

ACEREZ COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM



1. Instructions for applicants

Please note the important information below regarding your ACEREZ Community Grants Program application:

- Applications must be completed and submitted by **5pm on 18 September 2026**
- Applications can be completed directly on the ACEREZ website or downloaded and submitted to ACEREZ via cwo.community@acerez-acjv.com.au
- Applications cannot be changed or updated once submitted

Eligible applicants may access free grant writing support by filling out the expression of interest (EOI) form. Once an EOI form has been submitted, ACEREZ will assess and contact eligible applicants to provide details of the free grant writing support.

If you are unsure about any part of the application form, please contact ACEREZ prior to submitting by phoning **1800 298 379** or emailing cwo.community@acerez-acjv.com.au.

2. ACEREZ Community Grants Program details

ACEREZ is committed to leaving a legacy by supporting projects that provide tangible, long-term benefits for the region.

Our vision is to partner with our diverse communities to understand local needs and deliver improved, long-term social outcomes.

Applications for ACEREZ's Community Grants Program Round 2 open on **10 August 2026**.

There are two categories:

- Small grants from **\$3,000 up to \$50,000**
- Significant grants from **\$50,000 up to \$1 million**

Applications for the ACEREZ Community Grants Program must align with at least one of the following priority areas:

- Public amenity – Community facilities to enhance safety, access to local services or respond to extreme events
- Education – Programs to enhance young people and inter-generational outcomes
- Sports – Programs to support grassroots sport for community inclusion
- Agriculture – Programs to support land and agricultural management
- Health – Programs to support physical health, mental health and wellbeing
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities – Initiatives to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities

Key program dates for Round 2

- Applications open 9am on 10 August 2026
- Applications close 5pm on 18 September 2026

Eligibility criteria

Eligible applicants must be either:

- A council
- A not-for-profit community organisation
- An incorporated Aboriginal community organisation or a Local Aboriginal Land Council
- A volunteer organisation, such as NSW State Emergency Service (SES) or NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS), that is individually incorporated
- An organisation or individual that is endorsed and supported by a not-for-profit organisation or a council (this is called an auspice arrangement)

The following types of applications will not be considered for the ACERERZ Community Grants Program:

- Applications from religious or political groups for initiatives that have a focus on promoting religious beliefs or politically-related activities
- Applications for initiatives or programs that promote drug and alcohol, tobacco, or other inappropriate activities
- Applications for funding to pay for wages, prizes, ongoing rental fees, ongoing utilities fees, or to cover retrospective payments
- Applications for initiatives or programs for capital works to enhance or upgrade a private/council-owned property but with no written consent or support from the property owner/council
- ACERERZ reserves the right to determine whether an initiative or program is inappropriate

Application outcome

Successful applicants for Round 2 of the ACERERZ Community Grants Program will be notified in November 2026.

All applications are evaluated by the ACERERZ Community Advisory Group which will provide independent recommendations to ACERERZ. The ACERERZ Community Grants Advisory Group does not make funding decisions on the grant applications. ACERERZ will consider the recommendations of the ACERERZ Community Grants Advisory Group and make the final determination on approved applications.

Applicants should refer to the [ACERERZ](#) website for the most up-to-date information.

3. Your application

Eligibility

* Indicates a required field

Which local government area (LGA) does your project benefit? *

- Upper-Hunter Shire Council
- Warrumbungle Shire Council
- Dubbo Regional Council
- Mid-Western Regional Council

Select your organisation type *

Volunteer organisation, such as the SES or RFS brigade, that is individually incorporated

Not-for-profit community organisation

Incorporated Local Aboriginal Land Council or Aboriginal community organisation

Local council (Upper Hunter Shire Council, Warrumbungle Shire Council. Dubbo Regional Council or Mid-Western Regional Council)

None of the above, but we are officially supported by one of the organisation types listed above (this is called an auspice arrangement)

Select your priority area: *

Public amenity – Community facilities to enhance safety, access to local services or respond to extreme events

Education – Programs to enhance young people and inter-generational outcomes

Sports – Programs to support grassroots sport for community inclusion

Agriculture – Programs to support land and agricultural management

Health – Programs to support physical health, mental health and wellbeing

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities – Initiatives to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities

Applicant details

* Indicates a required field

If you are applying on behalf of an organisation, include the organisation's details in this section

The applicant *

Individual

Organisation

Individual or organisation name *

Individual	
Title	
First name	
Last name	
Organisation	
Name	

Position in the organisation (e.g. Secretary/Treasurer)

Applicant's ABN (the ABN will be used to confirm Australian Business Register information)
(if applicable)

ABN	
Entity name	
ABN status	
Entity type	
Goods & Services Tax (GST)	
DGR endorsed (Y/N)	
ATO charity type	
ACNC registration	
Tax concessions / Main business location	

Applicant's primary address *

Email address *

Applicant's phone number (must be an Australian phone number) *

Applicant's primary website (if there is one, it must be a URL) (if applicable)

Organisation's social media (URL – e.g., Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn) (if applicable)

Please provide a brief description of the services your organisation provides to the community *

Details of your project or initiative

* Indicates a required field

Project title *

Project description (please answer in fewer than 250 words) *

Project location / area of service *

Is this a new or existing project? *

New

Existing

Which grant category are you applying for? *

Small community grant (from **\$3,000 up to \$50,000**)

Significant community grant (from **\$50,000 up to \$1 million**)

Estimated amount required to deliver the project (including GST) * *(provide breakdown under 'ESTIMATED PROJECT COSTS AND BUDGET')*

Have any alternative funding options been considered, used or pursued (e.g. government grants or concessional finance)? *

Yes

No

If yes, please provide details including a list of all organisations or individuals that will be involved in delivering the project

Anticipated project start and completion dates * *(project must be delivered on or before 31 December 2028)*

Does your project require any development approvals (DAs) or landowner/asset manager permissions? *

Yes

No

If yes, provide details on the DA or landowner/asset manager's permission as part of this application. If DA has not been granted, please provide details of how this process is managed to be eligible to receive the funding *(e.g. communications with your local council or a copy of the DA application)*

Do you know if there are any existing or planned initiatives similar to yours (public or government)? *

Yes

No

If yes, please provide details

Are there any risks (uncertain events or sets of circumstances) that may occur which will have an effect (either positive or negative) on delivering the project or achieving the project's objectives? For example, weather or natural events, availability of contractors or suppliers.*

Yes

No

If yes, please describe below

Community benefits

*** Indicates a required field**

Describe what changes and improvements will be made to the chosen priority area(s) identified as a result of your project? * (please answer in fewer than 250 words)

Estimated project costs and budget

* Indicates a required field

Please provide a breakdown of estimated costs to deliver your project and supply at least two quotes (if relevant) for each service you need to support your application. Please include any other funding sources that will support the delivery of your project.

For example, you can include a scheduled funding plan, such as how much partial funding is required for your project in the first 6 months and every 6 months thereafter. *

Will your project have any ongoing maintenance or operational costs once it is completed? *

Yes

No

If yes, what will these costs be, and how will these costs be covered?

Project measurement

What indicators could measure how your project has made a positive difference since it began? * *(please answer in fewer than 250 words)*

How will the project's sustainability be ensured in the long term, and how will this be supported after implementation? * *(please answer in fewer than 250 words)*

Declaration and authorisation

* Indicates a required field

I declare this application meets the ACEREZ Community Grants Program eligibility criteria? *

Application has been prepared by and is being submitted by an eligible applicant

The proposed project is located in the Central-West Orana REZ geographic area within the four Local Government Areas stated above

Applicant agrees to entering into a funding agreement with ACEREZ

Projects can commence within 3 months of the commencement date of a funding agreement and must be completed by 31 December 2028

Disclaimer

The Applicant acknowledges and agrees that:

- Submission of this application does not guarantee funding approval. ACEREZ expressly reserves the right to accept or decline this application at its discretion
- They must bear the costs of preparing and submitting this application (other than the use of the free grant writing support). ACEREZ does not accept any liability for such costs, whether or not this application is accepted or declined
- They have read the ACEREZ Community Grants Program Guidelines and are informed of the relevant requirements

Submission and contact

If you would like to discuss your application or other aspects of the program, please contact us prior to submitting your application by phoning **1800 298 379** or emailing cwo.community@acerez-acjv.com.au. Our grant writer can also provide information.

More information



www.acerez.com.au/community



cwo.community@acerez-acjv.com.au



1800 298 379 (24-hour toll free)

Free translation services

You can have project information translated into any language. If you need an interpreter, please call the Translating and Interpreting Service on **131 450** and ask them to call us on **1800 298 379**.



ACEREZ
the future of renewable energy