

Purpose

Supporting social inclusion and participation for people living with disability.

Funding amount

- Grants up to \$20,000
- Granting pool up to \$260,000

Timeframes

- Opens 4th August 2025
- Closes 29th August 2025

Outcomes

- By 8th December 2025

***Eligibility**

- Item 1 DGR organisations which are registered as a charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission and endorsed with charity tax concessions.

***Please refer to the Appendices for examples of the required documentation**

Community Inclusion

FY2025/26 Grant Round Guidelines

State Trustees Australia Foundation (the Foundation) was established in 1994 as a public charitable trust.

Community Inclusion will distribute funds for projects that are encouraging social inclusion and social participation for people living with disability.

Funded by donations and bequests from generous community members, the Foundation has distributed more than \$30 million to charities, making a positive difference in the community.

What are the objectives of the Community Inclusion grant round?

To provide opportunities for **social inclusion** and **social participation** for people living with disability in Victoria.

Projects may include:

- Community awareness, education, and engagement programs to promote social inclusion and address direct and indirect discrimination
- Promoting participation in cultural life
- Programs to support social participation, to reduce social isolation and improve wellbeing and quality of life

Preference will be given to projects that:

- Provide an integrated solution to social inclusion and social participation
- Show social innovation, which can be interpreted as 'novel solutions to a social problem that is more effective, efficient, sustainable, or just than existing solutions' (Phills, Deiglmeier & Miller 2008).
- Are from smaller community-led organisations
- Are Victorian based

We encourage regional, rural, and remote organisations to apply and special consideration will be given to these applications.

Who is eligible to apply?

An eligible entity is endorsed as item 1 Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) and registered as a charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC), with charity tax concessions.

(Note: please refer to the Appendices for examples of the required documentation)

Organisations can only apply for one project per round.

What are the funding exclusions?

- If you are seeking to apply for a previously successfully acquitted project from either Community Inclusion or our previous Grassroots Program, you must contact the State Trustees Charitable Giving Team for discussion prior to submitting. These projects may be excluded.
- Organisations that have not acquitted previous projects for any of State Trustees' granting programs
- Applications identical to a previously submitted, unsuccessful application
- General fundraising appeals
- Organisations whose funded activity may seek to proselytise a particular faith or religion to its beneficiaries

- Universities and other institutions seeking funding for academic research projects or research positions with minimal or no research translation activity or no community-based partners
- Applications from Universities or Medical Research Institutes must come from the relevant Philanthropy / Fundraising office
- Retrospective funding
- It is not State Trustees' preferred practice to fund existing positions or supplement existing staff budgets – please speak to us prior to applying if you propose to do this
- 'For-profit' bodies and commercial activities
- State and Commonwealth Government bodies
- Political parties or their candidates
- Work conducted outside Victoria
- Individuals
- Personal living expenses
- Loans

What are the timeframes?

Round Opens	Monday 4th August 2025, 9am
Round Closes	Friday 29th August 2025, 5pm
Outcome notifications	By Monday 8 th December 2025
Conditions of Awards	To be returned by the recipient within 5 business days of successful outcome notification

How much funding is available for a project?

The round provides single one-year grants of up to \$20,000.

What is the assessment process?

- Applicant organisations will be first reviewed to confirm if they are eligible entities.
- Applications will be assessed against the program application criteria, with applications which are most aligned with our preferences and objectives receiving a higher rating.
- Assessment is made using a blended assessment model, where ranking and qualitative analysis is used to inform decisions. Ratings are made on a 6-point scale:
 - 0 = application completely fails to address criterion
 - 1 = application largely fails to meet the criterion
 - 2 = application just fails to meet the criterion
 - 3 = application meets criterion
 - 4 = application meets criterion well
 - 5 = application meets criterion at a high level
- Notifications of outcomes will be sent via email.

- Due to resourcing, feedback regarding decision-making is unable to be provided for every application.

How are payments made?

Payments will be made by electronic funds transfer only to the nominated bank account provided in the application within 5 business days of a returned Conditions of Award.

What reporting will be expected if your application is successful?

6-month phone update <i>Informal</i>	A member of our grant team will call to discuss the start of the project
Grantees 'meet and greet' and/or other stakeholder engagement	During 2026 – To be confirmed
Acquittal report	Due 1 month after project completion (as defined in application)

Remember that you can call or email at any time if you have any questions about the progress of your project.

How do I apply?

We use SmartyGrants – an online application form. Remember to save each page when entering information. We recommend reading these tips on how to use SmartyGrants: [Help Guide for Applicants](#).

Application Checklist

Have you:

- ☐ Read the objectives and exclusions?
- ☐ Noted the important dates?
- ☐ Prepared eligibility details, including ABN, Australian bank account?
- ☐ Prepared copies of proof of eligibility including Item 1 Deductible Gift Recipient, Charity Tax Concession endorsements, and ACNC registration?
- ☐ Prepared links to your annual report or financial statements?

Already familiar with SmartyGrants? Then log in to our application form:

<https://statetrustees.smartygrants.com.au/CommunityInclusionFY26>

Who do I contact for more information?

Contact us on **(03) 9667 2845** or send us an email if you would like more information or to discuss your project: charitable@statetrustees.com.au

Note: Please do not add us to your direct marketing / appeals lists. This may result in all your correspondence being treated as 'spam' in our email processes.

Examples of projects we've funded

Take a look at what we funded in last year's [Community Inclusion Program](#).

Appendix 1: Item 1 DGR Endorsement



Australian Government
Australian Taxation Office

17 June 2005

Endorsement as a deductible gift recipient

Endorsement as a deductible gift recipient under Subdivision 30-BA of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* is provided as detailed below.

Name	THE TRUSTEE FOR AUSTRALIA FOUNDATION
Australian business number	21 430 812 751
Endorsement date of effect	1 July 2000
Provision for gift deductibility	[REDACTED]
Item(s) in Subdivision 30-B of the <i>Income Tax Assessment Act 1997</i>	[REDACTED]

Your organisation's endorsement as a deductible gift recipient, together with the date or period of effect, is entered in the public register maintained by the Australian Business Registrar at www.abr.business.gov.au

Your organisation must notify the Tax Office in writing if it ceases to be entitled to endorsement.

Michael Carmody
Commissioner of Taxation and
Registrar of the Australian Business Register

CHARITY_ADVICES_397-GDG-0000034-0000068

Appendix 2: Charity Tax Concessions Endorsement



Australian Government
Australian Taxation Office

8 July 2005

Notice of endorsement for charity tax concessions

This endorsement notice has been issued to:

Name	THE TRUSTEE FOR AUSTRALIA FOUNDATION
Australian business number	21 430 812 751

THE TRUSTEE FOR AUSTRALIA FOUNDATION, a **charitable fund**, is endorsed to access the following tax concessions from the dates shown:

- **Income tax exemption** from **1 July 2000** under Subdivision 50-B of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.
- **GST concessions** from **1 July 2005** under Division 176 of *A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999*.

Your organisation's endorsement to access charity tax concessions, together with the date or period of effect, is entered in the public register maintained by the Australian Business Registrar at www.abr.business.gov.au

Your organisation must notify the Tax Office in writing if it ceases to be entitled to endorsement.

Michael Carmody
Commissioner of Taxation and
Registrar of the Australian Business Register

CHARITY_ADVICES_411-TED-0020382-0004192

Appendix 3: ACNC Charity Registration Certificate



Australian
Charities and
Not-for-profits
Commission



THIS CERTIFIES THAT

CHARITY ORG NAME

ABN: **ABN NO.**

IS A REGISTERED CHARITY
AND HAS BEEN TRANSFERRED FROM THE

Australian Taxation Office

TO THE

Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission

ON THE DATE OF

DD / MM / YYYY

CERTIFIED BY

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan Pascoe".

Susan Pascoe AM

Commissioner

Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission

Copy only. Original available on request

