

## ACERERZ Community Grants Program application form

### 1. INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICANTS

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

- Applications must be completed and submitted by 5pm on 17 April 2026
- Applications can be completed directly on the ACERERZ website or downloaded and submitted to ACERERZ via [cwo.community@acerez-acjv.com.au](mailto: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, ACERERZ 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 ACERERZ prior to submitting by phoning 1800 298 379 or emailing [cwo.community@acerez-acjv.com.au](mailto:cwo.community@acerez-acjv.com.au).

### 2. ACERERZ COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM DETAILS

ACERERZ is committed to improving the long-term economic and social outcomes for communities where we operate beyond the project's lifecycle.

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

Applications for ACERERZ's Community Grants Program Round 1 open on 1 March 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 ACERERZ 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 1

- Applications open 9am on 1 March 2026
- Applications close 5pm on 17 April 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 1 of the ACERERZ Community Grants Program will be notified in June 2026.

All applications are evaluated by the ACERERZ Community Grants 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.

## 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)

## 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 \***

<b>Individual</b>	
Title	
First name	
Last name	
<b>Organisation</b>	
Name	

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

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**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\***

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**Email address\***

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

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

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

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

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**DETAILS OF YOUR PROJECT OR INITIATIVE**

\* Indicates a required field

**Project title\***

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

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**Project location / area of service \***

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**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')**

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**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**

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

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**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)**

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

Yes

No

**If yes, please provide details:**

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**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**

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## **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)**

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## 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. \*

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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?

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## PROJECT MEASUREMENT

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

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**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)**

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### **DECLARATION AND AUTHORISATION**

\* Indicates a required field

**I declare this application meets the ACERERZ 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 ACERERZ
- 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. ACERERZ 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). ACERERZ does not accept any liability for such costs, whether or not this application is accepted or declined
- They have read the ACERERZ 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](mailto:cwo.community@acerez-acjv.com.au). Our grant writer can also provide information.