Council for Australian-Arab Relations (CAAR) 2026-27 Grant Round

Opening date:	**Thursday, 26 November 2026**
Closing date and time:	**11.00pm AEST on 6 January (open for 41 calendar days)**
Commonwealth policy entity:	**Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade**
Enquiries:	**If you have any questions, please contact the Council for Australian-Arab Relations Secretariat** **Email: caar@dfat.gov.au** **Questions should be sent no later than 02:00pm Monday, 4 January 2027**
Date grant opportunity guidelines released:	**Thursday, 26 November 2026**
Type of grant opportunity:	**Open competitive**

Contents

1 CAAR 2026-27 Grant Round: processes 4
1.1 Introduction 5
2 About the grant program 5
3 Grant amount and grant period 6
3.1 Grants available 6
3.2 The 2026-27 grant period 6
4 Eligibility criteria 7
4.1 Who is eligible to apply for a grant? 7
4.2 Who is not eligible to apply for a grant? 7
4.3 What qualifications, skills or checks are required? 7
4.4 Specific legislation, policies and industry standards 8
5 What the grant money can be used for 8
5.1 Eligible grant activities 8
5.2 Eligible locations 8
5.3 Eligible expenditure 9
5.4 What the grant money cannot be used for 9
6 The assessment criteria 9
7 How to apply 10
7.1 Attachments to the application 11
7.2 Joint (consortia) applications 12
7.3 Timing of grant opportunity processes 12
7.4 Questions during the application process 13
8 The grant selection process 13
8.1 Assessment of grant applications 13
8.1.1 Value with relevant money 13
8.2 Who will assess applications? 13
8.3 Who will approve grants? 14
9 Notification of application outcomes 14
9.1 Feedback on your application 14
10 Successful grant applications 14
10.1 The grant agreement 14
10.2 How we pay the grant 14
10.3 Grants payments and GST 15
11 Announcement of grants 15
12 How we monitor your grant activity 15
12.1 Keeping us informed 15
12.2 Reporting 15
12.3 Financial declaration 16
12.4 Grant agreement variations 16

12.5 Compliance visits 16
12.6 Record keeping 16
12.7 Evaluation 16
12.8 Acknowledgement 17
13 Probity 17
13.1 Enquiries and feedback 17
13.2 Conflict of interest 17
13.3 Privacy 18
13.4 Confidential Information 19
13.5 Freedom of information 19
14 Glossary 21

1 CAAR 2026-27 Grant Round: processes

The CAAR 2026-27 Grant Round is designed to achieve Australian Government objectives
This grant opportunity contributes to strengthening Australian-Arab relations by advancing areas of share political, economic and social interest. The CAAR Secretariat, through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, works with stakeholders to plan and design the grant program according to the
Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles 2024 (CGRPs).

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The grant opportunity opens
We publish the Grant Guidelines on GrantConnect

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You complete and submit a grant application
You complete the application form and address all of the eligibility and assessment criteria to be considered for a grant.

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We assess all grant applications
We assess the application/s against eligibility criteria. We assess your eligible application against the assessment criteria including an overall consideration of value with relevant money and compare it to other applications, if applicable.

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We make grant recommendations
We provide advice to the decision maker on the merits of each application.

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Grant decisions are made
The decision maker decides which applications are successful.

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We notify you of the outcome
We advise you of the outcome of your application. We may not notify unsuccessful applicants until grant agreements have been executed with successful applicants.

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We enter into a grant agreement
We will enter into a grant agreement with you if you have been successful. The type of grant agreement is based on the nature of the grant and will be proportional to the risks involved.

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Delivery of grant
You undertake the grant activity as set out in your grant agreement. We manage the grant by working with you, monitoring your progress and making payments.

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Evaluation of the CAAR 2026-27 Grant Round
We evaluate your specific grant activity and the CAAR 2026-27 Grant Round as a whole. We base this on information you provide to us and that we collect from various sources.

1.1 Introduction

These grant opportunity guidelines contain information for the CAAR 2026-27 Grant Program.

You must read these guidelines before filling out an application.

This document sets out:

- the purpose of the grant program/grant opportunity
- the eligibility and assessment criteria
- how grant applications are considered and selected
- how grantees are notified and receive grant payments
- how grantees will be monitored and evaluated
- responsibilities and expectations in relation to the opportunity.

We administer the program according to the *Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles 2024* (CGRPs).[1]

2 About the grant program

The 2026-27 objectives for the CAAR Grant Program are to:

- ensure that the CAAR Grant Program aligns with the Australian Government's priorities
- ensure an effective and engaging program of CAAR grant activities; and
- pursue innovative public diplomacy and social media opportunities to promote CAAR and highlight the value of Australian-Arab relations.

To achieve its objectives, CAAR will prioritise high-quality activities across several priority sectors in the Middle East and North Africa Region (MENA). In any year, the Board may decide to focus on one or more sectors. The CAAR 2026-27 priority sectors are:

a) Climate change, clean energy transition and sustainable mining

Australia and the Arab world face shared challenges and opportunities arising from climate change, the transition to sustainable energy systems, and the growing demand for critical minerals needed to support global decarbonisation. CAAR seeks to support projects that foster collaboration, knowledge exchange and partnerships in areas where Australian expertise can contribute to sustainable and resilient development.

Examples include:

- renewable energy, hydrogen and clean technology partnerships
- climate adaptation and resilience initiatives
- water security and resource management projects
- sustainable mining and critical minerals collaboration
- responsible resource development and environmental management initiatives
- expert exchanges, research partnerships and industry engagement

[1] Federal Register of Legislation - Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles 2024

b) Social cohesion and cultural exchange

Inclusive and connected societies underpin long-term prosperity and stability. CAAR seeks to support initiatives that promote intercultural understanding, community engagement and social inclusion, including projects that advance gender equality and women's leadership. CAAR also encourages cultural and creative collaborations that deepen mutual understanding between Australia and the Arab world.

Examples include:

- intercultural dialogue and community programs
- women's leadership and professional development initiatives
- youth engagement and leadership programs
- music, arts and cultural exchange projects
- collaborations between artists, cultural institutions and creative industries
- projects that strengthen social inclusion and mutual understanding

c) Good governance and strong institutions

Strong, transparent and independent institutions underpin economic growth, public trust and effective public administration. CAAR supports projects that showcase Australian expertise in governance, regulation and institution-building, and promote collaboration with public, private and civil society organisations across the Arab world.

Examples include:

- partnerships between Australian and Arab regulatory, oversight and professional institutions
- exchanges on public sector leadership, accountability and service delivery
- initiatives that strengthen independent institutions, professional bodies and industry associations
- governance and leadership training programs
- dialogues on transparency, integrity, regulatory practice and institutional effectiveness

3 Grant amount and grant period

3.1 Grants available

The Australian Government has announced a total of up to $440,000 in the 2026-27 financial year for the CAAR 2026-27 Grant Program.

The grant opportunity will run between the period from **1 May 2027** to **30 April 2028**.

- The minimum grant amount is $50,000.
- The maximum grant amount is $100,000.
- Applicants are to apply for funding amounts closest to the nearest $1,000.

Co-contribution from the applicants and other parties to strengthen an application are permitted.

3.2 The 2026-27 grant period

The maximum grant period is 12 months, running from **1 May 2027** to **30 April 2028**.

You must complete your grant activity by the end date indicated in the grant agreement. An acquittal report must be submitted within 60 days of completing your grant activity.

4 Eligibility criteria

We cannot consider your application if you do not satisfy all the eligibility criteria.

4.1 Who is eligible to apply for a grant?

To be eligible you must:

- have an Australian Business Number (ABN)
- be registered for the purposes of GST
- be a permanent resident or citizen of Australia
- have an account with an Australian financial institution
- be an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Controlled Organisation (ACCO)
- be an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Corporation registered under the *Corporations (Aboriginal and /or Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006*[2]
- be a legal entity with the capacity to enter into a legally binding agreement or contract

4.2 Who is not eligible to apply for a grant?

You are not eligible to apply if you are:

- an organisation not included in section 4.1
- an organisation, or your project partner is an organisation, included on the National Redress Scheme's website[3] on the list of 'Institutions that have not joined or signified their intent to join the Scheme'
- a Commonwealth, state, territory or local government agency or body (including government business enterprises)
- an individual
- unincorporated association
- overseas resident/organisation
- an organisation (employer of 100 or more employees) that has not complied with the *Workplace Gender Equality Act 2012*[4]. [Please see the non-compliant organisations list on Workplace Gender Equality Agency website[5].]
- a previous applicant who has failed to provide a full and proper acquittal of an earlier CAAR grant
- any organisation not included in section 4.1

4.3 What qualifications, skills or checks are required?

If you are successful, all personnel working on the grant activity must have and maintain the following checks:

- Working with Vulnerable People registration

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[2] https://www.legislation.gov.au/C2006A00124/latest/versions

[3] https://www.nationalredress.gov.au/

[4] https://www.legislation.gov.au/C2004A03332/latest/text

[5] https://www.wgea.gov.au/

- Working with Children check
- Australian Skills Quality Authority accreditation

4.4 Specific legislation, policies and industry standards

While you are required to comply with all relevant laws and regulations, you may be asked to demonstrate compliance with the following policies to maintain your eligibility for the grant:

- DFAT Fraud and Corruption Control in DFAT
- DFAT Codes and Ethics Manual
- DFAT Child Protection Policy

To be eligible for a grant, you must declare in your application that you comply with these requirements. You may need to declare you can continue to meet these requirements in your grant agreement with the Commonwealth.

5 What the grant money can be used for

5.1 Eligible grant activities

To be eligible your grant activity must:

- advance areas of shared political, economic, and social interest and build awareness and appreciation of each other's cultures and values
- promote a contemporary and positive image of Australia in the MENA region
- address only one of the 2026-27 Grant Round priority sectors (see Section 2)

Please see link with the examples of the 2025-26 grant round successful projects.

5.2 Eligible locations

Your grant activities must be delivered in the following locations:

- Algeria
- Australia
- Bahrain
- Egypt
- Iraq
- Jordan
- Kuwait
- Lebanon
- Libya
- Morocco
- Oman
- Palestine
- Qatar
- Saudi Arabia
- Sudan
- Syria

- Tunisia
- United Arab Emirates
- Yemen

5.3 Eligible expenditure

You can only spend the grant on eligible expenditure you have incurred on eligible grant activities.

Eligible expenditure items are:

- reasonable cost of economy flights
- 3-to-4-star rating accommodation costs
- meals and travel allowances for the number of participants outlined in the application according to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's meal and travel allowances
- communication and translation
- venue hire and catering in line with restrictions if applicable
- advertising and promotion, graphic design, photography, and printed material
- production costs, including freight and artists' wages
- participant/s attending a conference or event where the participant/s is/are a principal speaker and the event is of direct relevance to the grant opportunity (in line with current health advice and restrictions).

You must incur the expenditure on your grant activities between the start date and end or completion date for your grant agreement for it to be eligible.

5.4 What the grant money cannot be used for

You cannot use the grant for the following activities:

- purchase of land or vehicles
- wages (including research assistants or administrative staff)
- major capital expenditure
- purchase of equipment
- the covering of retrospective costs
- activities which are already commercially viable in their own right
- costs incurred in the preparation of a grant application or related documentation
- major construction/capital works
- scholarships to individual students
- subsidy of general ongoing administration of an organisation such as electricity, phone and rent, and
- activities for which other Commonwealth, state, territory or local government bodies have primary responsibility.

6 The assessment criteria

You must address all of the following assessment criteria in the application.

We will assess your application based on the weighting given to each criterion

The amount of detail and supporting evidence you provide in your application should be relative to the size, complexity and grant amount requested.

The application form includes text limits up to a maximum of 100 to 150 words under 'Project Results and Impact' in your SmartyGrants application.

We will only award funding to applications that score highly against all assessment criteria.

Criterion 1

The proposal contributes to the objectives of the Council for Australian-Arab Relations (CAAR) (50%).

You must demonstrate this through identifying:

- addressing the eligibility criteria listed in paragraph 4.1 above
- clearly outlining how the grant activity is aligned with CAAR objectives and at least one of the 2026-27 Priority Sectors (see Section 2).

Criterion 2

Proven capability and capacity of the applicant and project partner in MENA and/or Australia (30%).

You must demonstrate this through identifying how your project:

- is realistic, efficient, and achievable within stated time limits
- offers prospects for ongoing self-sustaining activities
- establishes or builds existing links between Australia and the Arab region.

Criterion 3

Potential for raising awareness of Australia in the MENA region including promoting a contemporary and positive image of Australia (20%).

You must demonstrate this through identifying how the project will:

- engage and influence audiences
- undertake activities that build people-to-people linkages
- establish long-term institutional linkages
- use social media to amplify of your activity
- utilise events, public seminars, performances, exhibitions or community events in Australia or the MENA countries as relevant.

7 How to apply

Before applying, you must read and understand these grant opportunity guidelines, and the sample application form and the sample Simple Grant Agreement.

These documents may be found at GrantConnect[6]. Any alterations and addenda[7] will be published on GrantConnect and by registering on this website, you will be automatically notified of any changes to these grant opportunity guidelines.

To apply you must:

- complete the online CAAR 2026-27 Grant Round application form on SmartyGrants
- provide all the information requested
- address all eligibility criteria and assessment criteria
- include all necessary attachments
- review the CAAR website
- submit your application/s on SmartyGrants by the closing date and time indicated in the Grant Guidelines.

You are responsible for ensuring that your application is complete and accurate. Giving false or misleading information is a serious offence under the *Criminal Code Act 1995 (Cth)*. We will investigate any false or misleading information and may exclude your application from further consideration.

If you find an error in your application after submitting it, you should contact us immediately at caar@dfat.gov.au. We do not have to accept any additional information, or requests from you to correct your application after the closing time.

You cannot change your application after the closing date and time.

If we find an error or information that is missing, we may ask for clarification or additional information from you that will not change the nature of your application. However, we can refuse to accept any additional information from you that would change your submission after the application closing time.

You should keep a copy of your application and any supporting documents.

If you need further guidance about the application process or if you are unable to submit an application online contact us at caar@dfat.gov.au.

7.1 Attachments to the application

We require you to submit the following documents with your application:

- a business case, including an indicative budget and key milestones (no longer than 2 pages)
- a risk management plan
- if relevant, evidence of funding strategy, e.g. financial statements, loan agreements, cash flow documents
- evidence of support from your organisation's board, CEO or equivalent

You must attach supporting documentation to the application form in line with the instructions provided within the form. You should only attach requested documents. We will not consider information in attachments that we do not request.

[6] https://www.grants.gov.au/

[7] Alterations and addenda include but are not limited to: corrections to currently published documents, changes to close times for applications, Questions and Answers (Q&A) documents and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) documents.

7.2 Joint (consortia) applications

We recognise that some organisations may want to join together as a group to deliver a grant activity.

In these circumstances, you must appoint a 'lead organisation'. Only the lead organisation can submit the application form and enter into a grant agreement with the Commonwealth. The application must identify all other members of the proposed group and include a letter of support from each of the partners.

Each letter of support should include:

- details of the partner organisation
- an overview of how the partner organisation will work with the lead organisation and any other partner organisations in the group to successfully complete the grant activity.
- an outline of the relevant experience and/or expertise the partner organisation will bring to the group
- the roles/responsibilities of the partner organisation and the resources they will contribute (if any)
- details of a nominated management level contact officer.

You must have a formal arrangement in place with all parties prior to execution of the grant agreement.

7.3 Timing of grant opportunity processes

You must submit an application between the published opening and closing dates. We cannot accept late applications.

You must submit an application between the published opening and closing dates. We cannot accept late applications.

If you are successful, we expect you will be able to commence your grant activity from around June 2027 onwards.

Table 1: Expected timing for this grant opportunity

Activity	Timeframe
Application period	4 weeks
Assessment of applications	14 weeks (approx.)
Approval of outcomes of selection process	6 weeks (approx.)
Negotiations and award of grant agreements	1-3 weeks (approx.)
Notification to unsuccessful applicants	Following grant agreement negotiations
Earliest start date of grant activity	Upon execution of grant agreements
End date of grant activity or agreement	12 months after grant agreement execution (or as stated in the grant agreement)

7.4 Questions during the application process

If you have any questions during the application period, please contact the CAAR Secretariat at caar@dfat.gov.au.

The CAAR Secretariat will endeavour to respond to emailed questions within three working days.

If you are having technical issues with your SmartyGrants application, please contact SmartyGrants directly on **phone:** +61 03 9320 6888 or **email:** service@smartygrants.com.au.

8 The grant selection process

8.1 Assessment of grant applications

We will firstly review your application against the eligibility criteria set out in section 4. Only eligible applications will be considered further.

If eligible, we will then assess your application against the assessment criteria (see Section 6) and against other applications. We consider your application on its merits, based on:

- how well it meets the criteria
- how it compares to other applications
- whether it provides value with relevant money.[8]

8.1.1 Value with relevant money

When assessing the extent to which the application represents value with relevant money, we will have regard to:

- the overall objective/s to be achieved in providing the grant
- the relative value of the grant sought
- the extent to which the geographic location of the application matches identified priorities
- the extent to which the evidence in the application demonstrates that it will contribute to meeting the outcomes/objectives
- how the grant activities will target groups or individuals.

8.2 Who will assess applications?

An assessment committee will assess each application on its merit and compare it to other eligible applications before recommending/providing advice on which grant applications should be awarded a grant. The assessment committee will be made up of the CAAR Secretariat, CAAR Board Members and DFAT's Embassies in the Middle East and North Africa Region. An overall score will be given to each application and a shortlist will be provided to the CAAR Board for consideration.

The CAAR Board will recommend to the DFAT decision maker which applications to approve for a grant.

Any Board member, who is not a Commonwealth Official, will be required to perform their duties in accordance with the CGRPs.

[8] See glossary for an explanation of 'value with money'.

8.3 Who will approve grants?

The DFAT decision maker, Assistant Secretary Middle East Branch, decides which grants to approve taking into account the recommendations of the assessment committee/CAAR Board and the availability of grant funds for the purposes of the grant program.

The DFAT decision maker's decision is final in all matters, including:

- the approval of the grant
- the grant funding amount to be awarded
- the terms and conditions of the grant.

There is no appeal mechanism for decisions to approve or not approve a grant.

9 Notification of application outcomes

We will advise you of the outcome of your application in writing. If you are successful, we will advise you of any specific conditions attached to the grant.

9.1 Feedback on your application

Feedback on unsuccessful applications will not be possible.

10 Successful grant applications

10.1 The grant agreement

You must enter into a legally binding grant agreement with the Commonwealth.

We must execute a grant agreement with you before we can make any payments. You must not start any CAAR 2026-27 Grant Round activities until a grant agreement is executed.

Your grant agreement may have specific conditions determined by the assessment process or other considerations made by the DFAT Decision Maker. We will identify these in the agreement.

The Commonwealth may recover grant funds if there is a breach of the grant agreement.

Simple Grant Agreement

We will use a simple grant agreement.

You will have 30 days from the date of a written offer to execute this grant agreement with the Commonwealth ('execute' means both you and the Commonwealth have signed the agreement). During this time, we will work with you to finalise details.

The offer may lapse if both parties do not sign the grant agreement within this time. Under certain circumstances, we may extend this period. We base the approval of your grant on the information you provide in your application.

You may request changes to the grant agreement. However, we will review any required changes to these details to ensure they do not impact the grant as approved by the DFAT Decision Maker.

10.2 How we pay the grant

The grant agreement will state the:

- maximum grant amount to be paid
- proportion of eligible expenditure covered by the grant (grant percentage)
- any financial contributions you must make

- any in-kind contributions you will make
- any financial contribution provided by a third party

We will not exceed the maximum grant amount under any circumstances.

If you incur extra costs, you must meet them yourself.

We will pay 100 per cent of the agreed amount of the grant on execution of the grant agreement. You will be required to report how you spent the grant funds at the completion of the grant activity.

10.3 Grants payments and GST

This grant is Goods and Services Tax (GST) exclusive.

Grants are assessable income for taxation purposes, unless exempted by a taxation law. We recommend you seek independent professional advice on your taxation obligations or seek assistance from the Australian Taxation Office.[9] We do not provide advice on your particular taxation circumstances.

All payments will be made in Australian Dollars (AUD).

11 Announcement of grants

If successful, your grant will be listed on the GrantConnect website 21 calendar days after the date of effect as required by Section 5.4 of the CGRPs[10].

12 How we monitor your grant activity

12.1 Keeping us informed

You should let us know if anything is likely to affect your grant activity or organisation.

We need to know of any key changes to your organisation or its business activities, particularly if they affect your ability to complete your grant, carry on business and pay debts due.

You must also inform us of any changes to your:

- name
- addresses
- nominated contact details
- bank account details
- business structure

If you become aware of a breach of terms and conditions under the grant agreement, you must contact us immediately.

12.2 Reporting

You must submit reports in line with the grant agreement. We will remind you of your reporting obligations before a report is due. We will expect you to report on:

- progress against agreed milestones and outcomes

[9] https://www.ato.gov.au/

[10] https://www.legislation.gov.au/F2024L00854/latest/text

- expenditure of the grant

The amount of detail you provide in your reports should be relative to the size, complexity and grant amount.

We will monitor progress by assessing reports you submit and may conduct site visits or request records to confirm details of your reports if necessary. Occasionally we may need to re-examine claims, seek further information or request an independent audit of claims and payments.

You must discuss any reporting delays with us as soon as you become aware of them.

Ad-hoc reports

We may ask you for ad-hoc reports on your grant. This may be to provide an update on progress, or any significant delays or difficulties in completing the grant activity.

Final report

When you complete the grant activity you must submit a final report.

Final reports must:

- identify if and how outcomes have been achieved
- include the agreed evidence as specified in the grant agreement
- identify the total eligible expenditure incurred
- be submitted within 60 days of completion in the format provided in the grant agreement.

12.3 Financial declaration

We may ask you to provide a declaration that the grant money was spent in accordance with the grant agreement and to report on any underspends of the grant money.

12.4 Grant agreement variations

We recognise that unexpected events may affect your progress. In these circumstances, you can request a variation to your grant agreement. You can request a variation in writing by email: caar@dfat.gov.au.

You should not assume that a variation request will be successful. We will consider your request based on provisions in the grant agreement and the likely impact on achieving outcomes.

12.5 Compliance visits

We may visit you during or at the completion of your grant activity to review your compliance with the grant agreement. We will provide you with reasonable notice of any compliance visit.

12.6 Record keeping

We may also inspect the records you are required to keep under the grant agreement.

12.7 Evaluation

We will evaluate the CAAR 2026-27 Grant Program to measure how well the outcomes and objectives have been achieved. We may use information from your application and reports for this purpose. We may also interview you or ask you for more information to help us understand how the grant impacted you and to evaluate how effective the program was in achieving its outcomes.

We may contact you up to one year after you finish your grant for more information to assist with this evaluation.

12.8 Acknowledgement

The program logo should be used on all materials related to grants under the program. Whenever the logo is used, the publication must also acknowledge the Commonwealth as follows:

'Council for Australian-Arab Relations – an Australian Government initiative'.

Example of logo: Australian Government | Council for Australian-Arab Relations

If you make a public statement about a grant activity funded under the program, we require you to acknowledge the grant by using the following:

'This [name of grant activity] received grant funding from the Australian Government.'
Approval to use the CAAR logo/acknowledgement may be requested from the CAAR Secretariat.

13 Probity

We will make sure that the grant opportunity process is fair, is conducted according to the published grant opportunity guidelines, is consistent with the CGRPs and incorporates appropriate safeguards against fraud and corruption, unlawful activities and other inappropriate conduct. These grant guidelines may be changed from time-to-time by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. When this happens, the revised grant opportunity guidelines will be published on GrantConnect. By registering on this website, you will be automatically notified of any changes to these guidelines.

You should be aware of your obligations under the *National Anti-Corruption Commission Act 2022*, noting that under the Act grantees will generally be considered 'contracted service providers' [see https://www.nacc.gov.au/resource-centre/nacc-fact-sheets].

13.1 Enquiries and feedback

Any questions you have about grant decisions for this grant opportunity should be sent to caar@dfat.gov.au. All complaints about a grant process must be provided in writing.

If you do not agree with the way the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has handled your complaint, you may complain to the Commonwealth Ombudsman. The Ombudsman will not usually consider a complaint unless the matter has first been raised directly with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

The Commonwealth Ombudsman can be contacted on:

Phone (Toll free): 1300 362 072
Email: ombudsman@ombudsman.gov.au
Website: www.ombudsman.gov.au

13.2 Conflict of interest

Any conflicts of interest, or perceived conflicts of interest can affect the performance of the grant opportunity or program. There may be a conflict of interest, or perceived conflict of interest, if the Department of Foreign Affairs' staff, any member of a committee or advisor and/or you or any of your personnel, including sub-contractors:

- have a professional, commercial or personal relationship with a party who can influence the application selection process, such as an Australian Government officer

- have a relationship with or interest in, an organisation, which is likely to interfere with or restrict the applicants from carrying out the proposed activities fairly and independently or
- have a relationship with, or interest in, an organisation from which they will receive personal gain because the organisation receives a grant under the grant program/ grant opportunity.

You will be asked to declare, as part of your application, any perceived or existing conflicts of interests or that, to the best of your knowledge, there are no conflicts of interest.

If you later identify an actual, apparent, or perceived conflict of interest, you must inform the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in writing immediately.

Conflicts of interest for Australian Government staff will be handled as set out in the Australian Public Service Code of Conduct (Section 13(7) of the *Public Service Act 1999*). Committee members and other officials including the decision maker must also declare any conflicts of interest.

We publish our conflict of interest policy on the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade website [Chapter 5: Conflicts of Interests | Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade].

13.3 Privacy

We treat your personal information according to the *Privacy Act 1988*[11] and the Australian Privacy Principles[12]. This includes letting you know:

- what personal information we collect
- why we collect your personal information
- who we give your personal information to.

'Personal information' means information or an opinion about an identified individual, or an individual who is reasonably identifiable:

(a) whether the information or opinion is true or not and

(b) whether the information or opinion is recorded in a material form or not.

Your personal information can only be disclosed to someone else for the primary purpose for which it was collected, unless an exemption under the Australian Privacy Principles applies.

The Australian Government may also use and disclose information about grant applicants and grant recipients under this grant opportunity in any other Australian Government business or function. This includes disclosing grant information on GrantConnect as required for reporting purposes and giving information to the Australian Taxation Office for compliance purposes.

We may share the information you give us with other Commonwealth entities for purposes including government administration, research or service delivery, according to Australian laws.

As part of your application, you declare that you will comply with the Privacy Act and the Australian Privacy Principles and that you will impose the same privacy obligations on officers, employees, agents and subcontractors that you engage to assist with the activity, in respect of personal information you collect, use, store, or disclose in connection with the activity. Accordingly, you must

[11] https://www.legislation.gov.au/C2004A03712/latest/text

[12] https://www.oaic.gov.au/privacy/australian-privacy-principles

not do anything, which if done by the [relevant Commonwealth entity] would breach an Australian Privacy Principle as defined in the Privacy Act.

13.4 Confidential Information

Other than information available in the public domain, you agree not to disclose to any person, other than us, any confidential information relating to the grant application and/or agreement, without our prior written approval. The obligation will not be breached where you are required by law, Parliament or a stock exchange to disclose the relevant information or where the relevant information is publicly available (other than through breach of a confidentiality or non-disclosure obligation).

We may at any time, require you to arrange for you; or your employees, agents or subcontractors to give a written undertaking relating to nondisclosure of our confidential information in a form we consider acceptable.

We will keep any information in connection with the grant agreement confidential to the extent that it meets all of the three conditions below:

1. you clearly identify the information as confidential and explain why we should treat it as confidential
2. the information is commercially sensitive
3. revealing the information would cause unreasonable harm to you or someone else.

We will not be in breach of any confidentiality agreement if the information is disclosed to:

- the CAAR Secretariat and other Commonwealth employees and contractors to help us manage the program effectively, including for an integrity purpose
- employees and contractors of our department so we can research, assess, monitor and analyse our programs and activities
- employees and contractors of other Commonwealth agencies for any purposes, including government administration, research or service delivery
- other Commonwealth, state, territory or local government agencies in program reports and consultations
- the Auditor-General, Ombudsman, Privacy Commissioner or National Anti-Corruption Commissioner, or staff of their agencies
- the responsible Minister or Parliamentary Secretary, or
- a House or a Committee of the Australian Parliament.

The grant agreement may also include any specific requirements about special categories of information collected, created or held under the grant agreement.

13.5 Freedom of information

All documents in the possession of the Australian Government, including those about this grant opportunity, are subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act).

The purpose of the FOI Act is to give members of the public rights of access to information held by the Australian Government and its entities. Under the FOI Act, members of the public can seek access to documents held by the Australian Government. This right of access is limited only by the exceptions and exemptions necessary to protect essential public interests and private and business affairs of persons in respect of whom the information relates.

All Freedom of Information requests must be referred to the Freedom of Information Coordinator in writing.

By mail: Freedom of Information Coordinator
R.G. Casey Building, John McEwen Cres, Barton ACT 0221.

By email: FOI@dfat.gov.au

14 Glossary

Term	Definition
accountable authority	see subsection 12(2) of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*
administering entity	when an entity that is not responsible for the policy, is responsible for the administration of part or all of the grant administration processes
assessment criteria	are the specified principles or standards, against which applications will be judged. These criteria are also used to assess the merits of proposals and, in the case of a competitive grant opportunity, to determine application rankings.
commencement date	the expected start date for the grant activity
completion date	the expected date that the grant activity must be completed and the grant spent by
contracted service provider	A contracted service provider is a person who is a party to a Commonwealth contract or is a party to a subcontract with a contracted service provider and is responsible for the provision of goods or services under contract, either directly or indirectly.
co-sponsoring entity	when two or more entities are responsible for the policy and the appropriation for outcomes associated with it
date of effect	can be the date on which a grant agreement is signed or a specified starting date. Where there is no grant agreement, entities must publish information on individual grants as soon as practicable.
decision maker	the person who makes a decision to award a grant
eligibility criteria	refer to the mandatory criteria which must be met to qualify for a grant. Eligibility criteria should be developed to enable objective validation and are either ‘met’ or ‘not met’. Assessment criteria may apply in addition to eligibility criteria.
Commonwealth entity	a Department of State, or a Parliamentary Department, or a listed entity or a body corporate established by a law of the Commonwealth. See subsections 10(1) and (2) of the PGPA Act

Term	Definition
Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles 2024 (CGRPs)	establish the overarching Commonwealth grants policy framework and articulate the expectations for all non-corporate Commonwealth entities in relation to grants administration. Under this overarching framework, non-corporate Commonwealth entities undertake grants administration based on the mandatory requirements and key principles of grants administration.
grant	for the purposes of the CGRPs, a 'grant' is an arrangement for the provision of financial assistance by the Commonwealth or on behalf of the Commonwealth: a. under which relevant money[13] or other Consolidated Revenue Fund (CRF) money[14] is to be paid to a grantee other than the Commonwealth; and b. which is intended to help address one or more of the Australian Government's policy outcomes while assisting the grantee achieve its objectives.
grant activity/activities	refers to the project/tasks/services that the grantee is required to undertake.
grant agreement	sets out the relationship between the parties to the agreement and specifies the details of the grant.
GrantConnect	is the Australian Government's whole-of-government grants information system, which centralises the publication and reporting of Commonwealth grants in accordance with the CGRPs.
grant opportunity	refers to the specific grant round or process where a Commonwealth grant is made available to potential grantees. Grant opportunities may be open or targeted, and will reflect the relevant grant selection process.
grant program	a 'program' carries its natural meaning and is intended to cover a potentially wide range of related activities aimed at achieving government policy outcomes. A grant program is a group of one or more grant opportunities under a single Portfolio Budget Statement Program.
grantee	the individual/organisation which has been selected to receive a grant.

[13] Relevant money is defined in the PGPA Act. See section 8, Dictionary.

[14] Other CRF money is defined in the PGPA Act. See section 105, Rules in relation to other CRF money.

Term	Definition
National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC)	The National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC) is an independent Commonwealth agency. It detects, investigates and reports on serious or systemic corruption in the Commonwealth public sector. The Commission operates under the *National Anti-Corruption Commission Act 2022*.
PBS Program	described within the entity's Portfolio Budget Statement, PBS programs each link to a single outcome and provide transparency for funding decisions. These high-level PBS programs often comprise a number of lower level, more publicly recognised programs, some of which will be Grant Programs. A PBS Program may have more than one Grant Program associated with it, and each of these may have one or more grant opportunities.
selection criteria	comprise eligibility criteria and assessment criteria.
selection process	the method used to select potential grantees. This process may involve comparative assessment of applications or the assessment of applications against the eligibility criteria and/or the assessment criteria.
value with money	value with money in this document refers to 'value with relevant money' which is a judgement based on the grant proposal representing an efficient, effective, economical and ethical use of public resources and determined from a variety of considerations. When administering a grant opportunity, an official should consider the relevant financial and non-financial costs and benefits of each proposal including, but not limited to: • the quality of the project proposal and activities; • fitness for purpose of the proposal in contributing to government objectives; • that the absence of a grant is likely to prevent the grantee and government's outcomes being achieved; and • the potential grantee's relevant experience and performance history.