

Community Impact Partnership Program Guidelines

The Community Impact Partnership Program provides seed funding for not-for-profit organisations to provide dynamic opportunities and experiences for residents and visitors.

The program is designed to support start-up initiatives. This funding is not designed as ongoing funding. Approved applicants may be funded for maximum of three years.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The program aims to:

- Improve environmental sustainability;
- Showcase and celebrate creative expression, development and innovation;
- Encourage community ownership and action on a community need;
- Increase employment opportunities and build economic prosperity for the benefit of the community;
- Support new and inspiring events which benefit the community and celebrate connection;
- Maximise an organisation's potential, and build capacity to become self-sustaining;
- Strengthen the liveability for local residents;
- Attract visitors to the city and provide rich and meaningful experiences during their stay; and,
- Preserve and showcase cultural heritage.

How much money is available?

Grants of up to \$10,000 are available to eligible organisations as a one-off or as recurrent funding over two or three years conditional on:

- The council's budget availability;
- Compliance with funding conditions;
- Delivering agreed outcomes; and,
- The organisation working towards or maintaining self-sufficiency.

THE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST PROCESS

Stage one:

1. Contact the Community Impact Grants team at Wodonga Council to discuss eligibility and proposed initiative.

Stage two: Expression of interest (EOI)

1. Organisations complete the Community Impact Partnership Program EOI form, online at wodonga.vic.gov.au/about-us/grants-funds/cipp.asp
2. The council will send acknowledgement to organisations that their EOI has been received.
3. All EOIs will be assessed and shortlisted by an internal panel for eligibility and alignment with the program aims.
4. The council will notify organisations if they have been shortlisted for further negotiations or if they were unsuccessful.

Stage three: Negotiations

1. The council will enter into direct negotiations with shortlisted organisations to draft a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which is acceptable to both parties. This will include key milestones and agreed outcomes.
2. A recommended MOU will be presented to the council for endorsement.

Please note: Grant applications take time to consider. Please allow up to eight weeks for approved applications to be processed.

HOW ARE APPLICATIONS ASSESSED?

Applications are assessed based on the following questions:

1. How does the initiative align with the Community Impact Partnership Program aims?
 - The initiative aligns with at least one of the aims.
2. Why is this initiative needed?
 - Clearly identify the need for the initiative and include any relevant consultation, evidence and support to demonstrate this need.
3. What impact or value will the initiative add to the community?
 - The impact and value of the initiative to the community is clearly articulated.
 - The target group for the initiative is clearly identified.
4. How financially sustainable is the initiative?
 - The organisation has demonstrated that they have explored how to make this initiative more sustainable.
 - Does the initiative have broader financial support?
5. What is the capacity to deliver the initiative?
 - The project plan, business case or service plan is appropriate, sustainable, feasible and accountable.
 - The organisation demonstrates governance and operational capacity to deliver the initiative.

Who can apply?

Organisations must:

- Be incorporated organisations with not-for-profit status;
- Be located within or servicing the Wodonga community; **and**,
- Maintain Public Liability Insurance Cover (at least \$10 million, \$20 million for high risk activities).

Who should not apply?

- Individuals;
- Other government organisations;
- Private, profit making organisations
- Organisations already receiving financial support from the council for a project/event/service;
- An organisation that does not meet child safety standards
- Organisations which have not reported back on previous Wodonga Council funding; and,
- Organisations which are requesting funding for:
 - Past projects and initiatives;
 - Fundraising, sponsorship, prizes, trophies and gifts;
 - Initiatives which directly involve alcohol and gambling, and demonstrate political intent;
 - Repairs or maintenance to council-owned facilities or properties; or
 - Activities or events that take place outside Wodonga's municipal boundary.