



## FIRST NATIONS RAPID RESPONSE REFERENDUM GRANT ROUND GUIDELINES

As part of our ongoing efforts to amplify community voices in support of an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice to Parliament, **Australian Communities Foundation is pleased to announce the next iteration of our Rapid Response Referendum (RRR) Grants program in partnership with GetUp: the First Nations RRR Grant Round.**

First Nations Rapid Response Referendum Grants are available to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander individuals, organisations and community groups across Australia undertaking initiatives that elevate and amplify First Nations voices and leadership within the YES campaign, and enable accessibility of information and resources about Voice, Treaty, Truth, and the upcoming Referendum process.

Rapid deployment of these grants is intended to meet immediate needs and fulfill resourcing gaps as they arise in the coming months.

### Principles of practice

- **Efficiency:** The application process is designed to get funds where they are needed as quickly and easily as possible for those doing the work.
- **Solidarity:** This grant round is a show of solidarity between ACF and those campaigning for Voice, Treaty, Treaty and Truth to enable a fairer and more sustainable Australia. We also seek to support and foster solidarity between diverse groups doing this work through our support.
- **Commitment:** We are committed to supporting First Nations justice and self-determination, including constitutional recognition of First Peoples through a Voice To Parliament, and we will fund on that basis.

### Priorities

All funded initiatives must elevate and amplify First Nations voices and leadership, and enable greater accessibility of information and resources relating to efforts mobilising for an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice in the upcoming Referendum.

The First Nations RRR Grant Round will prioritise initiatives that:

- are led by and for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples may not otherwise have the capacity to participate in the campaign.
- complement and strengthen existing or ongoing initiatives in their geographic area and/or engage their intended audience.

## Geography

The First Nations RRR Grant Round supports initiatives all over the country. Organisations, individuals and community groups from rural and remote areas are strongly encouraged to apply, and to factor in any additional expenses associated with conducting activities in these locations when making their submission.

## Use of funds

Funding can be used for any activities that contribute to the goals of the First Nations RRR Grant Round. These include but are not limited to:

- Events, rallies, convenings
- Information sessions
- Dissemination of information
- Activation of public spaces
- Production of materials
- Collaboration with other groups
- Operational costs associated with carrying out the above

Funding cannot be used for:

- Non-charitable, partisan, retrospective, or illegal activities
- Dissemination of discriminatory or divisive messaging / materials
- Costs not associated with the delivery of aligned activities

## Eligibility

Funding is available to formal and informal not-for-profit entities, including community groups and individuals.

## Grant values and timeframes

- One-off grants of between \$500 and \$2,000 are available.
- Once funds are fully expended, recipients will be asked to submit a short acquittal report.
- It is expected that all funds will be expended prior to the referendum date.

## EOI Process

- Eligible groups are encouraged to submit an EOI [here](https://www.grantinterface.com.au/sl/1s1MOZ): (<https://www.grantinterface.com.au/sl/1s1MOZ>).
- Download a preview of the EOI form [here](https://www.grantinterface.com.au/sl/1s1MOZ) (<https://www.grantinterface.com.au/sl/1s1MOZ>).
- Funding decisions and distributions are made fortnightly on a rolling basis by ACF in partnership with First Nations advisors during the period/s that the fund is active.



## Contact

For enquiries, contact [grants@communityfoundation.org.au](mailto:grants@communityfoundation.org.au), or call 03 9412 0412

## Additional information

ACF's First Nations Advisory Group has developed a simple and culturally appropriate application process, including clear guidelines and a transparent decision-making framework. For more information on ACF's broader Voices for Impact program of work, see our [website](#).

**Assessment Criteria (to be communicated as priorities in the call externally)– we want to be able to say yes to all the following:**

1. **First Nations Community:** Is the initiative First Nations-led and is the applicant an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander individual, organisation or community group?
2. **Alignment:** Does the initiative align with the guidelines for this granting round?
3. **Capacity:** Does the applicant have the capacity, with support, to carry out the activities outlined within their submission?
4. **Need:** Would the initiative not otherwise be able to take place, or take place as effectively?
5. **Effectiveness:** Can the activities realistically achieve the outcomes sought?
6. **Collaboration:** Does this initiative complement and/or strengthen other initiatives in this area?
7. **Tone/Approach:** Does the initiative take a strengths-based approach in its messaging and approach?
8. **Risk:** Are there any risks the initiative presents and are they being mitigated?
9. **Resonance:** Does this activity resonate with what is needed in this moment?