Expand Together

Equipment and infrastructure grants

Funding guidelines

Government of South Australia



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A Message from the Minister

South Australia is an incredibly diverse state, made up of over 200 cultures, religions and languages. Each one has contributed to the place we call home.

The Malinauskas Government understands culturally-appropriate spaces are where communities gather and keep their heritage and traditions alive.

Our Expand Together Grants support eligible multicultural organisations to purchase equipment and upgrade, extend or build facilities that meet the needs of South Australia's culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

This year, our Government is prioritising applications that enable multicultural groups to share their culture with the broader South Australian community.

I encourage multicultural organisations to reach out to the Multicultural Affairs Grants team if they have any questions about our Expand Together Grants.

Hon Nadia Clancy MP
Minister for Multicultural Affairs





About Expand Together Grants

The **Expand Together Grants** are administered by Multicultural Affairs within the Department of Human Services (DHS).

The grants provide one-off funding to eligible multicultural organisations to purchase equipment and upgrade, extend or build community facilities for use by South Australia's culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

The **Expand Together Grants** aim to ensure there are necessary facilities and equipment for community members to come together, access the services and programs they need, and connect with the wider local community network.

There are two categories of grants under the **Expand Together Grants.** ***Infrastructure Grants*** of up to $100 000 and ***Equipment Grants*** of up to $30 000 which are available to multicultural organisations for projects to be delivered over 12 months.

There are matched funding requirements for applicants requesting more than $50 000 for Infrastructure Grants.

There will be two rounds of Expand Together. Round 1 projects will commence in July 2027, and Round 2 projects will commence in February 2028.

Multicultural Affairs will only accept one application per round for the **Expand Together Grants** per organisation. Organisations with regional offices can submit one application per regional office.

Key multicultural service providers, who have a direct responsibility working with culturally and linguistically diverse communities, can apply up to two times per round, as a lead agency in partnership with one or more multicultural community organisations.

An organisation can only receive funding once in 2027-28.

Applications for Round 1 open on 2 November 2026
and close on 31 January 2027 at 11pm

Applications for Round 2 open on 3 May 2027
and close 1 August 2027 at 11pm

Outcomes

The **Expand Together Grants** invest in multicultural organisations to achieve one or more of the following outcomes:

- increase the use and access of community facilities and equipment by culturally and linguistically diverse communities to support participation in activities, and the delivery of services, to meet community need
- support new and emerging communities who may have difficulties in accessing community infrastructure and equipment readily, and
  foster partnerships (financial or non-financial) between culturally and linguistically diverse communities through shared use of facilities and equipment
- enable multicultural community groups to share their culture and traditions with the broader South Australian community.

Matched funding requirements

For applicants requesting more than $50 000 funding must be matched as follows:

- **Metropolitan Adelaide**, applicants must contribute at least one dollar for every dollar of South Australian Government funding, up to a maximum amount of $100 000 for infrastructure projects. Metropolitan Adelaide comprises the South Australian Government regions of Eastern Adelaide (including CBD), Western Adelaide, Northern Adelaide and Southern Adelaide.

- **Regional and rural South Australia** - applicants within regional and rural South Australia must contribute at least one dollar for every two dollars of South Australian Government funding, up to a maximum amount of $100 000 for infrastructure projects. Regional and rural South Australia comprises Greater Adelaide (Adelaide Hills, Barossa Light and Lower North, Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island) and Country Regions (Eyre and Western, Far North, Limestone Coast, Murray and Mallee, Yorke and Mid North).

Evidence of available matched funding must be provided by applicants as part of their applications (e.g. a recent bank statement, grant approval, confirmation of partnership contribution). In-kind support and discounts/donations are not eligible matched funding contributions.

Eligibility

Who is eligible?

To be eligible for funding, multicultural organisations must:

- be non-government, not-for-profit and
  - incorporated under the *Associations Incorporation Act 1985,* or
  - an Australian Public Company Limited by Guarantee under the *Corporations Act 2001*, or
  - a Statutory Authority established through an Act, or
  - registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission with a comparable legal status
- have a current Australian Business Number (ABN) registered in the name of the incorporated organisation
- provide satisfactory evidence that their core purpose is to deliver initiatives, services or support for culturally and linguistically diverse communities in South Australia
- be South Australian based.

Multicultural Affairs will accept one application for the **Expand Together Grants** per organisation. Organisations with regional offices can submit one application per regional office.

Key multicultural service providers who have a direct responsibility working with culturally and linguistically diverse communities can apply up to two times as a lead agency in partnership with one or more multicultural community organisations.

Who is not eligible?

The following are ineligible for funding:

- successful recipients of the Expand Together Grants 2027-28 (Round 1) will not be eligible for Expand Together Grants 2027-28 (Round 2)
- non-multicultural organisations
- organisations that have outstanding obligations for previously awarded grants
- educational institutions or related representative bodies, e.g. schools and/or their parents' associations, colleges, universities and for-profit childcare centres
- individuals or organisations applying on behalf of an individual
- for-profit organisations or private companies
- Commonwealth, state or local government departments and agencies
- organisations that are primarily funded, or would be more appropriately funded, through other government programs or funding streams
- organisations that have been incorporated for less than one year
- unincorporated Associations.

What can be funded?

Upgrade, extend or build community infrastructure and facilities, including:

- upgrades to infrastructure (up to $100 000)*
    - installing disability access ramps
    - roof repairs
    - refurbishing rooms (painting, electrical, flooring or lighting)
    - upgrading kitchens (inbuilt items e.g. ovens, cabinets, dishwasher)
    - bathroom facilities
    - storage facilities
    - heating or cooling systems
    - cool room
    - shade structures
    - community gardens
    - building new community centres on existing owned land
    - extending community halls
    - fixed or mobile CCTV cameras
    - security lighting
    - fencing and gates
    - bollards
    - security doors and windows
    - security and alarm systems
    - intercoms and swipe access

- purchase of equipment (up to $30 000)*
    - marquees
    - kitchen equipment (free standing dishwasher, fridge, freezer, catering equipment)
    - portable cool room on wheels
    - trailer
    - portable sound system
    - portable public address system
    - telephone system
    - software and hardware
    - one device only (either laptop/tablet/desktop computer) (maximum $1000 for tablet or $1500 for laptop/desktop)
    - purchase of community bus or van (minimum 12 seats).

**Must purchase items from within South Australia (not applicable for traditional items).*

What applications will not be supported?

The following <u>will not</u> be supported:

- retrospective funding for projects that have commenced or have been completed, including works undertaken prior to July 2027 for Round 1 and February 2028 for Round 2.
- activities that may be funded by or are the core responsibility of other state or Commonwealth government departments

- Projects that are primarily funded, or would be more appropriately funded through other government programs or funding streams
- activities primarily aimed at meeting religious or political advocacy that do not advance the interests of an inclusive and cohesive Australian society
- engaging in, or promoting/demonstrating, activities that are deemed unlawful
- engaging in, or promoting/demonstrating, activities that may be a risk to public safety
- engaging in, or promoting/demonstrating, activities that have potential to cause damage to the Governments reputation
- to purchase or lease buildings or land
- to purchase solar systems/panels and batteries
- architectural plans and council approvals
- cars or trucks
- to supplement the recurrent or ongoing costs of an existing organisation
- equipment to distribute to other bodies or individuals
- office consumables (paper, toner, stationery)
- to purchase toy or replica weapons
- upgrades to bar or alcohol related services.

How to apply?

- Carefully read these guidelines before you apply.
- Check that your organisation is eligible to apply. If you are unsure, please contact the Multicultural Grants Team on 1300 239 468.
- Contact the Multicultural Grants Team at least one week before the application closing date to request a review of the application prior to submission.
- Organisations not registered for GST must include GST in their grant request.
- Organisations registered for GST must NOT include GST in their grant request.
- Complete and submit your application at www.multicultural.sa.gov.au by 11pm (South Australia time), 31 January 2027 for Round 1 and 1 August 2027 for Round 2. Late applications will not be accepted.
- Following receipt of your initial application, Multicultural Affairs may request you submit further documentation.

Supporting documentation required

- copy of your organisation's **Constitution** as stamped and approved by Consumer and Business Services
- minutes from the most recent **Annual General Meeting** including all attachments such as President's report, Treasurers report and election of members (must be within last eighteen months of round close date)
- most recent end of year **financial report** showing assets, annual income and expenditure (must be within last two years of round close date)
- **detailed and itemised quotes** from South Australian suppliers for all items
- evidence of **public liability** insurance

- **support letters** from partnering South Australian incorporated not for profit agencies (if applicable)
- information about **grant funding** received by your organisation from other entities (most recent financial year), and
- **photographs** of items or facilities that need upgrading.

Infrastructure Grant Applications must also provide:

- evidence of funding source(s) to meet the **matched funding** requirement (e.g. a recent bank statement, grant approval, or confirmation of partnership contribution and signed agreement)
- evidence of appropriate **building compliance** and **council approvals**, if applicable
- labelled building **floor plans**
- **evidence of ownership** of building, if applicable – certificate of title or copy of recent council rates
- for applications to enhance or build on privately-owned lands, a satisfactory signed long-term **lease agreement** (minimum five-years remaining at the round close date and a letter of consent from the building owner to undertake the listed upgrade)
- for applications to enhance or build on publicly owned lands, a signed lease agreement with a minimum two-years remaining at the time of the round close date, and
- detailed **project plan** outlining the timelines.

How are applications assessed?

Stage one – application screening

Once the round has closed, the applications are screened to check:

- the applicant organisation and project are eligible
- the application has been completed in full, and all supporting documentation has been provided, and
- the applicant does not have any outstanding obligations for previously awarded grants.

Applications that do not meet stage one requirements will not progress to stage two.

Stage two – supporting documentation (if required), for example quotes from South Australian suppliers; most recent financial report including income, expenditure and assets; annual general meeting minutes.

Stage three – assessment against criteria

Applications will be assessed on merit using the following criteria:

Criteria	Description
Community need and outcomes	Does the application clearly identify the community need? Does it describe clearly how the need will be addressed through use of the facility or equipment? Does it demonstrate the facility or equipment will be well used? Does it describe clearly how accessibility of the facility will be increased? Does it give information about which groups will use the facility or equipment regularly and for what purpose? Does it align with the priority areas (infrastructure, security upgrades and community transport)?
Connection to the wider community	Must have an identified plan about how the equipment/facility will connect the organisation with the wider community. Is the proposed facility or equipment going to support the organisation to connect and share their culture with the broader community? Is there opportunity for other multicultural organisations and communities to use or benefit from the facility or equipment? Is there evidence that two or more multicultural organisations will partner to deliver the project? Is there evidence of existing partnerships between the multicultural organisations applying?
New and emerging communities	Does the organisation cater for a community that has recently arrived in Australia? Refer to Glossary for further information.
Organisational capacity	Does the organisation have capacity to carry out the proposed project? Engagement with a quality improvement program will be considered favourably (e.g. Australian Service Excellence Standards). Does the application include all the required documents? Did the organisation submit all required documentation at close of round? How well has the organisation performed in the past, in relation to meeting its aims and objectives and completing previous grants?
Public interest and safety	Does the organisation demonstrate community and cultural harmony? Does the organisation or proposed application impose a threat to public safety? Does the organisation's constitution refer to political alignment?

	Has the organisation recently participated in any political activities that do not advance the interests of an inclusive and cohesive Australian society?
Financial need	Does the organisation require the funding to carry out the proposed project?
Value for money	Is there evidence that the project has been costed realistically and provides value for money? Is there evidence of the level of matched funding from the organisation (for applicants requesting more than $50 000)? Are the items being purchased from South Australia (not applicable for traditional items)?
Whole program funding distribution	The extent to which funding contributes to an equitable allocation/balance of funding across our diverse multicultural communities of South Australia.

Notification

All decisions are final and there is no appeal process. The Minister is unable to intervene with the decision once it has been finalised. Similarly, the Minister is unable to intervene during the application process.

Please note that many applications are received, and the process of selection is competitive. Each application is considered on its merits, and it is not always possible to fund all applications. Funding is not automatic and should not be anticipated.

All applicants will be notified in writing of the outcome of their applications.

Unsuccessful applicants are encouraged to contact the Multicultural Grants Team on 1300 239 468 to receive feedback on their application.

Funding agreement

Successful applicants will receive an agreement detailing the terms and conditions of the funding provided.

All applicants will be required to sign the agreement and comply with its conditions, which will include requirements to:

- expend the grant funds within the grant term and only on the approved budget items
- report on how you have spent the money provided
- measure and report on the outcomes from the funded project
- retain receipts for all purchased items, including evidence of matched funding expenditure for grants over $50 000

- provide proof of payment for all approved budget expenditure (payments must not be made in cash) (may include invoices showing nil balance, receipts and bank transaction statements)
- provide a copy of public liability insurance – a minimum of $1 million or as required in your agreement
- refrain from the sale, use or display of toy or replica weapons
- seek prior approval for all printed materials, including without limit, banners, flags, signage and branded marketing collateral
- appropriately acknowledge Multicultural Affairs, Government of South Australia as a funding source for the project
- have a bank account within South Australia in the name of the organisation.

Promotional or communication materials that include depictions of representatives of the Government of South Australia (such as the Premier or the Minister for Multicultural Affairs) and department logos, must use the original photo with no alteration through AI.

Payment will be made in accordance with the terms and conditions of the agreement.

Glossary

Term	Definition
Community facilities	Facilities owned or leased by multicultural organisations that are to be used solely or predominantly by culturally and linguistically diverse communities for community activities.
Conflict of Interest	A conflict of interest situation arises when a Committee member's duty to their organisation clashes with their duties elsewhere, such as business, workplace, family or friends, or even to the business or personal interests of their family or friends.
Council approval	Council certified development and building approval.
Culturally and linguistically diverse communities	Culturally and linguistically diverse refers to people from migrant and refugee backgrounds within the South Australian community. The term acknowledges that groups and individuals differ according to language, religion and spirituality, racial backgrounds and ethnicity.
Key multicultural service providers	Organisations with paid staff, quality assurance accreditation, and demonstrated experience in delivering training and/or capacity building, that provide support and deliver services and programs to other multicultural organisations.
Multicultural organisation	For an organisation to be defined ‘multicultural’, Multicultural Affairs must be satisfied the organisation’s core purpose is to deliver initiatives, services or support for one or more culturally and linguistically diverse communities in South Australia.

New and emerging communities	People from new and emerging communities are sometimes identified as higher-need or at-risk due to the length of time they have spent in refugee camps and the additional resources and support they may need to address the settlement challenges they face. New and emerging communities are those: • with a small population • where most members are recent arrivals to Australia • where most members entered through Australia's humanitarian program, and • lacking established family networks, support systems, community structures and resources compared with established communities.
Partnerships	Financial or non-financial collaborations between two or more organisations to deliver the project and/or share use of the facility or equipment. For example, a multicultural organisation upgrading or building a facility that will be used by a multicultural organisation from another ethnic background.
Publicly owned facilities	Facilities owned by organisations eligible for Expand Together Grants or that are owned by Commonwealth, state or local government.
South Australian based	A registered South Australian business address, and if registered with Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission the organisation is listed as operating in South Australia.

Disclaimer

At the time of production, details contained within these pages were accurate. Applicants are encouraged to check with Multicultural Affairs on any materials which need clarification.

For more information:
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