

Community Grants and In-Kind Assistance Program

Applicant Guidelines



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Image: Kindergarten in Ipswich. Photo by Talitha Rice Photography.



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GUIDELINES

GRANTS PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Through the provision of Community Grants, Ipswich City Council seeks to support the role of community organisations and recognise the significant role they play in developing and delivering projects that encourage participation in community life, foster social cohesion, celebrate diversity, and contribute to a vibrant, healthy and sustainable city.

Ipswich City Council's Community Grants Program includes four categories of grants, each category seeking to support the development and implementation of innovative projects that deliver targeted social, cultural and community outcomes:

1. Triennial Grants;
2. Community Development Grants;
3. Quick Response Grants;
4. Christmas/Festive Season Grants.

In addition to the above four categories, In-Kind Assistance is provided to community organisations to support the delivery of community and sporting events in the city, discussed on page 13.

1. TRIENNIAL GRANTS

Triennial Grants support community organisations to pilot or trial innovative programs that address gaps in services within the Ipswich community. Triennial Grants are allocated over a three-year period and designed to support community organisations to attract further ongoing funding to assist the initiative to become sustainable.

TIMEFRAME

Applications will open on 1 July and close on 31 August each year to be considered at Council's October meeting.

Applications must be received by close of business on the identified closure date.

RECIPIENTS

This is a competitive grant category open to community organisations that meet the eligibility criteria and do not fall within any of the exclusions.

FUNDING RANGE

Year 1 – maximum funding of up to \$10,000 is available

Year 2 – maximum funding of up to \$5,000 is available

Year 3 – maximum funding of up to \$2,500 is available

FUNDING AVAILABLE

The total funding available for Triennial Grants each year is subject to variation, depending on Council's annual budget allocation.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible for Triennial Grants funding, community organisations must:

- be committed to providing direct benefits to the residents of the City of Ipswich (local community organisations are prioritised)
- be a not-for-profit community organisation
- have an Australian Business Number (ABN)
- have a committee of management that accepts responsibility for the administration of the grant
- hold an adequate public liability insurance policy to cover the staff, members and the general public as appropriate
- not have their own grant giving program or fundraising program that provides money to finance another organisation's community initiatives
- have satisfactorily accounted to Council for the expenditure of any previous Council grants or other funding (as required)
- not have any outstanding debts with Council (e.g. facility hire, rates etc)
- comply with all other relevant Australian and Queensland legislation, including accounting and auditing requirements; anti-discrimination laws; privacy, confidentiality and freedom of information laws; registration or accreditation of professional employees; and preparation and dissemination of annual reports
- have an adequate risk management plan in place for the initiative or program (as required)

EXCLUSIONS

The following will not be funded:

- Individuals and private profit-making organisations
- Christmas/festive season events – funding is available through the Christmas/Festive Season Grants
- Funding requests that are considered by Council to be the funding responsibility of other levels of government
- Applications from primary or secondary schools (Council encourages partnerships between schools and community organisations (e.g. P&Cs), but the community organisation must be the applicant)
- Projects or activities run by, or involved with, political or religious groups seeking to promote their core beliefs
- Repeat applications in consecutive years for the same initiatives, activities and/or equipment where evidence of efforts made to ensure the sustainability of the project, activity and/or equipment has not been provided to Council and/or community outcomes are not evident
- Funding of competitions, prizes, sponsorships, bursaries, donations, gifts or fundraising activities
- Interstate or overseas travel
- Projects or activities that have already started or have been completed prior to Council approval
- Projects where professional fees (i.e. labour, salary or wages) or administrative costs (i.e. stationery) represent more than 50% of the total grant funding requested from Council
- Operational expenses such as insurances and rental subsidies
- Organisations that have outstanding Council acquittals or have not satisfactorily acquitted Council funds
- Applications received outside of the application timeframes
- Applications where the financial budget has positive income (i.e. income exceeds expenses)

2. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

Community Development Grants support community organisations developing and delivering a one-off community project that addresses local needs and achieves community development outcomes.

TIMEFRAME

Two funding rounds per year (February and July).

Applications will open for one month from 1 February, for the first funding round each year to be considered at Council's April meeting. Applications will open for one month from 1 July, for the second funding round each year to be considered at Council's September meeting.

Applications must be received by close of business on the identified closure date.

RECIPIENTS

This is a competitive grant category open to community organisations that meet the eligibility criteria and do not fall within any of the exclusions.

FUNDING RANGE

Maximum funding of up to \$5,000 is available per project per funding round.

Applicants and associated entities are eligible to apply for a maximum \$10,000 per financial year

FUNDING AVAILABLE

The total funding available for Community Development Grants each year is subject to variation, depending on Council's annual budget allocation.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible for Community Development Grants funding, community organisations must:

- be committed to providing direct benefits to the residents of the City of Ipswich (local community organisations are prioritised)
- be a not-for-profit community organisation
- have an Australian Business Number (ABN)
- have a committee of management that accepts responsibility for the administration of the grant
- hold an adequate public liability insurance policy to cover the staff, members and the general public as appropriate
- not have their own grant giving program or fundraising program that provides money to finance another organisation's community initiatives
- have satisfactorily accounted to Council for the expenditure of any previous Council grants or other funding (as required)
- not have any outstanding debts with Council (e.g. Council facility hire, rates etc)
- comply with all other relevant Australian and Queensland legislation, including accounting and auditing requirements; anti-discrimination laws; privacy, confidentiality and freedom of information laws; registration or accreditation of professional employees; and preparation and dissemination of annual reports
- have an adequate risk management plan in place (as required)

EXCLUSIONS

The following will not be funded:

- Individuals and private profit-making organisations
- Christmas/festive season events – funding is available through the Christmas/Festive Season Grants
- Funding requests that are considered by Council to be the funding responsibility of other levels of government
- Applications from primary or secondary schools (Council encourages partnerships between schools and community organisations (e.g P&Cs), but the community organisation must be the applicant)
- Projects or activities run by or involved with political or religious groups seeking to promote their core beliefs
- Repeat applications in consecutive years for the same projects, activities and/or equipment where evidence of efforts made to ensure the sustainability of the project, activity and/or equipment has not been provided to Council and/or community outcomes are not evident
- Organisations that have outstanding Council acquittals or have not satisfactorily acquitted Council funds
- Funding of competitions, prizes, sponsorships, bursaries, donations, gifts or fundraising activities
- Interstate or overseas travel
- Projects or activities that have already started or have been completed prior to Council approval
- Projects where professional fees (i.e. labour, salary or wages) or administrative costs (i.e. stationery) represent more than 50% of the total grant funding requested from Council
- Operational expenses such as insurances and rental subsidies
- Applications received outside of the application timeframes
- Applications where the financial budget has positive income (i.e. income exceeds expenses)

3. QUICK RESPONSE GRANTS

Quick Response Grants support community organisations delivering small community projects that address local needs and achieve community development outcomes.

TIMEFRAME

There are no application deadlines for this grant category and applications are assessed on an ongoing basis.

Applications must be submitted at least three (3) weeks before the proposed activity commences to allow sufficient time for the assessment process.

RECIPIENTS

This is a competitive grant category open to community organisations that meet the eligibility criteria and do not fall within any of the exclusions.

FUNDING RANGE

Maximum funding of up to \$1,000 is available per initiative.

FUNDING AVAILABLE

The total funding available for Quick Response Grants each year is subject to variation, depending on Council's annual budget allocation. Further, while an application for a Quick Response Grant may be made at any time during the year, funding will only be available while such funds set aside in Council's annual budget for this purpose remain unexpended.

Only one successful application (relating to one individual initiative) per financial year is permitted per community organisation.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible for Quick Response Grants funding, community organisations must:

- be committed to providing direct benefits to the residents of the City of Ipswich (local community organisations are prioritised)
- be a not-for-profit community organisation
- have an Australian Business Number (ABN)
- have a committee of management that accepts responsibility for the administration of the grant
- hold an adequate public liability insurance policy to cover the staff, members and the general public as appropriate
- not have their own grant giving program or fundraising program that provides money to finance another organisation's community initiatives
- have satisfactorily accounted to Council for the expenditure of any previous Council grants or other funding (as required)
- not have any outstanding debts with Council (e.g. Council facility hire, rates etc)
- comply with all other relevant Australian and Queensland legislation, including accounting and auditing requirements; anti-discrimination laws; privacy, confidentiality and freedom of information laws; registration or accreditation of professional employees; and preparation and dissemination of annual reports
- have an adequate risk management plan in place (as required)

EXCLUSIONS

The following will not be funded:

- Individuals and private profit-making organisations
- Christmas/festive season events – funding is available through the Christmas/Festive Season Grants
- Funding requests that are considered by Council to be the funding responsibility of other levels of government
- Applications from primary or secondary schools (Council encourages partnerships between schools and community organisations (e.g. P&Cs), but the community organisation must be the applicant)
- Projects or activities run by or involved with political or religious groups seeking to promote their core beliefs
- Repeat applications in consecutive years for the same projects, activities and/or equipment where evidence of efforts made to ensure the sustainability of the project, activity and/or equipment has not been provided to Council and/or community outcomes are not evident
- Funding of competitions, prizes, sponsorships, bursaries, donations, gifts or fundraising activities
- Interstate or overseas travel
- Projects or activities that have already started or have been completed prior to Council approval
- Projects where professional fees (i.e. labour, salary or wages) or administrative costs (i.e. stationery) represent more than 50% of the total grant funding requested from Council
- Operational expenses such as insurances and rental subsidies
- Organisations that have outstanding Council acquittals or have not satisfactorily acquitted Council funds
- Applications where the financial budget has positive income (i.e. income exceeds expenses)

4. CHRISTMAS/FESTIVE SEASON GRANTS

Christmas/Festive Season Grants support community organisations developing and delivering a community Christmas event or activity or other celebratory event relevant for the broader community.

TIMEFRAME

One funding round per year (July). Applications will open on 1 July and close on 31 July each year to be considered at Council's September meeting. Applications must be received by close of business on the identified closure date.

RECIPIENTS

This is a competitive grant category open to community organisations that meet the eligibility criteria and do not fall within any of the exclusions.

FUNDING RANGE

Maximum funding of up to \$2,000 is available per initiative per funding round.

FUNDING AVAILABLE

The total funding available for Christmas/Festive Season Grants each year is subject to variation, depending on Council's annual budget allocation.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible for Christmas/Festive Season Grant funding, community organisations must:

- be committed to providing direct benefits to the residents of the City of Ipswich (local community organisations are prioritised)
- be a not-for-profit community organisation
- have an Australian Business Number (ABN)
- have a committee of management that accepts responsibility for the administration of the grant
- hold an adequate public liability insurance policy to cover the staff, members and the general public as appropriate
- not have their own grant giving program or fundraising program that provides money to finance another organisation's community initiatives
- not have any outstanding debts with Council (e.g. Council facility hire, rates etc)
- have satisfactorily accounted to Council for the expenditure of any previous Council grants or other funding (as required)
- comply with all other relevant Australian and Queensland legislation, including accounting and auditing requirements; anti-discrimination laws; privacy, confidentiality and freedom of information laws; registration or accreditation of professional employees; and preparation and dissemination of annual reports
- have an adequate risk management plan in place (as required)

EXCLUSIONS

The following will not be funded:

- Individuals and private profit-making organisations
- Funding requests that are considered by Council to be the funding responsibility of other levels of government
- Applications from primary or secondary schools (Council encourages partnerships between schools and community organisations (e.g. P&Cs), but the community organisation must be the applicant)
- Projects or activities run by or involved with political groups seeking to promote their core beliefs
- Funding of competitions, prizes, sponsorships, bursaries, donations, gifts or fundraising activities
- Interstate or overseas travel
- Projects or activities that have already started or have been completed prior to Council approval
- Projects where professional fees (i.e. labour, salary or wages) or administrative costs (i.e. stationery) represent more than 50% of the total grant funding requested from Council
- Operational expenses such as insurances and rental subsidies
- Organisations that have outstanding Council acquittals or have not satisfactorily acquitted Council funds
- Applications received outside of the application timeframes
- Applications where financial budget has positive income (i.e. income exceeds expenditure)

GRANT FUNDING PRINCIPLES

Ipswich City Council applies the following principles when providing support through its four Community Grants Programs:

- Asset based thinking and building on the strengths that exist within our community
- Evidence based approach that acknowledges and responds to the needs and aspirations of our community
- Access and equity to ensure a socially inclusive community
- Valuing local collaborations and partnerships
- Valuing the social, economic and environmental sustainability of our City

In addition, Council is committed to the efficient and effective delivery of the Community Grants Program and transparency and accountability in decision making.



GRANT FUNDING PRIORITIES

Ipswich City Council's Community Grants Programs support projects that:

CONNECT PEOPLE

- Increase participation of people who are at risk of isolation
- Increase trust, awareness and understanding between people and across community groups
- Facilitate inclusion and equitable access to facilities, services, open spaces and activities
- Provide access to information and training

INCREASE OPPORTUNITY

- Facilitate access to education, training and employment opportunities
- Improve social and physical wellbeing through a prevention and early intervention approach
- Encourage participation in civic and community activity for marginalised community members
- Encourage engagement with and/or self determination of vulnerable and disadvantaged community members

BUILD COMMUNITY CAPACITY

- Increase capability and coordination of community services and participation in decision making
- Raise awareness about social sustainability in the community
- Strengthen governance and accountability in community organisations
- Improve collaboration and coordination of community support and services
- Encourage participation in civic and community activity
- Share knowledge through the creative use of existing resources, new technologies and/or the knowledge and experiences of our diverse communities

APPRECIATION OF ARTS AND CULTURE

- Increase cultural education
- Increase access to and participation in creative expression and arts and cultural experiences
- Raise awareness about the value and importance of the arts and culture
- Improve collaboration and coordination within the arts and cultural community
- Contribute to artistic and cultural outcomes for marginalised community members

GRANT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

All grant applications will initially be assessed against the eligibility and exclusion criteria as detailed above. Council Officers will then assess grant applications against funding priorities and the following assessment criteria:

1. Alignment to community outcomes (30% weighting)
 - Are the aims and expected outcomes of the proposed project clearly identified?
 - Has the application articulated a measurement and evaluation plan (that is, has the application detailed how the aims and expected outcomes will be measured)?
2. Community need (30% weighting)
 - Is there a clearly identified and demonstrated local need for the proposed project?
 - Does the proposed project clearly and effectively address this need?
 - Is there a clear link between the community need, community outcomes and the project proposed?
 - Is there community support for the proposed initiative?
3. Organisational capacity (20% weighting)
 - Is the application well planned and achievable within the allotted timeframe?
 - Does the proposed initiative encourage connectedness and/or develop partnerships and collaborations with other organisations?
 - Does the applicant have the expertise and capacity to successfully manage and evaluate the project?
 - Will the project be sustainable beyond Council funding?
4. Financial viability (20% weighting)
 - Does the proposed budget accurately reflect the scope and scale of the application?
 - Have other funding sources been identified?
 - Have the resources that are required to deliver the project been clearly identified?
 - Is the application financially viable and does it demonstrate sound management?

Additionally, due consideration will be given to the following matters when assessing grant applications:

EXPECTED PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Ipswich City Council expects that projects for which a grant is provided will have measureable social, cultural and community outcomes, including, for example:

- Development of new skills and capabilities within the community
- Development of strong networks where organisations share resources and acquire new knowledge and skills
- Strengthened local connections
- Increased awareness and opportunities for residents and others to participate in social, cultural and sustainable grassroots initiatives
- Improved social wellbeing, reduced isolation and increased cultural participation
- Enhanced positive social, cultural and sustainable outcomes for local communities
- More sustainable creative organisations through greater emphasis on self-generated income
- Public spaces activated with cultural and creative projects and greater public participation in arts and creative projects

ETHICS FRAMEWORK

Ipswich City Council will not support any activities, entities, or individuals associated with entities, that are considered to:

- Discriminate, or encourage discriminatory behavior, including discrimination on the basis of age, disability, race, religion, sex and/or sexual orientation
- Contribute to, or advocate for, the infringement of human rights
- Demonstrate behaviour that does not align to Council's strategic intent for the City and community of Ipswich
- Pollute land, air or water, or otherwise damage the natural environment
- Market, promote or advertise products or services in a misleading or deceitful manner
- Produce, promote or distribute products or services likely to be harmful to the community
- Entice people into financial over-commitment
- Exploit people through the payment of below-award wages or poor working conditions
- Represent a reputational risk for Ipswich City Council to partner with or support, or be seen to partner with or support

GRANT FUNDING APPROVAL PROCESS

Final decisions and approval of successful applications are made by Council at a designated Council meeting.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS THAT APPLY TO SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

All successful applicants will receive the approved funding from Council subject to the following terms and conditions:

- With the exception of Triennial Grants, the applicant's proposed project must be completed within 12 months
- The applicant will be required to become a signatory to a standard funding agreement which details all grant conditions and agreed performance outcomes/measures. This must be signed before grant funds are issued
- The applicant acknowledges Ipswich City Council in any promotional material or publicity features
- Council may make funding conditional on other specific conditions being met
- If Council's grant funds are not spent, all remaining funds must be returned to Council

GRANT EVALUATION AND ACQUITTAL

To ensure appropriate accountability by grant recipients with regard to the use of grant funding, all funding provided by Council will require an evaluation report and financial acquittal, outlining the use of the funds (including proof of expenditure) and the achieved outcomes of the activity.

Specific evaluation requirements will be outlined in each individual funding agreement and will depend on the nature and size of the grant.

Organisations that have not satisfactorily acquitted Council funds within an appropriate timeframe agreed by Council will be deemed ineligible for Council funding or in-kind assistance for 12 months from the acquittal due date.

IN-KIND ASSISTANCE

In-Kind Assistance is provided to community organisations to support the delivery of community and sporting events within the City of Ipswich that engage the broader community and improve the social, economic and/or environmental outcomes of the community.

In-Kind Assistance is limited to Council store items (including star pickets, star picket rammers, barrier mesh, cable ties, and witches hats), provision of refuse bins and portable toilets.

TIMEFRAME

Applications can be submitted at any time during the year.

Any application must be lodged at least six weeks before the proposed assistance is required. Late applications due to extenuating circumstances may be considered at the discretion of the General Manager, Community, Cultural and Economic Development Department, however, any late fees incurred (including delivery or cleaning charges), will be the responsibility of the applicant community organisation, and/or associated entities.

Applicants and associated entities may receive two successful applications to a maximum value of \$10,000 per financial year.

RECIPIENTS

This is a non-competitive category open to community organisations that meet the eligibility criteria and do not fall within any of the exclusions.

FUNDING AVAILABLE

Funding is not available within this grant category, only in-kind assistance. Council's ability to provide in-kind assistance each year is subject to variation, depending on Council's annual budget allocation. Further, while in-kind assistance may be requested at any time during the year, in-kind assistance will only be available while such funds set aside in Council's annual budget for this purpose remain unexpended.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible for In-Kind Assistance, community organisations must:

- be committed to providing direct benefits to the residents of the City of Ipswich (local community organisations are prioritised)
- be a not-for-profit community organisation
- have an Australian Business Number (ABN)
- hold an adequate public liability insurance policy to cover the staff, members and the general public as appropriate
- have satisfactorily accounted to Council for the expenditure of any previous Council grants or other funding (if relevant)
- not have any outstanding debts with Council (e.g. Council facility hire, rates etc)
- comply with all other relevant Australian and Queensland legislation, including accounting and auditing requirements; anti-discrimination laws; privacy, confidentiality and freedom of information laws; registration or accreditation of professional employees; and preparation and dissemination of annual reports
- have an adequate risk management plan in place (as required)

EXCLUSIONS

The following will not be provided In-Kind Assistance:

- Individuals and private profit-making organisations
- Requests that are considered by Council to be the funding responsibility of other levels of government
- Applications from primary or secondary schools (Council encourages partnerships between schools and community organisations (e.g. P&Cs), but the community organisation must be the applicant)
- Projects or activities run by or involved with political or religious groups seeking to promote their core beliefs
- Applications received outside of the application timeframes, unless in extenuating circumstances, where the application has been approved by the Chief Operating Officer, Arts, Social Development and Community Engagement
- Applicants and associated entities may receive either the maximum two successful applications per financial year with each application relating to one individual project) or to a maximum value of \$10,000 per financial year

GRANT AND IN-KIND ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS

Applications must be made using the online Community Grants and In-Kind Assistance Program application forms. Additional information can be attached as required.

Additional information supporting your application may be included such as:

- research to demonstrate identified needs/emerging issues
- letters of support which demonstrate community support for your project

Submissions must include:

- Copies of quotes received where the purchase of goods and services form part of your proposal. Wherever possible goods and services should be purchased from Ipswich-based providers.

Incomplete applications will not be considered for funding. This includes applications without essential documentation.

If you require assistance in preparing your application, please contact the Community Grants Team on (07) 3810 6666 or email: communityfunding@ipswich.qld.gov.au

Funding applications must be submitted via the online application form

Once submitted you will receive an electronic confirmation notice.