

# City of Adelaide 2025/26 Community Grants Info Session

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# Acknowledgement of Country

The City of Adelaide acknowledges that we are located on the traditional Country of the Kurna people of the Adelaide Plains and pays respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We also extend that respect to visitors of other Aboriginal Language Groups and other First Nations.

## Part 1

- What community impact grants fund
- What arts and culture grants fund
- What community impact grants don't fund
- Who can apply
- Who cannot apply
- Community impact grants available
- Assessment criteria

## Part 2

- Smarty Grants
- Application form preview
- Application advice

## Q&A



Image: Fringe on Whitmore Square. Photo: Cath Leo.

# What Community Impact Grants Fund

Free or low-cost projects focused on social inclusion, participation, reconciliation, wellbeing, and lifelong learning

- Multicultural events and gatherings
- Community sport and active recreation programs
- Volunteer training, including first aid, cultural safety and inclusion awareness
- Neighbourhood activities
- Community cooking or active lifestyle initiatives (community yoga, meditation classes, etc.)
- Subsidies to support sport participation for priority groups



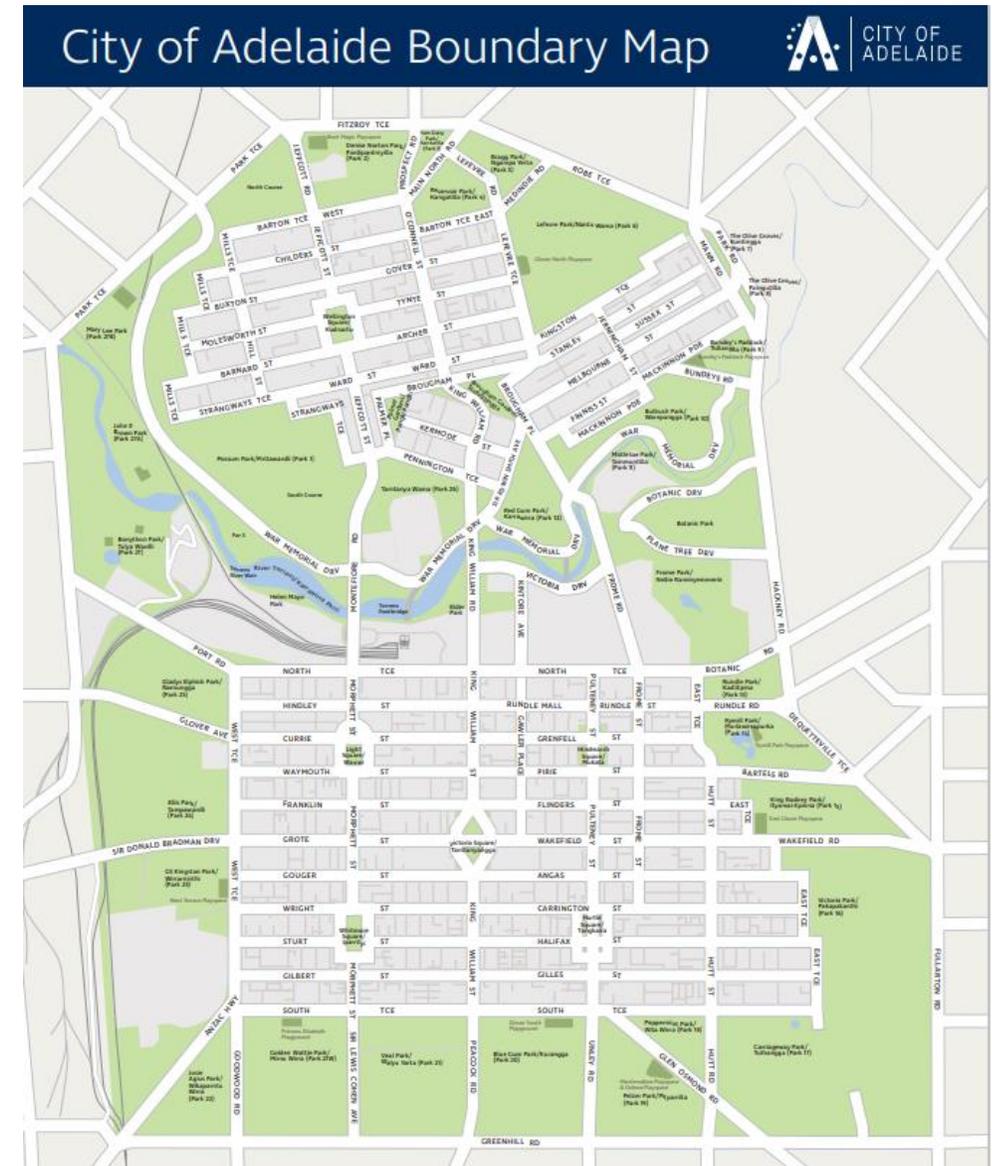
Image: Participants of the April 2025 Parklands Loop Collective #8 enjoying nature and good company while completing the 14km loop of Adelaide through its parklands. Photo: Peter Sansom.

# What Community Impact Grants Fund

## All projects must have a publicly accessible physical outcome in the City of Adelaide

- Projects taking place outside of the City of Adelaide (Metro Adelaide, interstate, overseas) are not eligible for funding
- Fully digital projects are not eligible for funding
- Private events are not eligible for funding

## All projects must demonstrate a benefit to our City of Adelaide communities



# What Arts and Culture Grants Fund

Funding supports arts and cultural projects that provide value to the city community and are open to all to attend.

- Creative performances
- Art exhibitions
- Arts and cultural festivals and events
- Reconciliation and truth-telling
- Live music
- Public artwork



Image: Downpour presented by Santosha Storm. Photo: Missy Snaps.

# What Community Impact Grants Don't Fund

- Capital expenditure, contingency costs, core business activities or repayment of debts or loans
- Reimbursement of past expenses, including lease payments and license fees
- Initiatives that are already receiving funding from the City of Adelaide or its subsidiaries
- Conferences, trade shows, award ceremonies and fundraising activities
- Interstate or overseas travel and related accommodation expenses
- Events where the majority of participants are professional athletes or where substantial prize money is awarded
- Individual elite or high-performing athletes
- Private or online-only programs and events
- Training or education activities offered for training of paid staff or training offered for assessment in education institutions
- Projects that denigrate and exclude any groups in the community
- Activities that include, promote or encourage gambling or excessive consumption of alcohol

# Who can apply for a Community Impact Grant

## Applications received from

- Community groups and non-profit organisations
- Volunteers and local leaders
- Social enterprises and grassroots initiatives
- Priority groups\*

\*Priority groups include population groups which require greater support with social determinants of health. In Australia priority groups include:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples
- Culturally linguistically diverse people
- International students (university, English students, or VET courses)
- LGBTQIA+ people
- Young people and older people
- People experiencing socio economic disadvantage
- People with disabilities
- People from refugee backgrounds and asylum seekers



Image: Community Women's World Cup 2024. Image courtesy of One Culture Football.

# Who cannot apply for a Community Impact Grant?

Applications will NOT be considered from

- Applicants with outstanding debts with the City of Adelaide or its subsidiaries
- Current Council employees or former employees who ceased employment less than six months before applying are not eligible for funding
- State or Federal government departments (with the exception of statutory authorities of the State Government) or Councils
- For-profit organisations with an annual revenue of more than \$250,000 are ineligible.

Ineligible applications will not advance to the assessment stage and applicants will be notified



Image: Neighbour Day. Photo: Shaun Li for Capture the Present.

# Community Impact Grants Available

## Quick Response Grants

- up to \$5,000
- Projects must occur at least 5 weeks after application submitted
- Open until funds expended (very high demand and limited funding this year)
- 5 processing weeks

## Major Round Grants

- up to \$20,000
- Projects must occur between 15 March 2026 and 15 March 2027
- Applications close 5 December 2025
- 10 processing weeks



Image: Pride March Adelaide 2024. Photo: Sam Graves.

# Assessment Criteria

Criteria	Considerations	Weighting
Strategic Alignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Alignment with the City of Adelaide Strategic Plan 2024–2028.</li><li>• Clear alignment with at least one of the funding priorities. (Pg 4)</li><li>• Alignment with City of Adelaide policies and strategic documents including the Cultural Policy, Reconciliation Action Plan, Disability Access and Inclusion Plan and the Sustainable Events Guidelines.</li></ul>	35%
Community and Cultural Benefit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clear benefit to the City of Adelaide community and/or cultural life and/or evidence of need or opportunity.</li><li>• Proposed activity encourages participation, inclusion, wellbeing, learning and skill development and/or cultural expression.</li><li>• Supports free or low-cost access, especially for priority groups.</li><li>• Locally-led arts, cultural, recreational and community activities.</li></ul>	35%
Project Viability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Feasibility of the project plan, budget and timeline.</li><li>• Risk management.</li><li>• Applicant's capacity, experience and collaborators. Defined target audience and outreach strategy.</li></ul>	30%



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## City of Adelaide

Niina Marni, Welcome to City of Adelaide's portal for funding applications and acquittals.

Our grants, sponsorships and incentives programs support a diverse range of projects and services that enable Adelaide's vision as the most liveable city in the world.

Before applying please visit [City of Adelaide's grants, sponsorships, and incentives](#) webpage for detailed information about program specific eligibility, assessment criteria, and desired outcomes.

Please click through the relevant link below to find out more about program specific guidelines, eligibility criteria and deadlines. Contact details for each program are also available should you have any questions.

If you need technical help completing your online application please visit SmartyGrants [applicant help guide](#).

### Current Rounds

#### [ARCHI Incentives Scheme 2025/26](#)

Submissions are now open.  
Submissions close 5:00PM 30 June 2026 (ACST).  
[Find out more about ARCHI Incentives Scheme 2025/26...](#)

#### [ARCHI Incentives Scheme 2025/26 Version 1.0](#)

Submissions are now open.  
Submissions close midnight 30 June 2026 (ACST).  
[Find out more about ARCHI Incentives Scheme 2025/26 Version 1.0...](#)

#### [Arts and Culture 25/26 - First Nations](#)

Submissions are now open.  
[Find out more about Arts and Culture 25/26 - First Nations...](#)

#### [Arts and Culture 25/26 - Major Round](#)

Submissions are now open.  
Submissions close 3:00PM 5 December 2025 (ACDT).  
[Find out more about Arts and Culture 25/26 - Major Round...](#)

#### [Arts and Culture 25/26 - Quick Response](#)

Submissions are now open.  
[Find out more about Arts and Culture 25/26 - Quick Response...](#)

#### [Community Impact 25/26 - Major Round](#)

Submissions are now open.  
Submissions close 3:00PM 5 December 2025 (ACDT).  
[Find out more about Community Impact 25/26 - Major Round ...](#)

#### [Community Impact 25/26 - Quick Response](#)

Submissions are now open.  
[Find out more about Community Impact 25/26 - Quick Response ...](#)

#### [Sustainability Incentives Scheme 2025/26](#)

Submissions are now open.  
Submissions close midnight 30 June 2026 (ACST).  
[Find out more about Sustainability Incentives Scheme 2025/26...](#)

## Application Tips

- Read the Community Grants Information Booklet 2025/26
- Make sure you read through the FAQs on the [Community Grants Webpage](#)
- Clearly explain what the project is (for example, an event at x venue, from x to x time, aiming to benefit x community in which way. The event will be facilitated by x. And provide support letters that confirm this information).
- Your budget is important to outline how much the project will cost and where the funding will come from. Be as specific as possible and ensure the budget balances (you need to demonstrate that you will have enough funding to cover all expenses).
- Approval of the project location is required as part of the application process. Venue confirmation materials must reference applicant/organisation, event/activity, confirm date and cost of venue hire.
- Consider assessment weightings to ensure questions are fully elaborated in the parts of the application that are scored high.
- Read and respond to question hints when included in a question in the application form.
- And don't leave your application to the last minute! For major round applications we will have an in-person session at the end of the month where we can answer questions about the application. Details are available on the website and you don't need to register.