



Community Grants Guidelines

Program overview and frequently asked questions



Powerlink's Community Grants

Welcome to Powerlink's Community Grants. This Guideline and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) will help assist you to prepare an application and enable us to assess your application in view of our principles and frameworks. Please ensure you read these guidelines carefully.

Powerlink's Community Grants support community projects, events and activities that align with Powerlink's community investment approach and supports our commitment to sustainable communities and economic development. The Powerlink Community Grants provide funding for one-off short-term projects, with a focus on the following:

- Sustainable communities - community resilience, social capacity, safety and wellbeing, community activities and environment projects.
- Economic development – tourism, economic development, and skills and training.

Powerlink aims to respond to changing community needs by distributing funding and benefits to communities traversed by existing and future transmissions infrastructure across Queensland. Powerlink consider requests for funding based on where the community project is being delivered. Powerlink's Community Grants is a key part of our approach to mutual value creation and delivering on the principles of our Community Engagement Strategy.

Delivering benefits to local communities

As part of the energy transformation, we are helping to deliver benefits to local communities across Queensland. Powerlink's community investment approach provides grants and community investment opportunities that align with Powerlink's values of supporting sustainable communities and economic development.

Being active in our communities and partnering with impactful organisations and groups to drive positive change is central to Powerlink's focus. This is a key part of our approach to mutual value creation and delivering on the principles of our Community Engagement Strategy.

Our community investment focuses on creating sustainable communities, assisting in economic development, enhancing community and social capacity, building resilience and creating a positive legacy.

Please review our Powerlink website to find out more about the program, including the value of grants, along with eligible localities and key dates <https://www.powerlink.com.au/community/community-grants>

Who is eligible to apply?

Applicants are eligible for funding if they are:

- a community group, community club or a not-for-profit organisation;
- an incorporated association or similar legal entity;
- auspiced by another organisation that is incorporated (or has a similar legal entity) and can manage the grant on behalf of the applicant;

and

- the applicant organisation holds current public liability insurance policy (minimum \$10 million) and other relevant insurances (e.g. workers compensation insurance, insurance for volunteers etc.) or able to secure these relevant policies prior to entering into a funding agreement, should the applicant be successful; and
- the applicant is able to complete their project within 12 months from the start date of the project; and
- the applicant can deliver the project within the nominated Queensland locality.

Please review our Powerlink website at the time of seeking funding to determine the value of grants available, along with eligible localities and timeframes at <https://www.powerlink.com.au/community/community-grants>

Who is not eligible for funding?

An applicant is not eligible for a grant if they:

- are not a legal entity (or not auspiced by a legal entity)
- are a for-profit entity
- are a political group
- are an individual

What activities are eligible for funding?

We fund projects, events and activities that provide benefit and mutual value between Powerlink and our stakeholders, customers and communities.

Eligible projects are those which:

- Support and create sustainable communities, e.g. community activities, cultural events, local events, organisational planning and development, systems and tools to improve services etc.
- Assist in economic development, e.g. training, skills development, events and resources etc.
- Enhance community and social capacity, e.g. materials, equipment, education and learning, upgrades to services etc.
- Build resilience and create a positive legacy, e.g. creates opportunity to build strong community connections, cultural programs, improvements to community infrastructure etc.

For example, initiatives that improve or promote inclusivity, resilience, public safety, wellbeing, health, education, participation or the environment get our attention in the community!

What does the program not fund?

We do not fund projects and activities that include the following:

- projects that have already commenced prior to agreed start date or have been completed
- solely benefit an individual
- fundraising drives and mass appeal donation requests
- gambling, political and religious activities campaigns
- projects that rely on ongoing funding
- costs associated with staff wages
- high-risk, unsafe activities that pose an unacceptable safety or animal welfare risk
- projects that are the core business of government
- activities that are not aligned to Powerlink's values and commitments

Please see our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) at the end of this Guideline for more details.

Preparing your application

It is important to consider how your project aligns to Powerlink's objectives when planning your project and preparing the application.

The application is based around a series of questions specific to project details, project rationale and benefit, your organisations capability to deliver and budget information.

For higher valued requests, please ensure your application is detailed, and clearly demonstrates the intended outcomes and benefits to the community.

All requests for funding are required to provide evidence of Public Liability Insurance. Quotes for goods and services valued over \$5,000 are mandatory.

Evaluation of applications

Applications will be assessed for eligibility by Powerlink's assessment team. Powerlink's assessment team is highly experienced in the fields of innovation, education, environment, safety and community engagement. The assessment team may comprise of community representatives on occasions to help inform recommendations. The assessment team will review applications against the assessment criteria once applications close.

All applicants will be advised via email of the outcome of their application within approximately 8 weeks of the closing date.

Assessment Criteria

Applications will be assessed against the following criteria and alignment:

1. Project details
 - Outline the focus of the project and what is involved in the delivery of the project.
 - Include a high-level project plan outlining key project milestones.
2. The projects rationale and benefit to the community
 - Outline the focus of the project and how it will benefit participants, attendees and the community.
3. Alignment to Powerlink's objectives and commitment to communities

- Describe how the project will contribute to Powerlink's community investment objectives (sustainable communities and economic development).
- Outline how the project contributes to Powerlink's commitment to communities, including delivering mutual value and supporting communities as part of Queensland energy transition.
- 4. The extent to which the project will engage the local community
 - Outline how the project will engage with the local community and how the project has been informed by community needs.
- 5. The applicant's experience in delivering similar projects and activities
 - Describe the skills and experience in delivering similar projects and any support provided by others involved, e.g. committee, partner organisations etc.
- 6. The project's budget and demonstration of value for money
 - This is whether the amount requested is fair and reasonable and reflective of the value of the project to the participants involved and the local community.

How to apply

Please review our Powerlink website at the time of seeking funding to determine the value of grants available, along with eligible localities and key dates at <https://www.powerlink.com.au/community/community-grants>

During key timeframes, to apply go to the 'apply now' feature that will be present on our website when funding is available. The 'apply now' will only be present when Community Grants rounds are being offered. Applicants will be redirected from Powerlink's website to the SmartyGrants portal when funding is available.

Successful applicants

Funding will be awarded to successful applicants. Successful applicants will be asked to:

- Enter into a funding agreement with Powerlink which sets out the rights and obligations of the parties in relation to the program. Obligations include commitment to undertake the project according to applicable laws and agreement to indemnify Powerlink of any liability in relationship to the acceptance of the grant.
 - If applying with an auspice, the auspice is required to enter into a funding agreement with Powerlink.
 - Provide any relevant insurance certificates as requested.
 - Ensure the delivery of your project and activity aligns with our Safety, Community and Environment Commitments, found at powerlink.com.au/corporate-responsibility.
 - Request prior approval when using the Powerlink logo on promotional material for the event.
 - Provide an acquittal report which details the number of people to directly benefit from the project, a summary of the projects outcomes and share any feedback and success stories at the end of the initiative.
- Reporting may include request for the following information key performance indicators:

- Number of people to directly benefit from the project
 - Number of people to indirectly benefit from the project
 - Number of First Nations people to benefit from the project
 - Number of volunteers directly participating in the project
 - Number of volunteer hours contributed to the project
- Share any photos of the initiative with/without Powerlink representation for use in future promotional purposes.

- Advise us of any changes in circumstance relating to the funded project e.g. change in main contact person, project/activity schedule changes etc.

Key terms and conditions

Powerlink is not legally bound or required to provide funds or advance any payment amounts until a funding agreement is in place.

To receive funds if your application is successful, you will need to:

- return a completed funding agreement
- provide any relevant documentation on request (e.g. additional insurance evidence, audited financial statements)
- maintain any relevant insurance certificates (e.g. minimum \$10 million public liability insurance)
- provide a tax invoice for the grant to be paid.

Powerlink may elect to reduce the funding amount you applied for. If you are unable to meet the funding agreement timeframes or budget expenditure, please speak with us at communitygrants@powerlink.com.au

Please note by submitting a formal request for funding, you agree:

- Completion of the application will not necessarily result in funding
- You unconditionally agree to bear all expenses and costs associated with preparing your submission
- All information provided by the applicant is true and accurate
- You have confirmed approval from an authorised person to submit the request on behalf of the organisation
- You agree to undertake the project in accordance with all applicable laws
- There is adequate insurance for the project activities and all relevant approvals for activities are secured
- Powerlink reserves the right to undertake quality assurance check to ensure funding is spent in accordance with the funding agreement.

Submission deadline

Please review our Powerlink website at the time of seeking funding to determine the value of grants available, along with eligible localities and timeframes at <https://www.powerlink.com.au/community/community-grants>

The timing for submission deadlines is final and late applications will not be accepted. If you experience any difficulties with our Community Grants portal, please contact us at communitygrants@powerlink.com.au

Privacy

The information an applicant provides in their application form will be handled in accordance with the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth). For more information see the [powerlink.com.au/privacy-statement](https://www.powerlink.com.au/privacy-statement). In submitting an application, the applicant agrees to the Powerlink collecting any personal information contained within the application, including the name, contact details and role of its officers in order to assess the application and for the purpose of grants administration.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The Powerlink Community Grants supports projects and activities aligning with Powerlink's commitment to sustainable communities and economic development. Please review the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) to prepare your application and assess the suitability of your project.

What type of organisations are eligible to apply, and can we submit multiple applications?

Incorporated community groups and not-for-profit organisations are eligible to apply to the Powerlink Community Grants Program. Not-for-profit organisations that are not incorporated are eligible to apply if they are auspiced by a not-for-profit organisation or local council involved in the project.

Only one application per organisation will be accepted during the submission process.

Do we support activities and events undertaken by schools, P&Cs and P&F organisations?

Yes, however you may be required to apply with a peak body, council or not-for-profit organisation depending on the type of insurances and legal entity your organisation is.

The minimum level of insurance required to cover your project and activities, including \$10 million public liability insurance, in addition to workers compensation insurance, insurance for volunteers and other insurances as determined by the applicant/s.

What type of activities and projects will Powerlink fund?

Powerlink's Community Grants provides funding for one-off projects, events, and activities to be undertaken within 12 months of the project start date. To be eligible for a grant, your application must demonstrate alignment to the following:

- Sustainable communities - community resilience, social capacity, safety and wellbeing, community activities and environment projects.
- Economic development – local events, tourism, economic development, and skills and training.

Powerlink's Community Grants is intended to support a range of requests. This includes requests for local community sponsorship. However please ensure your budget is detailed and specific to the activity, for example rather than requesting an overall value amount for a local event, ensure you are specific with how the funds will be used. For example, funding will support the cooking demonstration exhibition at the annual show day. The budget to then detail the costs associated with facilitating the cooking demonstration.

All activities and projects must align with our Safety, Community and Environment Commitments, found at powerlink.com.au/corporate-responsibility. The eligibility and funding sections in this guideline provides additional detail. If you are unsure if your project meets these requirements, please email us at communitygrants@powerlink.com.au

Does Powerlink support activities that include animals, sporting activities and high-risk community events?

Powerlink considers requests for funding that includes community and sporting events and activities, and those that include animals. However, safety and animal welfare are key considerations of our assessment.

If applying, applications are strongly encouraged to apply for funding related to making their event and activity safer, accessible, or sustainable for communities. For example, requests for funding to support first aid during an event or improvements to a BMX racing track to make it safer. All projects and activities must hold the appropriate level of insurance.

We are seeking funding to support events and activities that include animals (e.g. show day, camp draft, rodeo, race day), how can we strengthen our application?

We recommend prioritising safety, wellbeing, and activities that support capability and skills building, training opportunities and animal welfare, e.g. funding to host a community educational session on caring for wildlife OR purchasing first aid equipment for an event that includes animals in its program.

If you are applying for a resource or equipment that will be used by other groups in your community, then please outline the wider community benefit in your application.

Whilst we do provide support to local events that include animals, your application will be more competitive if you outline how it will address potential risks, for example, safety considerations, and demonstrates support for sustainable communities, economic development, enhancing community and social capacity and skills, building resilience and creating positive legacy. We are committed to communities, safety, and the environment. Projects that align with our commitments and eligibility criteria will only be considered for funding.

We are seeking funding to support a project that is being delivered in a locality that is not listed on your website (under Powerlink Community Grants). Can we still apply for funding?

Unfortunately, you will not be eligible to apply to Powerlink Community Grants. Powerlink is likely to expand to additional localities within Queensland aligning with Powerlink activities. We encourage prospective applicants to visit our website to determine eligibility.

Your organisation must have Queensland representation. Your project must be undertaken within one of the nominated localities or Local Government Areas (LGA).

If your project is located in more than one of the listed locality or LGAs (i.e. crosses an LGA boundary), select one the primary locality, and provide detail of the project's locations and activities in the project information section in the application form.

Can we apply for projects and activities that have already commenced?

No, as the Powerlink Community Grants supports short-term projects only. We do not provide funding for projects and activities that have already occurred or commenced prior to the eligible start dates.

Applicants are encouraged to complete projects within 12 months from project start date. You will be required to enter your project start date and project completion date at the time of submitting your application on our Smarty Grants portal.

Can we get an extension of time to submit our application?

To ensure that applications are processed in time, complete applications must be received by the closing date. If you experience any unexpected circumstances while submitting your application, please contact us at communitygrants@powerlink.com.au

When will we be notified of the outcome of our application?

Powerlink aims to advise all applicants of the outcome of their application approximately 3 months after the closing date. Formal approval and payment of funding is dependent on the completion of the funding agreement.

Will Powerlink provide feedback on the grant application?

Unfortunately, we are unable to provide feedback on individual applications due to the volume of applications usually received in the process. The Powerlink Community Grants is a discretionary funding program and there is no appeals process. We encourage applicants to reapply in future rounds.

For further information contact us via communitygrants@powerlink.com.au.

Contact us

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