

Finding grants

How-to guide

This How-to guide is one of a series produced by the Office of Helen Haines MP, Independent Federal Member for Indi, to help constituents find and apply for grants.

The topics in this series are:

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| 1. Finding grants | 4. How a grant is assessed |
| 2. Be prepared – how to be grant-ready | 5. Managing and acquitting your grant |
| 3. Your grant application | 6. Tips and tricks |

The full series is available at <https://www.helenhaines.org/resources/grants>. On this website you'll also find six short videos to help you through the grant process.

Finding grants

At any given time, there are thousands of grant opportunities available to businesses, community and not-for-profit groups and individuals across Australia.

However, finding grants might seem like an overwhelming challenge. Knowing where to start and what to look for is an important starting point. This *How-to guide* complements a short video - [How to find grants](#). This resource should help you find the right grant for your group.

Grant funding can come from many sources, including each level of government (federal, state and local government), philanthropic organisations and large businesses. Grants guidelines detail what the funding is for, who is eligible, and what can be funded. Some grants are for specific geographic areas.

Key points

Before you begin

These starting steps will help you begin your grant finding with broad search criteria and an open mind.

- At the outset, identify your funding requirements - a project, an event, new or upgraded equipment, research, training etc. Having at least one project in mind will help your search.
- Be clear about what sort of group or organisation is going to apply for the grant. Is the funding for a community group, or a business?
- Brainstorm ideas about your project to create the widest search criteria. Who are the people or groups that your project could serve or involve? What are the benefits of your project? How would you describe your activities (e.g. sports, community health, business innovation)? Think as broadly as possible at this stage, and perhaps have several answers to these questions.

Starting your search for funding

Now is the time to find what grants are available. There are many useful websites. Each site enables you to 'search' or 'filter' grants. This is where your broad list of search criteria comes in handy – try various combinations for your search.

- Federal government grants: www.grants.gov.au GrantConnect provides a centralised site for current and upcoming Australian Government grant opportunities, as well as a listing of grants awarded.
- Business grants: www.business.gov.au/Grants-and-Programs helps you find grants, funding and support programs from across government to help your business grow and succeed.

- Victorian government grants: www.vic.gov.au/grants covers grants available for both community organisations and businesses. For Victorian businesses, www.business.vic.gov.au/support-for-your-business covers grants, vouchers and assistance, awards, trade missions, mentoring and training opportunities.
- There are also a variety of fee-based, subscription services that offer grant information tailored to your requirements.

One comprehensive site

Helen Haines has partnered with GrantGuru to provide one comprehensive grant site to allow access to the widest range of grant opportunities available to the people in Indi.

The Indi Funding Finder can be found here www.helenhaines.grantguru.com.au

The site is easy to use. It provides information about national and state-wide funding opportunities. You can use the grant search terms that you have identified to find suitable grants for your community group, not for profit organisation, or business.

The video [How to find grants](#) shows you how to use this site.

Register on this site to save your search details and ensure you are notified when new grant opportunities that meet your search details arise.

For each grant, there is a brief description to help you identify if the funding suits your project and whether your project might be eligible.

Other information includes:

- Whether the grant is currently open for applications
- Indication of how difficult the application process might be, and whether you may need assistance
- The size of the overall funding pool for that grant
- The target group or sectors for that grant.

More detailed information for each grant is available by clicking the grant name to display:

- Grant overview
- Who can apply
- Eligible activities
- Guidelines
- Main assessment criteria
- Opening and closing dates
- Funding type
- Program administrator and contact details
- Program website – with further information about making your application

For more information

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