



MULTICULTURAL SPORTS FUND GRANTS PROGRAM

Increasing access and participation
in sport for culturally diverse communities.

MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER



The Victorian Government supports all members of the community to participate in healthy activities including sport. The *Multicultural Sports Fund Grants Program* will assist people from culturally diverse communities, with focus on women and young people, to participate in a range of sports and recreational activities.

Victoria has a proud sporting tradition, with strong community ties built through local sporting clubs, and the State is home to a number of world class sporting events. However, the rates of participation in sport and physical activities for people from diverse backgrounds, especially women, is lower than that of other Victorians. The benefits of participating in sport and recreation include improved health and wellbeing, development of support networks and friendships, and engagement with the broader community.

This program will work with sporting associations and organisations to deliver outcomes ensuring greater access and opportunities for participation in sport and recreation by Victorians from culturally diverse communities.

I encourage sporting associations to apply for a grant under the *Multicultural Sports Fund Grants Program*. By working together we can ensure that we promote a diverse and inclusive sporting culture in Victoria.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Scott'.

ROBIN SCOTT MP
Minister for Multicultural Affairs
Minister for Finance

1 ABOUT THE PROGRAM

What is the Multicultural Sports Fund Grants Program?

The Victorian Government's *Multicultural Sports Fund Grants Program* (the Program) is a strategic partnership program aimed at increasing access and participation in sport for culturally diverse communities.

Sport is an integral part of our culture in Victoria. It plays a central role in ensuring that all Victorians, particularly young people, can develop skills, teamwork and leadership abilities, and gain access to volunteering and employment opportunities. Additionally, sport's unique features ensure that communities who participate in sport and recreation develop strong social bonds and create healthier, safer places to live.

The Victorian Government is committed to supporting opportunities that strengthen outcomes for Victoria's multicultural communities through the promotion of social inclusion and economic participation.

This commitment is particularly important for community members who have come from refugee or asylum seeker backgrounds, and may face additional challenges settling in Australia. Developing initiatives that promote community engagement through sport will strengthen the social inclusion and economic participation of Victoria's multicultural communities, with a priority focus on asylum seekers and people from a refugee background.

Funding:

The Victorian Government is committing a funding pool of \$1 million per annum over four years to the Program. Funding requests of up to \$200,000 per year for up to four years will be considered with a two year review of the project to evaluate the objectives and outcomes of the program.



Guidelines

Funding is available for state sporting associations and national sporting organisations to partner with local communities and clubs in Victoria, to develop and implement initiatives that increase access and participation for diverse communities. Proposals must also demonstrate matched funding contributions (including in-kind funding). This is a competitive grants process and final decisions on allocation of funding will be based on the quality of applications and proposed outcomes, and ensuring a broad representation of sporting activities and codes.

The Program is administered by the Department of Premier and Cabinet, Multicultural Affairs and Social Cohesion Division (MASC).

Objectives:

The Program aims to achieve the following objectives in support of culturally diverse communities:

- » Increase social inclusion by building strong and lasting connections between culturally diverse communities and the wider Victorian community
- » Enable culturally diverse communities, including young people and women, to better access and participate in local sporting initiatives
- » Support the Victorian sports sector to better understand, reach and positively engage with culturally diverse communities
- » Increase opportunities for people from culturally diverse communities to become sporting leaders through education and development
- » Improve mental and physical health outcomes for culturally diverse communities

Through the program, funded organisations will collaborate with, and support diverse communities to:

- » Identify and develop practical strategies to overcome barriers to access and participation in sporting activities, particularly among women and young people
- » Co-design sports initiatives that are relevant to community issues and priorities, and capitalise on existing strengths
- » Ensure all Victorians, regardless of background, have the opportunity and are supported to participate and contribute to their local communities through sport
- » Promote engagement in all aspects of sport and recreational activities including as players, supporters, volunteers, coaches and administrators

Priority will be given to applications that:

- » Demonstrate genuine community involvement, consultation and partnership with a focus on co-design principles
- » Have a project strategy that will continue to engage culturally diverse communities beyond the period of project funding
- » Demonstrate significant financial and/or in-kind contributions from applicants and/or their partner(s)
- » Reach significantly disadvantaged groups
- » Promote a healthy and active lifestyle
- » Do not replicate or replace existing programs operating with other sources of government funding
- » Where applicable, extend or complement other activities that are implemented across the sector

Who is eligible to apply?

The program is open to organisations that meet the following requirements:

- » Must be either
 - » a state sporting association registered by Sport and Recreation Victoria (see <http://sport.vic.gov.au/find-sports-organisations/state-sporting-associations>); or
 - » a national sporting organisation registered by the Australian Sports Commission (see http://www.ausport.gov.au/about/australian_sports_directory) proposing to work in partnership with its affiliated Victorian state sporting association



- » Have a demonstrated interest in partnering with government and other eligible organisations to promote access to sport for individuals from culturally diverse backgrounds
- » Have the ability to devote resources, including employee time, communications collateral and sponsor support, to promote the partnership's key messages
- » Reflect values that encourage and promote the social inclusion of culturally diverse communities
- » Be willing to participate in agreed minimum level promotional activity

If your organisation does not meet the above requirements you must nominate an eligible organisation to auspice the application. Auspice organisations must meet the above criteria, and written agreement of the auspice arrangement should be attached as part of the application process.

If applying through an auspice organisation, the applicant must also supply the auspice organisation's ABN. The auspice will be responsible for management of the funding agreement with the Department of Premier and Cabinet.

The Victorian Government recognises that state sporting associations perform a key role in creating a vibrant and inclusive community sport and recreation sector within Victoria. Applications that involve state sporting associations as either the lead applicant or a funded delivery partner will be well regarded.

Applicants who have overdue accountability reports for previous grants funded through MASC and/or the VMC are not eligible to receive funding. To check if you are up to date with accountability reports, please email community.grants@dpc.vic.gov.au.

2 WHAT PROJECTS MIGHT BE FUNDED?

A funding pool of \$1 million per annum over four years is available through this program. Funding requests of up to \$200,000 per year for up to two years in duration will be initially considered for funding, with the potential to extend funding.

Grants are available to registered to registered sporting associations to increase participation and access using brand recognition. Strong applicants will be able to provide matched funding (or, where appropriate, in-kind contributions) for projects that focus on community co-design and collaboration at a grassroots level.

Project proposals can include sporting code sponsors.

What will the funded activity achieve?

Successful applicants will partner with local communities and local sporting clubs in disadvantaged areas to develop, plan, and implement activities that will increase access to, and participation in, sport.

Funding will not be provided to major sporting codes for community based activities they are already undertaking, however proposals to expand demonstrated successful activities, where current funding is maintained, will be considered.



Types of activities

The types of activities that may be considered under the program include, but are not limited to:

- » **Leadership and participation initiatives:** initiatives that bring diverse communities and the broader community together through sport to raise awareness about issues of social cohesion and inclusion, and build the capacity of community groups to develop and deliver projects in the future.
- » **Development and training:** the delivery of development courses, training or structured learning opportunities to increase the capacity of leaders and members of diverse cultural communities through sport
- » **Educational programs:** activities that facilitate intercultural dialogue through sport to encourage trust and understanding between participants; developing resources and educational programs
- » **Events/seminars/workshops:** events that encourage dialogue and develop awareness, understanding and belonging through participation in sport. Note: multicultural festivals and events are funded separately through the Multicultural Festivals and Events Program 2017-18

What types of activities cannot be funded

- » activities that fund the construction of infrastructure
- » activities that displace existing funding for ongoing activities
- » activities that fund the salaries of professional sports players
- » any activities in the project not made in accordance with these Guidelines

Assessment of Engagement

In order to measure the success of the Program throughout implementation, each funded organisation will be required to report on progress in relation to the following:

- » the level and nature of sponsor and stakeholder engagement
- » the number of new players, volunteers and/or employees from multicultural communities
- » the number of targeted events held throughout the year
- » the resources invested by partner organisations into events and membership recruitment

At the end of each financial year funded organisations will be required to prepare a report (template to be provided by DPC) which outlines the progress of the funded project and areas for improvement.

An evaluation of the Program will be undertaken in the second year, to help inform decisions on future funding under the Program.

3 HOW TO APPLY

A two stage application process will apply:

- » Expression of interest
 - » Opens 20 February 2017
 - » Closes 13 March 2017
- » Full application (*by invitation only*)
 - » Opens 27 March 2017
 - » Closes 13 April 2017
- » Expected notification of application outcome
 - » May 2017

Complete the application forms online at www.multicultural.vic.gov.au.

Ensure you complete the contact and address details, respond to the eligibility criteria and attach all supporting documentation to your application.

Late or incomplete applications may not be considered.

DPC prefers that expressions of interest and applications are submitted electronically, to reduce the impact on the environment. If you are unable to submit your expression of interest or application online, please contact us to request a hard copy expression of interest or application form.

For more information contact community.grants@dpc.vic.gov.au or call 1300 366 356.

How will applications be assessed?

Applications will be assessed in two stages. At the first stage, the applicant is required to submit a short Expression of Interest online which will be assessed to ensure eligibility and alignment with the program's objectives and priorities.

Expressions of Interest that proceed to Stage Two will then be invited to submit a detailed project proposal (also online) for consideration.

Stage Two project applications will be required to include the following:

- » identified needs of communities in the area of operation
- » identified the local sporting club(s) to partner with
- » a detailed project plan
- » clearly defined outputs and outcomes
- » an outline of the proposed governance/ partnership structure/membership
- » a detailed budget including co-contributions and in-kind contributions
- » An evaluation plan to review the program effectiveness based on objectives and outcomes in year 2

Applications will be assessed against the program objectives, eligibility requirements and the assessment criteria. Applicants may be contacted by DPC to further develop or clarify aspects of their application.

Full applications, including the detailed project proposals, will be assessed by a panel of representatives.

If there is high demand for grants under this program, the amount of funding approved may be less than the anticipated amount. In this case, grant applicants will be asked to revise their budget and project in-line with the funding offered.

What are the assessment criteria?

Applications will be assessed against the criteria outlined in below:

Why is the activity needed?

The application demonstrates the context and need in the community to which the proposed project/activity will respond.

What will the activity achieve?

The application:

- » proposes activities that will be delivered in Victoria
- » clearly articulates what activities will be delivered
- » details the outputs and outcomes that will be achieved for the diverse communities, sports organisations and individuals in the proposed activities
- » demonstrates how the proposed activities and their expected outcomes align with and contribute towards the objectives of the program

Who is involved?

The application:

- » demonstrates community co-design and collaboration at a grassroots level
- » demonstrates community demand and/or ongoing significant involvement for the duration of the project
- » outlines the target/priority group(s) and ways to engage this group
- » demonstrates the ability of the organisation(s) to work with target/priority communities
- » demonstrates how the activities will reach/involve the broader Victorian community

- » details how the applicant will collaborate with a range of partners and outlines the proposed roles and responsibilities of these partners

How will the activity be delivered?

The application demonstrates how and the extent to which the proposed activity:

- » will engage participants from diverse and marginalised communities to engage with sport
- » is ready to proceed and is supported by a clear approach and methodology and realistic timeframes
- » identifies how the activities will complement, enhance and intersect with broader initiatives being delivered at a national and state level within the relevant sport
- » is based on sound cost estimates and represents value for money
- » is supported through the required documentation, including a funding proposal (detailed below) and letters of support from partner organisations.

How will the activities be measured against the program objectives?

The application details the methods that will be used to measure the extent to which the intended tangible outcomes of the activities have been achieved (e.g. questionnaires, group discussions, interviews, etc.)

Please note that a two stage application process applies for these grants.

Note: Applications are expected to demonstrate a co-contribution for the program or, where appropriate, other financial and/or in-kind support. This reflects the emphasis of the program on partnerships and sustainability approaches.

4 FUNDING CONDITIONS

The Multicultural Sports Fund Grants Program is a discretionary, merit-based grant program.

A decision in relation to any aspect of the funding application and assessment process, including any decision to award a grant under this Program is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

Funding agreement

Successful applicants will be required to enter into a Victorian Government Common Funding Agreement (CFA) with the Department of Premier and Cabinet which consists of:

- » a 'Schedule' (detailing activity details, funding, activity deliverables and payments, budget, reporting requirements and other activity specific requirements); and
- » a set of standard terms and conditions which are fixed and non-negotiable.

It is recommended that applicants review the CFA before applying for a grant.

You can view the CFA standard terms and conditions at <http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/for-business-and-community/not-for-profit-organisations/common-funding-agreement>. The CFA 'Schedule' template can be downloaded at www.multicultural.vic.gov.au.

You may also request a hard copy of these documents by contacting the Multicultural Affairs and Social Cohesion Division on 1300 366 356.

