspicing Organisation

If your group is unincorporated, you must apply to the Grants Program auspiced by an eligible incorporated not for profit organisation or local government authority. You will be required to upload a signed and dated document provided by the auspice confirming the arrangement into the Application Form on SmartyGrants. This may include a letter, agreement, or declaration signed by both parties, that clearly confirms approval for the auspice arrangement signed by their organisations Delegated Authority.

Please ensure you organise completion of this document in sufficient time to ensure your application can be submitted before the Grant Program closing time and date.

Grant Program Assistance

If you have any Grant Program queries when completing the application form, please contact the Communities representative below. Please ensure all communication in relation to this Grants Program is directed to this representative only.

Melinda Cunningham

A/ Senior Procurement Officer

Mobile: 0432 835 077 / 0435 632 586

Email: grants@communities.wa.gov.au

If contacting by email, please insert the following information in the email subject header: DOCG202552339 LGBTIQA+ Inclusion Grants 2025-26 – Tier One Grants Program.

Grant Conditions

Grants provided through the LGBTIQA+ Inclusion Grants 2025-26 – Tier One Grants Program are subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. The grant is to be used solely for the specified purpose approved by the Department of Communities (Communities) during the funding period.
2. Written approval must be sought from Communities for any request to vary the approved purpose of the grant or seek an extension to the funding period.
3. Any part of the grant that is not used in accordance with Condition 1 must be repaid to Communities unless prior written approval is obtained.
4. Should the activities for which the grant was approved cease or should the grant agreement be terminated due to a breach of the any of these Conditions, then:
 - (a) the balance of the grant, unspent in accordance with the approved purpose of the grant, must be repaid to Communities within ten business days; and
 - (b) any property acquired with the grant must be transferred to another not-for-profit organisation with similar objectives and purposes to the recipient organisation, upon approval by Communities.
5. Providing a grant does not entitle a recipient organisation to be provided any further funding than that specified in the grant agreement.
6. Communities will not be held responsible for the success of the approved purpose for which the grant is provided or for any losses or additional costs incurred that are associated with the approved purpose.
7. Any documents or information relating to the grant or the approved purpose must be provided to Communities within ten business days of the request.
8. All payment conditions and reporting requirements must be met, as specified by Communities.
9. The Auditor General for the State of Western Australia, or an authorised representative, must be granted access to, and be permitted to examine, records and information concerning this grant.
10. All Local, State and Commonwealth laws applicable to the approved purpose must be abided by and complied with at all times.
11. Any project that involves working with children must ensure that the recipient organisation and all employees and volunteers comply with the *Working with Children (Screening) Act 2004*. Please refer to the Working with Children Check website for further information www.workingwithchildren.wa.gov.au.
12. Communities is not liable for any accident or negligence resulting in any claim or damage arising from activities undertaken as part of the grant.
13. Recipient organisations are required to be appropriately incorporated and be responsible for ownership of the appropriate insurance policies. This includes, but is not limited to, Public Liability, Volunteer Insurance, Workers' Compensation, and Professional Indemnity.
14. An acknowledgement of funding assistance provided by Communities must be included in any advertising and on any material relating to the project by using the words 'Supported by the Department of Communities'.

15. Any individuals involved with the project must not be exposed to significant promotions for alcohol or unhealthy food and drinks during the term of the project.

16. Goods and Services Tax (GST)

(a) For the purposes of Condition 16:

- i. "GST" means the goods and services tax applicable to any taxable supplies, as determined by the GST Act;
- ii. "GST Act" means *A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999 (Cth)* and includes all associated legislation and regulations; and
- iii. The terms "supply", "tax invoice", "taxable supply", and "value" have the same meanings as in the GST Act.

(b) If the supply of anything through this agreement is a taxable supply under the GST Act, the grant shall be inclusive of GST.

(c) If the parties agree that Communities will issue the recipient organisation with a recipient-created tax invoice (RCTI), then the parties hereby agree that:

- i. Communities will issue a RCTI in respect of GST payable on the supply of the project and the recipient organisation will not issue a tax invoice in respect of that supply;
- ii. The recipient organisation warrants that it is registered for the purposes of GST and Communities will notify the organisation in writing if it ceases to be registered for the purposes of GST, or if it ceases to satisfy the requirements of the GST Act during the term of the agreement; and
- iii. Communities will indemnify and keep indemnified the recipient organisation for GST and any related penalty that may arise from an understatement of the GST payable on the supply of the project for which Communities issues an RCTI under the grant agreement.

17. If any of the terms or conditions are breached by the recipient organisation, Communities may terminate the grant agreement at any time and without giving prior notice.