Local Anti-Racism Initiatives Grants Program 2024-26

Questions and answers

About the program

Will there be future grant rounds?

This is a one-off program to be delivered across 2024-26.

Can we apply for less than $150,000?

Yes. You can apply for any amount of funding up to $150,000.

How long do we have to complete our project?

Organisations have until 18 December 2026 to complete their project activities.

If we are applying as a partnership, can we request more than $150,000?

Partnerships are still subject to a maximum request of $150,000 (GST exclusive) per application.

Organisation eligibility

We have an overdue report for another project, what do we do?

If you have an overdue report for another Victorian Government grant, please contact the responsible team for assistance. Your key contact person should be listed on the funding agreement for that grant program.

For guidance, please email: antiracism.strategy@dpc.vic.gov.au.

How do we check our Australian Business Number (ABN)?

To check your ABN, visit the Australian Business Register (ABR) webpage at https://www.abr.gov.au/.

What if we don't have an ABN?

If your organisation does not have an ABN, you may use an auspice. Your auspice organisation must be an eligible organisation as outlined in the Program Guidelines at https://www.vic.gov.au/local-anti-racism-initiatives-grant-program-guidelines.

What is an auspice?

An auspice organisation can support grassroots community groups to meet the grant program's financial and legal requirements.

Premier and Cabinet

This would include taking on the legal and financial responsibility of the grant by signing the grant funding agreement on your organisation's behalf. They would be responsible for ensuring grant funds are used appropriately and that all activities or events are completed.

The grassroots community organisation would remain responsible for submitting progress reports and the final report and acquittal.

How do we apply with an auspice?

You must identify your auspice organisation prior to starting your application. You will also need a letter of support from your auspice.

For more information on auspice organisations and applications, refer to the Program Guidelines at https://www.vic.gov.au/local-anti-racism-initiatives-grant-program-guidelines.

Can we apply with a partner organisation?

Yes, partnership applications are allowed and encouraged. This could include, for example, a partnership of two eligible organisations or groups of several smaller eligible organisations and groups coming together to deliver an initiative.

How do we apply as a partnership?

You must form your partnership prior to starting your application, including establishing who will be responsible for submitting the application. You will also need a letter of support from your partner organisation.

For more information on partnership eligibility and applications, refer to the Program Guidelines at https://www.vic.gov.au/local-anti-racism-initiatives-grant-program-guidelines.

How do we check our organisation type?

The Australian Business Register webpage at https://abr.business.gov.au/ will list your organisation's registration status.

Further details can be found via the regulator for your organisation type:

- For incorporated associations, co-operatives or organisations incorporated through other means, go to Consumer Affairs Victoria website at www.consumer.vic.gov.au

- For a Company Limited by Guarantee, go to the Australian Securities and Investment Commission website at https://asic.gov.au/

- For registered charities, go to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission website at https://www.acnc.gov.au/

- For Aboriginal corporations, go to the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations website at https://www.oric.gov.au/.

Our organisation is outside of Victoria but is near the border and services many Victorians. Are we eligible to apply?

Your organisation may be eligible if you are an incorporated entity registered with an appropriate state regulator and can demonstrate your project is for the benefit of Victorians.

Our organisation is based in another state but working with a Victorian partner. Are we eligible to apply?

This program is only for organisations that work with and benefit the Victorian community.

If an organisation based in another state has an established relationship with a Victorian community organisation, they could be eligible to participate as part of a partnership model – with the Victorian community organisation being the lead applicant.

For more information on partnership applications and eligibility, refer to the Program Guidelines at https://www.vic.gov.au/local-anti-racism-initiatives-grant-program-guidelines.

Are universities eligible to apply?

Universities are not eligible to apply for grants through this program.

If a university has an established relationship with local community organisation, they are eligible to participate as part of a partnership model – with the community organisation being the lead applicant.

If the applicant is a university foundation or centre with a separate ABN, they would be eligible, provided they can demonstrate not-for-profit status and incorporation.

Are local government authorities eligible to apply?

Local government authorities (including Shire, City and Borough Councils) are not eligible to apply for grants through this program.

If a local government authority has an established relationships with local community organisations, they are eligible to participate as part of a partnership model – with the community organisation being the lead applicant.

Are community health services eligible to apply?

It would depend on the nature of the community health service. Health services that are not-for-profit and are an incorporated legal entity, would be eligible under the guidelines. However, if the community health service is a state government entity they would not be eligible.

Are arts organisations eligible to apply?

It would depend on the nature of the arts organisation and we would look at the ABN as a first step.

Arts organisations that are not-for-profit and are an incorporated legal entity, would be eligible under the guidelines. However, if the arts organisation is a state government entity they would not be eligible.

Project eligibility

Is a program that was previously a pilot program eligible?

Funding is not retrospective. Applications must be for projects that are yet to start.

However, if your pilot was successful and there is additional community need, organisations can apply for funding to deliver a project that expands on the previous pilot program.

Applications should provide an overview of the points of difference with the pilot and include all appropriate supporting documentation.

Are we eligible if our intention for the grant is to prevent a project from ceasing rather than starting a new project?

No. This application would not be eligible. As above, applications must be for projects that are yet to start.

Application process

Do we need to apply online?

Yes. The Grants Gateway is the required method of applying.

If you have accessibility concerns or questions about how to use Grants Gateway, please contact the LARI program team at antiracism.strategy@dpc.vic.gov.au well before the application closing date.

Is there a template for describing our project and evaluation plans?

There is no required template at this stage of the process.

This information will be requested when completing the online application form. We recommend that you familiarise yourself with the grant assessment criteria and use this as a guide providing these details.

Can we attach additional supporting documents?

All required information for assessment of your application must be entered into the online application form.

Letters of support for partnerships or auspice arrangements and evidence of insurance must be attached. Social enterprises much also attached proof of eligibility, such as an organisation mission statement with a clearly stated purpose related to supporting First Peoples, multicultural or multifaith communities.

You may attach additional supporting documents; however, these will not be factored into the assessment of your application.

If we begin our application online but can't finish, can we leave the Grants Gateway and return at another time to complete the application?

Yes. In the top right corner of the application form, click the button 'Save & return later'. Be sure to go back and complete and submit your application before the closing date.

What happens if we can't submit our application on time?

The closing date and time for the grants is midday (12:00pm), Thursday 6 February 2025.

Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

Technical difficulties always seem to occur at the worst possible moment. We recommend that you plan ahead and aim to submit your application well ahead of the closing time.

If you feel you may have an exceptional circumstance, please contact Multicultural Affairs before the closing time at antiracism.strategy@dpc.vic.gov.au.

Can I make changes to my application once submitted?

No. You will not be able to make any further changes or provide any missing documentation once the application has been submitted through the online grants portal.

As highlighted above, you will be able to save a draft of your application and copies of the required supporting documentation within the online portal as you develop your application. However, once you submit your application it is considered final and is what will be used to assess your application.

Can we submit more than one application?

The department will only assess one application per organisation. It is recommended that organisations focus attention on developing a quality application for the project that would have most impact in their community.

If more than one application is submitted by the same organisation, the department will only progress the proposal that it considers as the best fit for the program objectives.

Can we be involved in more than one project as part of the grants program?

Yes. Each organisation can only submit one application; however, you can also be an auspice or partner in another application.

Before committing to multiple projects, we ask organisations to consider the impact this could have on their capacity to deliver project activities.

Who will assess our application?

Eligible applications will be assessed by a panel of representatives from the Department of Premier and Cabinet including the Multicultural Affairs portfolio and First Peoples – State Relations.

For more information on application assessments, refer to the Program Guidelines at https://www.vic.gov.au/local-anti-racism-initiatives-grant-program-guidelines.

Budget

How does the GST work?

All budgets should be provided excluding GST. If successful, grant payments will have GST added if your organisation is registered for GST.

Should we include other in-kind contributions?

Where applicable, any in-kind funding or support that will be provided by the applicant or other sources should be outlined in the budget section of the online application.

The online application form will allow you to identify which project costs would be covered by the funding sought or through other funding sources.

Application outcomes

How will we be notified?

All organisations will be notified of the outcome of their application via the email address they have supplied as part of their application. It is important to ensure that a correct and current email address is provided.

Will we get the full amount applied for?

During the assessment process, the department will review project budgets and may recommend a lower amount based on a number of factors including analysis of the proposed activities, deliverables and project budgets, and fair distribution of projects across program streams.

Conditions of funding

What reporting will we need to do?

If successful, funded organisations will be required to provide reports on the status of their projects, and a final report and financial acquittal. Online forms for reporting will be made available through the Grants Gateway portal.

When will funds be paid?

If successful, an initial payment will be made following the execution of the funding agreement by your organisation. Other payments will be tied to key project milestones, such as the submission of progress reports.