

Australian Government

Department of Industry, Science and Resources

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts

Grant Opportunity Guidelines

News Media Relief Program

| Opening date: | 29 November 2024 |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Closing date and time: | 5.00pm Australian Eastern Daylight Time on 31 March 2025 or until funding exhausted, whichever occurs first. |
| | Please take account of time zone differences when submitting your application. |
| Commonwealth policy entity: | Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development Communications and the Arts (DITRDCA) |
| Administering entity: | Department of Industry, Science and Resources (DISR) |
| Enquiries: | If you have any questions, contact us on 13 28 46. |
| Date guidelines released: | 29 November 2024 |
| Type of grant opportunity: | Demand driven |

Contents

| 1. | News I | Media Relief Program processes | 4 |
|----------------------------------|----------|--|---|
| | 1.1. | Introduction | 5 |
| 2. | About | the grant program | 5 |
| 3. Grant amount and grant period | | amount and grant period | 5 |
| | 3.1. | Grants available | 3 |
| | 3.2. | Project period | 3 |
| 4. | Eligibil | lity criteria | 5 |
| | 4.1. | Who is eligible to apply for a grant? | 3 |
| | 4.2. | Additional eligibility requirements | 7 |
| | 4.3. | Who is not eligible to apply for a grant? | 7 |
| 5. | What t | he grant money can be used for8 | 3 |
| | 5.1. | Eligible grant activities | 3 |
| | 5.2. | Eligible expenditure | 3 |
| | 5.3. | What the grant money cannot be used for | 3 |
| 6. | How to | apply | 3 |
| | 6.1. | Attachments to the application | 9 |
| | 6.2. | Timing of grant opportunity processes | 9 |
| | 6.3. | Questions during the application process | 9 |
| 7. | The gra | ant selection process10 |) |
| | 7.1. | Assessment of grant applications10 |) |
| | 7.2. | Who will approve grants?10 |) |
| 8. | Notific | ation of application outcomes10 |) |
| | 8.1. | Feedback on your application10 |) |
| 9. | Succes | ssful grant applications10 |) |
| | 9.1. | The grant agreement10 |) |
| | 9.2. | Specific legislation, policies and industry standards1 | 1 |
| | 9.3. | How we pay the grant12 | 1 |
| | 9.4. | Grant Payments and GST12 | 1 |
| 10. | Annou | ncement of grants11 | 1 |
| 11. | How w | e monitor your grant activity12 | 2 |
| | 11.1. | Keeping us informed12 | 2 |
| | 11.2. | Reporting12 | 2 |
| | | 11.2.1. Ad-hoc reports12 | 2 |
| | | 11.2.2. End of project report12 | 2 |
| | 11.3. | Audited financial acquittal report12 | 2 |
| | 11.4. | Grant agreement variations13 | 3 |
| | 11.5. | Record keeping13 | 3 |
| | 11.6. | Evaluation13 | 3 |

| | 11.7. | Acknowledgement | 13 |
|-----|---------|--------------------------|----|
| 12. | Probity | ۲۲ | 13 |
| | 12.1. | Enquiries and feedback | 13 |
| | 12.2. | Conflicts of interest | 14 |
| | 12.3. | Privacy | 14 |
| | 12.4. | Confidential information | 15 |
| | 12.5. | Freedom of information | 16 |
| 13. | Glossa | ry | 17 |

1. News Media Relief Program processes

The News Media Relief Program is designed to achieve Australian Government objectives

This grant opportunity is part of the above grant program which contributes to the DITRDCA's Outcome 5 - Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery, so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services. DITRDCA works with stakeholders to plan and design the grant program according to the <u>Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles (CGRPs)</u>.

↓ The grant opportunity opens

We publish the grant guidelines on <u>business.gov.au</u> and <u>GrantConnect</u>.

$\mathbf{\Psi}$

You complete and submit a grant application

You complete the application form, addressing all the eligibility criteria in order for your application to be considered.

$\mathbf{\Psi}$

We assess all grant applications

We assess the applications against eligibility criteria and notify you if you are not eligible.

1

We make grant recommendations

We provide advice to the decision maker on the merits of each application.

1

Grant decisions are made

The decision maker decides which applications are successful.

Ą

We notify you of the outcome

We advise you of the outcome of your application. We may not notify unsuccessful applicants until grant agreements have been executed with successful applicants.

$\mathbf{\Phi}$

We enter into a grant agreement

We will enter into a grant agreement with successful applicants. The type of grant agreement is based on the nature of the grant and will be proportional to the risks involved.

Delivery of grant

You complete the grant activity as set out in your grant agreement. We manage the grant by working with you, monitoring your progress and making payments.

¥

Evaluation of the News Media Relief Program

DITRDCA will evaluate the specific grant activity and News Media Relief Program as a whole. We base this on information you provide to us and that we collect from various sources.

1.1. Introduction

These guidelines contain information for the News Media Relief Program grants.

This document sets out:

- the purpose of the grant program/grant opportunity
- the eligibility and assessment criteria
- how we consider and assess grant applications
- how we notify applicants and enter into grant agreements with grantees
- how we monitor and evaluate grantees' performance
- responsibilities and expectations in relation to the opportunity.

This grant opportunity and process will be administered by the Department of Industry, Science and Resources (the department/DISR/we) on behalf of Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts (DITRDCA).

We have defined key terms used in these guidelines in the glossary at section 14.

You should read this document carefully before you fill out an application.

2. About the grant program

The News Media Relief Program (the program) will run over 1 year from 2024-25. The program is part of the News Media Assistance Program, which is an election commitment to support public interest journalism and safeguard media diversity in Australia.

The purpose of the program is to support the sustainability of Australian news publishers in the face of significant disruption to the media sector. Organisations with a primary purpose of producing core news content will be eligible for funding to support a proportion of the salary costs of journalists producing core news content that is distributed digitally.

The objectives of the program are:

- support the sustainability of Australian news publishers in the face of significant disruption to the media sector
- support the creation of news content distributed online
- encourage the continued employment of journalists who primarily produce news that is in the Australian public interest
- building and maintaining social cohesion in Australia, including for Cultural and Linguistically Diverse CALD communities, First Nations communities and the wider Australian community.

The intended outcomes of the program are:

- support and safeguard news coverage in Australia
- mitigate the significant risk to the financial sustainability of news publications in regional and outer metropolitan areas of Australia, and publications providing news for CALD and First Nations communities.

We administer the program according to the <u>Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles</u> (CGRPs)¹.

¹ https://www.finance.gov.au/government/commonwealth-grants/commonwealth-grants-rules-and-principles-2024

3. Grant amount and grant period

3.1. Grants available

The Australian Government has announced a total of \$15 million in 2024-25 for the program.

• The grant amount is \$13,000 per eligible journalist full time equivalent (FTE).

If the journalist is not employed full time with the applicant, the grant amount requested should be based on a pro-rata amount of the FTE.

3.2. Project period

The maximum project period is 6 months. You must maintain your project, the employment of journalists producing core news content, for a period of 6 months after entering into your grant agreement.

4. Eligibility criteria

We cannot consider your application if you do not satisfy all eligibility criteria.

4.1. Who is eligible to apply for a grant?

To be eligible you must:

- have an Australian Business Number (ABN)
- be registered for the Goods and Services Tax (GST)
- have an account with an Australian financial institution

and either:

• be located in, and provide core news content to, an eligible geographic community,

or

provide core news content targeted to an eligible audience

and be one of the following entities:

- an entity, incorporated in Australia
- a company limited by guarantee
- an incorporated association
- a co-operative
- a partnership
- an incorporated not for profit organisation or registered charity
- an individual.

Eligible geographic communities are:

- a regional community located in a regional area of Australia, i.e. one that is in a location that is not a major city of Australia. The geographic community may be centred on one or more specific towns or local government areas in a regional area with shared communal interests. The publication's target audience is the regional community and does not target a state or national news audience
- a local suburban community located in a major city of Australia and is centred on one or more specific suburbs or local government areas in a metropolitan area with shared communal

interests. The publication's target audience is the local suburban community and does not target a state or national news audience.

Under the Australian Bureau of Statistics Remoteness Structure, major cities of Australia include but are not limited to: Sydney, Newcastle, Brisbane, the Gold Coast, Perth, Canberra, Adelaide, and Melbourne. Hobart is not considered a major city of Australia. For this definition the Remoteness Structure takes into consideration access to social interaction, goods and services. You can check your location against the ABS Remoteness Structure at <u>nationalmap.gov.au</u>.

Eligible audiences are:

- First Nations audiences primarily made up of members of at least one Australian First Nations community
- CALD audiences primarily made up of members of at least one, specific community defined by their national, linguistic or cultural background.

4.2. Additional eligibility requirements

We can only accept applications:

- where you provide evidence your primary purpose is the creation and distribution of core news content
- where you provide evidence that each journalist applied for under this program produces core news content,
- where you provide payroll details as evidence of the number of FTE journalists employed in the previous 12 months.

We cannot waive the eligibility criteria under any circumstances.

4.3. Who is not eligible to apply for a grant?

You are not eligible to apply if you are:

- not listed as eligible to apply in section 4.1
- an organisation, or your project partner is an organisation, included on the <u>National Redress</u> <u>Scheme's website</u> on the list of 'Institutions that have not joined or signified their intent to join the Scheme'
- an employer of 100 or more employees that has <u>not complied</u> with the *Workplace Gender Equality Act (2012)*.
- affiliated with a foreign government, political party, union, financial institution, non-government organisation, or policy lobby group where that affiliation would influence or might be seen to influence, the content produced by the applicant
- are insolvent
- a foreign controlled Australian entity (section 820-780 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act* 1997)
- a Commonwealth, state, territory or local government body (including government business enterprises)
- a non-corporate Commonwealth entity.

5. What the grant money can be used for

5.1. Eligible grant activities

To be eligible your project must support your news organisation to maintain journalist positions and newsroom capacity.

Eligible activities must directly relate to the project and must include the employment of journalists who create core news content for digital distribution.

We may also approve other activities, any additional activities must be in line with objectives and outcomes in section 2.

5.2. Eligible expenditure

You can only spend the grant on eligible expenditure you have incurred on an agreed project as defined in your grant agreement.

Eligible expenditure is journalist salary/ies.

We may update the guidance on eligible and ineligible expenditure from time to time. If your application is successful, the version in place when you submitted your application applies to your project.

Not all expenditure on your project may be eligible for grant funding. The program delegate (who is a manager within the department with responsibility for administering the program) makes the final decision on what is eligible expenditure and may give additional guidance on eligible expenditure if required.

To be eligible, expenditure must:

- be a direct cost of the project
- be incurred by you for required project audit activities.

You must incur the project expenditure between the project start and end date for it to be eligible unless stated otherwise.

5.3. What the grant money cannot be used for

Expenditure items that are not eligible are:

- any cost which is not related to the payment of journalist salaries
- salaries for journalists who do not contribute to the creation of core news content for digital distribution.

6. How to apply

Before applying you should read and understand these guidelines, the sample <u>application form</u> and the sample <u>grant agreement</u> published on business.gov.au and GrantConnect.

You will need to set up an account to access our online portal.

You can apply at any time while the grant opportunity remains open. The grant opportunity will open for applications on 29 November 2024 and will remain open until 31 March 2025 or until the funding is exhausted, whichever occurs first.

To apply, you must:

- complete and submit the application through the online portal
- provide all the information requested

- address all eligibility criteria
- include all necessary attachments.

You are responsible for making sure your application is complete and accurate. Giving false or misleading information is a serious offence under the <u>Criminal Code Act 1995</u> If we consider that you have provided false or misleading information we may not progress your application. If you find an error in your application after submitting it, you should call us immediately on 13 28 46.

After submitting your application, we can contact you for clarification if we find an error or any missing information, including evidence that supports your eligibility. The acceptance of any additional information provided after the submission of your application is at the discretion of the program delegate. Additional information should not materially change your application at the time it was submitted and therefore may be refused if deemed to be purely supplementary.

You can view and print a copy of your submitted application on the portal for your own records.

If you need further guidance around the application process, or if you have any issues with the portal, <u>contact us</u> at business.gov.au or by calling 13 28 46.

6.1. Attachments to the application

You must provide the following documents with your application:

- payroll advice demonstrating the number of FTE journalists
- evidence that your primary purpose is creating core news content for your chosen audience, including a link to your internet-based distribution site
- one example of core news content (provide an attachment or a link to an article, interview, etc) produced by each journalist who is part of the application and ensuring that it is clearly identifiable who the journalist is that produced the content. News content must have been created in the previous 3 months.

Core news content is content that reports, investigates or explains:

- a. issues or events that are relevant to engaging Australians in public debate and in informing democratic decision making; or
- b. current issues or events of public significance for Australians at a local, regional, or national level.

You must attach supporting documentation to the application form in line with the instructions provided within the form. You should only attach requested documents. Individual file sizes cannot be greater than 2MB, while the total of all attachments cannot exceed 20MB. We will not consider information in attachments that we do not request.

6.2. Timing of grant opportunity processes

You can only submit an application between the published opening and closing dates. We cannot accept late applications.

You can apply at any time while the grant opportunity remains open.

Program funding may be exhausted prior to the application close date resulting in the closing date being announced earlier.

6.3. Questions during the application process

If you have any questions during the application period, <u>contact us</u> at business.gov.au or by calling 13 28 46.

7. The grant selection process

7.1. Assessment of grant applications

Your application will be considered through a demand driven grant process. Applications will be reviewed in order of receipt until available funding is exhausted.

We will review your application against the eligibility criteria. We may seek technical expert advice from DITRDCA on the eligibility of the application.

If we identify unintentional errors in your application, we may contact you to correct or clarify the information.

The program delegate will not approve funding if there are insufficient program funds available.

7.2. Who will approve grants?

The program delegate decides which grants to approve taking into account the availability of grant funds.

The program delegate's decision is final in all matters, including:

- the grant approval (confirming your eligibility for program)
- the grant funding to be awarded
- any conditions attached to the offer of grant funding.

We cannot review decisions about the outcome of your application.

The program delegate will not approve funding if there are insufficient program funds available for the program.

8. Notification of application outcomes

We will advise you of the outcome of your application in writing. If you are successful, we advise you of any specific conditions attached to the grant.

8.1. Feedback on your application

If you are unsuccessful, we will give you an opportunity to discuss the outcome with us.

9. Successful grant applications

9.1. The grant agreement

You must enter into a legally binding grant agreement with the Commonwealth. The grant agreement has general terms and conditions that cannot be changed. A sample grant agreement is available on business.gov.au and GrantConnect.

We will manage the grant agreement through the online portal. This includes issuing and executing the grant agreement. Execute means both you and the Commonwealth have accepted the agreement. We are not responsible for any expenditure you incur and cannot make any payments until a grant agreement is executed.

The approval of your grant may have specific conditions determined by the assessment process or other considerations made by the program delegate. We will identify these in the offer of grant funding.

The Commonwealth may recover grant funds if there is a breach of the grant agreement.

We will use an exchange of letters grant agreement. We will send you a letter of offer advising that your application has been successful. You accept the offer by signing and returning to us. We consider the agreement to be executed from the date we receive your signed document. You will have 30 days from the date of our letter to sign and return to us otherwise the offer may lapse.

9.2. Specific legislation, policies and industry standards

You must comply with all relevant laws, regulations and Australian Government sanctions in undertaking your project. You must also comply with the specific legislation/policies/industry standards that follow. It is a condition of the grant funding that you meet these requirements. We will include these requirements in your grant agreement.

In particular, you will be required to comply with state/territory legislation in relation to working with children.

9.3. How we pay the grant

The grant agreement will state the maximum grant amount we will pay.

We will pay 100 per cent of the grant on execution of the grant agreement. You will be required to report how you spent the grant funds at the completion of the project.

9.4. Grant Payments and GST

If you are registered for the Goods and Services Tax (GST), where applicable we will add GST to your grant payment and provide you with a recipient created tax invoice. You are required to notify us if your GST registration status changes during the project period. GST does not apply to grant payments to government related entities².

Grants are assessable income for taxation purposes, unless exempted by a taxation law. We recommend you seek independent professional advice on your taxation obligations or seek assistance from the <u>Australian Taxation Office</u>. We do not provide advice on tax.

10. Announcement of grants

If successful, your grant will be listed on the GrantConnect website 21 calendar days after the date of execution.

We will publish non-sensitive details of successful projects on GrantConnect. We are required to do this by the <u>Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles</u>, Section 5.4. We may also publish this information on business.gov.au. This information may include:

- name of your organisation
- title of the project
- description of the project and its aims
- amount of grant funding awarded
- Australian Business Number
- business location
- your organisation's industry sector.

² See Australian Taxation Office ruling GSTR 2012/2 available at ato.gov.au

11. How we monitor your grant activity

11.1. Keeping us informed

You should let us know if anything is likely to affect your project or organisation.

We need to know of any key changes to your organisation or its business activities, particularly if they affect your ability to complete your project, carry on business and pay debts due.

You must also inform us of any changes to your:

- name
- addresses
- nominated contact details
- bank account details.

If you become aware of a breach of terms and conditions under the grant agreement, you must contact us immediately.

11.2. Reporting

You must submit reports in line with the grant agreement. We will provide the requirements for these reports as appendices in the grant agreement. We will remind you of your reporting obligations before a report is due. We will expect you to report on:

- progress against agreed outcomes
- project expenditure, including expenditure of grant funds.

The amount of detail you provide in your reports should be relative to the project size, complexity and grant amount.

We will monitor the progress of your project by assessing reports you submit and may conduct site visits to confirm details of your reports if necessary. Occasionally we may need to re-examine claims, seek further information or request an independent audit of claims and payments.

11.2.1. Ad-hoc reports

We may ask you for ad-hoc reports on your project. This may be to provide an update on progress, or any significant delays or difficulties in completing the project, including where your organisation will have reductions in the number of journalists employed or newsrooms.

11.2.2. End of project report

When you complete the project, you must submit an end of project report.

End of project reports must:

- include the agreed evidence as specified in the grant agreement
- identify the total eligible expenditure incurred for the project
- include a declaration that the grant money was spent in accordance with the grant agreement and to report on any underspends of the grant money
- be submitted by the report due date.

11.3. Audited financial acquittal report

We may ask you to provide an independent audit report. An audit report will verify that you spent the grant in accordance with the grant agreement. The audit report requires you to prepare a

statement of grant income and expenditure. The report template is available on business.gov.au and GrantConnect.

11.4. Grant agreement variations

We recognise that unexpected events may affect project progress. In these circumstances, you can request a variation to your grant agreement, including extending the timeframe for completing the final report.

The program does not allow for an increase of grant funds.

If you want to propose changes to the grant agreement, you must put them in writing before the project grant agreement end date. You can submit a variation request via our online portal.

You should not assume that a variation request will be successful. We will consider your request based on factors such as:

- how it affects the project outcome
- consistency with the program policy objective, grant opportunity guidelines and any relevant policies of the department.

11.5. Record keeping

We may also inspect the records you are required to keep under the grant agreement.

11.6. Evaluation

DITRDCA will evaluate the grant program to measure how well the outcomes and objectives have been achieved. We may use information from your application and project reports for this purpose. We may also interview you, or ask you for more information to help us understand how the grant impacted you and to evaluate how effective the program was in achieving its outcomes.

We may contact you up to two years after you finish your project for more information to assist with this evaluation.

11.7. Acknowledgement

If you make a refence to the support you have received under the program you must acknowledge the grant by using the following:

'This publication received support from the Australian Government under the News Media Relief Program. Support from the program covers part of the cost of employing journalists, but does not influence the production of specific content.'

12. Probity

We will make sure that the grant opportunity process is fair, according to the published guidelines, incorporates appropriate safeguards against fraud, unlawful activities and other inappropriate conduct and is consistent with the CGRPs.

These guidelines may be changed from time-to-time by DISR. When this happens, the revised guidelines will be published on GrantConnect.

12.1. Enquiries and feedback

For further information or clarification, you can contact us on 13 28 46 or by <u>web chat</u> or through our <u>online enquiry form</u> on business.gov.au.

We may publish answers to your questions on our website as Frequently Asked Questions.

Our <u>Customer Service Charter</u> is available at business.gov.au. We use customer satisfaction surveys to improve our business operations and service.

If you have a complaint, call us on 13 28 46. We will refer your complaint to the appropriate manager.

If you are not satisfied with the way we handle your complaint, you can contact:

General Manager External and Assurance Branch Business Grants Hub Department of Industry, Science and Resources GPO Box 2013 CANBERRA ACT 2601

You can also contact the <u>Commonwealth Ombudsman</u> with your complaint (call 1300 362 072). There is no fee for making a complaint, and the Ombudsman may conduct an independent investigation.

12.2. Conflicts of interest

Any conflicts of interest could affect the performance of the News Media Relief Program. There may be a conflict of interest, or perceived conflict of interest, if our staff, any member of a committee or advisor and/or you or any of your personnel:

- has a professional, commercial or personal relationship with a party who is able to influence the application selection process, such as an Australian Government officer
- has a relationship with or interest in, an organisation, which is likely to interfere with or restrict the applicants from carrying out the proposed activities fairly and independently or
- has a relationship with, or interest in, an organisation from which they will receive personal gain because the organisation receives a grant under the grant program/grant opportunity.

As part of your application, we will ask you to declare any perceived or existing conflicts of interests or confirm that, to the best of your knowledge, there is no conflict of interest.

If you later identify an actual, apparent, or perceived conflict of interest, you must inform us in writing immediately.

Conflicts of interest for Australian Government staff are handled as set out in the Australian <u>Public</u> <u>Service Code of Conduct (Section 13(7))</u> of the <u>Public Service Act 1999</u>. Committee members and other officials including the decision maker must also declare any conflicts of interest.

We publish our <u>conflict of interest policy</u>³ on the department's website. The Commonwealth policy entity also publishes a conflict of interest policy on its website.

12.3. Privacy

Unless the information you provide to us is:

- confidential information as per below, or
- personal information as per below.

³ <u>https://www.industry.gov.au/publications/conflict-interest-policy</u>

we may share the information with other government agencies for a relevant Commonwealth purpose such as:

- to improve the effective administration, monitoring and evaluation of Australian Government programs
- for research
- to announce the awarding of grants.

We must treat your personal information according to the Australian Privacy Principles (APPs) and the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth). This includes letting you know:

- what personal information we collect
- why we collect your personal information
- to whom we give your personal information.

We may give the personal information we collect from you to our employees and contractors, and other Commonwealth employees and contractors, so we can:

- manage the program
- research, assess, monitor and analyse our programs and activities.

We, or the Minister, may:

- announce the names of successful applicants to the public
- publish personal information on the department's websites.

You may read our <u>Privacy Policy</u>⁴ on the department's website for more information on:

- what is personal information
- how we collect, use, disclose and store your personal information
- how you can access and correct your personal information.

12.4. Confidential information

Other than information available in the public domain, you agree not to disclose to any person, other than us, any confidential information relating to the grant application and/or agreement, without our prior written approval. The obligation will not be breached where you are required by law, Parliament or a stock exchange to disclose the relevant information or where the relevant information is publicly available (other than through breach of a confidentiality or non-disclosure obligation).

We may at any time, require you to arrange for you; or your employees, agents or subcontractors to give a written undertaking relating to nondisclosure of our confidential information in a form we consider acceptable.

We will treat the information you give us as sensitive and therefore confidential if it meets all of the following conditions:

- you clearly identify the information as confidential and explain why we should treat it as confidential
- the information is commercially sensitive
- disclosing the information would cause unreasonable harm to you or someone else
- you provide the information with an understanding that it will stay confidential.

⁴ <u>https://www.industry.gov.au/data-and-publications/privacy-policy</u>

We may disclose confidential information:

- to our Commonwealth employees and contractors, to help us manage the program effectively
- to the Auditor-General, Ombudsman or Privacy Commissioner
- to the responsible Minister or Assistant Minister
- to a House or a Committee of the Australian Parliament.

We may also disclose confidential information if:

- we are required or authorised by law to disclose it
- you agree to the information being disclosed, or
- someone other than us has made the confidential information public.

12.5. Freedom of information

All documents in the possession of the Australian Government, including those about the program, are subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (Cth) (FOI Act).

The purpose of the FOI Act is to give members of the public rights of access to information held by the Australian Government and its entities. Under the FOI Act, members of the public can seek access to documents held by the Australian Government. This right of access is limited only by the exceptions and exemptions necessary to protect essential public interests and private and business affairs of persons in respect of whom the information relates.

If someone requests a document under the FOI Act, we will release it (though we may need to consult with you and/or other parties first) unless it meets one of the exemptions set out in the FOI Act.

13. Glossary

| Term | Definition |
|---|---|
| administering entity | When an entity that is not responsible for the policy, is responsible for the administration of part or all of the grant administration processes. |
| application form | The document issued by the program delegate that applicants use to apply for funding under the program. |
| <u>Commonwealth Grants Rules and</u> <u>Guidelines (CGRPs)</u> | Establish the overarching Commonwealth grants policy framework and articulate the expectations for all non- corporate Commonwealth entities in relation to grants administration. Under this overarching framework, non- corporate Commonwealth entities undertake grants administration based on the mandatory requirements and key principles of grants administration. |
| completion date | The expected date that the grant activity must be completed and the grant spent by. |
| core news content | Content that reports, investigates or explains: |
| | a. issues or events that are relevant to engaging Australians in public debate and in informing democratic decision making; or |
| | b. current issues or events of public significance for Australians at a local, regional, or national level. |
| Cultural and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) audience | A news audience primarily made up of members of at least one, specific community defined by national, linguistic or cultural background. |
| date of effect | Can be the date on which a grant agreement is signed or a specified starting date. Where there is no grant agreement, entities must publish information on individual grants as soon as practicable. |
| Department | The Department of Industry, Science and Resources. |
| decision maker | The person who makes a decision to award a grant. |
| eligible activities | The activities undertaken by a grantee in relation to a project that are eligible for funding support as set out in 5.1. |
| eligible application | An application or proposal for grant funding under the program that the program delegate has determined is eligible for assessment in accordance with these guidelines. |
| eligibility criteria | Refer to the mandatory criteria which must be met to qualify for a grant. Assessment criteria may apply in addition to eligibility criteria. |
| eligible expenditure | The expenditure incurred by a grantee on a project and which is eligible for funding support as set out in 5.2. |

| Term | Definition |
|------------------------------|---|
| First Nations audience | A news audience primarily made up of members of at least one Australian First Nations community. |
| General Manager | Position title for Senior Executive Service level staff within DISR. |
| grant | For the purposes of the CGRPs, a 'grant' is an arrangement for the provision of financial assistance by the Commonwealth or on behalf of the Commonwealth: |
| | a. under which relevant money⁵ or other <u>Consolidated</u> <u>Revenue Fund</u> (CRF) money⁶ is to be paid to a grantee other than the Commonwealth; and |
| | which is intended to help address one or more of the Australian Government's policy outcomes while assisting the grantee achieve its objectives. |
| grant activity/activities | Refers to the project/tasks/services that the grantee is required to undertake |
| grant agreement | A legally binding contract that sets out the relationship between the Commonwealth and a grantee for the grant funding, and specifies the details of the grant. |
| grant funding or grant funds | The funding made available by the Commonwealth to grantees under the program. |
| grant opportunity | Refers to the specific grant round or process where a Commonwealth grant is made available to potential grantees. Grant opportunities may be open or targeted, and will reflect the relevant grant selection process. |
| grant program | A 'program' carries its natural meaning and is intended to cover a potentially wide range of related activities aimed at achieving government policy outcomes. A grant program is a group of one or more grant opportunities under a single DITRDCA Portfolio Budget Statement Program. |
| GrantConnect | The Australian Government's whole-of-government grants information system, which centralises the publication and reporting of Commonwealth grants in accordance with the CGRPs. |
| grantee | The individual/organisation which has been selected to receive a grant |

 $^{^{\}rm 5}$ Relevant money is defined in the PGPA Act. See section 8, Dictionary.

⁶ Other CRF money is defined in the PGPA Act. See section 105, Rules in relation to other CRF money.

| Term | Definition |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| local suburban community | A community that: |
| | is located in a Major City of Australia area; |
| | is centred on specific suburb(s) or local government area(s) in a metropolitan area with shared communal interests. |
| | For clarity, a news publication targeting a local suburban community would not include publications that target a news audience at a state or national level. |
| Minister | The Commonwealth Minister for Communications. |
| Newsroom | An organisational unit within a news organisation that supports journalists in the production of news content. The location may support one or more news publications. |
| non-income-tax-exempt | Not exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the <i>Income Tax Assessment Act 1997</i> (Cth) or under Division 1AB of Part III of the <i>Income Tax Assessment Act 1936</i> (Cth). |
| personal information | Has the same meaning as in the <i>Privacy Act 1988</i> (Cth) which is: Information or an opinion about an identified individual, or an individual who is reasonably identifiable: |
| | a. whether the information or opinion is true or not; andb. whether the information or opinion is recorded in a material form or not. |
| program delegate | A manager within the department with responsibility for administering the program. |
| program funding or program funds | The funding made available by the Commonwealth for the program. |
| project | A project described in an application for grant funding under the program. |

| Term | Definition |
|--------------------|---|
| Regional community | A regional community is a community based in a regional area of Australia, which is a: |
| | location in Australia that is not a Major City of Australia, as defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics Remoteness Structure is centred on one or more specific towns or local government areas with shared communal interests. |
| | The Remoteness Structure takes into consideration access to social interaction, goods, and services. Major Cities of Australia include but are not limited to: Sydney, Newcastle, Brisbane, the Gold Coast, Perth, Canberra, Adelaide, and Melbourne. Under this classification, Hobart is not considered a Major City of Australia. |