

ACEREZ Community Grants Program

July 2026



ACEREZ is proudly supporting the Coolah Roos Rugby Club.

At ACEREZ, our commitment to supporting our communities is paramount.

As the network operator for the Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone, we want to leave a legacy by supporting projects that provide tangible, long-term benefits for the region. We also recognise earning and retaining trust with our stakeholders is critical to the successful delivery and ongoing operation of our project.

Our Community Grants Program is a three-year multimillion-dollar investment that aims to deliver lasting outcomes that extend beyond the completion of the transmission network.

Our priority areas

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



Public amenity

Community facilities to enhance safety, local services and 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

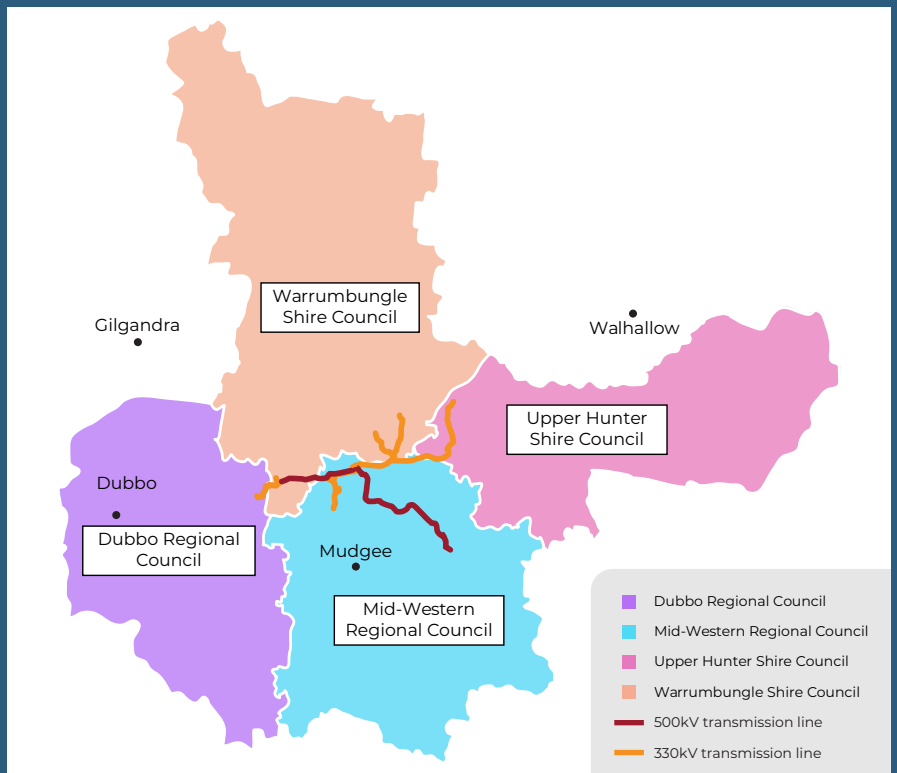
Applicants to the ACEREZ Community Grants Program must align with at least one of the above criteria

Applications must come from within the four local government areas or Local Aboriginal Land Councils (LALCs) hosting transmission network infrastructure.

The local government areas are Upper Hunter Shire Council, Mid-Western Regional Council, Dubbo Regional Council and Warrumbungle Shire Council.

The Local Aboriginal Land Councils are Mudgee LALC, Walhallow LALC, Gilgandra LALC and Dubbo LALC.

Applicants must demonstrate a direct benefit for communities in these areas.



How to apply



Are you eligible to apply?

Eligible applicants must be either:

- A not-for-profit community organisation
- An incorporated Aboriginal community organisation or a Local Aboriginal Land Council
- Volunteer organisations, such as the State Emergency Service or Rural Fire Service brigade that is individually incorporated
- A council within the identified four LGAs

Local partnerships

If an organisation is not eligible but wishes to apply, it may be able to establish a relationship with one that meets the criteria (such as a local community group or service organisation) and work in partnership to deliver the project.

This type of arrangement is known as auspicing, where the project is delivered with the support of that organisation. This arrangement is suitable for a newly formed community group or small neighbourhood group.

For more details and an application form, visit www.acerez.com.au

Our community grants

There are two categories of grants:

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



The Burrendong Botanic Garden and Arboretum at Mumbil is benefitting from ACERZ's Community Grants Program.



ACERZ is proudly supporting the upgrade of the Dunedoo Community Health Hub.

Free assistance to help write grant applications

To help the community navigate the grant application process, ACERZ will provide free grant writing support to assist applicants in preparing their applications.

To access grant writing support, complete and submit the Expression of Interest Form available on the ACERZ website once applications open.



Coolah Community Grants information session.

Local voices in decision-making

ACEREZ has established a **Community Advisory Group** to engage community members in the grant evaluation process.

This group provides local voices and insights, working with us to ensure the process is fair and inclusive.

- The group comprises four community members from across the region to provide independent recommendations on the grant applications
- Each group provides recommendations for one year; a new group is formed each year
- A community member can participate only once in the Advisory Group

For more information, please visit www.acerez.com.au



Coolah Roos Rugby Club is using its grant to upgrade its training ground.

Contact us

We are here to assist applicants at any stage of the process.

Please contact the Community Team by:

- Emailing cwo.community@acerez-acjv.com.au
- Calling our 24-hour toll free number **1800 298 379**

You can find more information at www.acerez.com.au



ACERES
the future of renewable energy

Free translation services

You can have 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**.