

NSW Sexual Violence Recovery & Healing (SVRH) Grant Program Information Session

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Acknowledgement of Country

I acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the various lands on which we work today and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people participating in this session.

I pay my respects to Elders past, present and emerging, and recognise and celebrate the diversity of Aboriginal peoples and their ongoing cultures and connections to the lands and waters of NSW.



Information Session Overview

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Probity

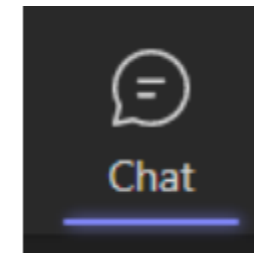
Application process

Assessment process

Successful project

Please turn your camera off and mute your microphone

Please send any questions in the chat



All unanswered questions will be taken on notice and we will share answers after the session

SVRH Grant Program overview

The **SVRH Grant Program** will fund community-based initiatives that **build the capacity of communities and services** to strengthen recovery and healing supports for victim-survivors of sexual violence from NSW priority groups.

Key details

- **Total funding available:** \$3m
- **Grant amount:** no maximum set
- **Project length:** 2 years (July 2026 – June 2028)
- Funding is one-off and time limited

Priority Groups

- Aboriginal communities
- multicultural communities
- LGBTIQ+ communities
- people with disability
- children and young people
- adult survivors of child sexual violence
- older women
- people experiencing homelessness
- people in contact with the criminal justice system

SVRH Grant Program overview – objectives



Improve the capacity of communities and services across NSW to support the recovery and healing of victim-survivors of sexual violence from priority groups by strengthening trauma- and culturally informed practices.



Improve collaboration and information sharing between communities and services delivering culturally and trauma-informed recovery and healing programs for victim-survivors from priority groups across NSW.

Attached to the Guidelines is the Program Logic for the SVRH Grant Program. We encourage you to review the Program Logic alongside the Guidelines, when preparing your application.

Expected outcomes

Outcomes

Expected outcomes during the life of the SVRH Grant Program:

Knowledge and skills: Communities and services demonstrate understanding of: (a) the diverse needs and long-term impacts of sexual violence on priority groups; (b) safe, inclusive culturally and trauma-informed approaches to recovery and healing, including the principles and application of restorative processes and practices; and (c) how to communicate and deliver recovery and healing supports that respond to the needs of diverse victim-survivors.

Application: Communities and services develop, adopt and apply evidence-informed capacity building activities and resources in their practices to support recovery and healing including the use of restorative principles and techniques.

Continuous learning: Grant recipients, communities and services benefit from the insights that emerge from the Grant Program, supporting continuous learning and practices improvement.

Outcomes for service providers, beyond the SVRH Grant Program:

- embed and maintain safe, culturally-informed and trauma-informed healing and recovery supports for survivors from priority communities across NSW
- leverage the growing evidence base for further practice development.

Outcomes for victim-survivors and communities, beyond the SVRH Grant Program:

- Victim-survivors, families and communities **understand, trust and equitably access** healing and recovery supports, including culturally and trauma-informed and Aboriginal-led supports, throughout their recovery journey.
- Victim-survivors, families and communities **experience improved wellbeing and recovery.**
- Victim-survivors and families **experience stronger social connection and belonging** in community.
- Communities **deepen their understanding of trauma and its impacts**, enabling them to provide supportive, compassionate care and foster collective healing, reducing the risk of intergenerational trauma.

Eligibility criteria

Eligible organisation types

- Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs)
- Incorporated organisations that are registered and approved as not-for-profit bodies by NSW Fair Trading
- Not-for profit companies limited by guarantee, registered in NSW (must have ACNC registration and/or DGR status)
- Indigenous Corporations (must be registered with the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations)
- NSW Local Aboriginal Land Councils
- Religious organisations operating in NSW
- NSW non-government organisations established under their own Act of Parliament.

Applicants must:

- be able to enter into a grant funding agreement with NSW Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ)
- have an Australian bank account
- have an Australian Business Number (ABN) or Australian Company Number (ACN) or Australian Incorporation Number (AIN).
- have appropriate insurance; this must include but is not limited to a minimum of \$10 million Public Liability Insurance
- address the NSW National Redress Scheme sanctions
- not have outstanding acquittals with DCJ.

Subcontracting and partnership arrangements require the appointment of a **lead applicant organisation** that satisfies all the eligibility criteria

Eligibility Criteria - project requirements



Project Requirements

- **Project focus:** projects must primarily focus on capacity building to enhance existing practices and services aimed at supporting victim survivors to heal and recover.
- **Priority groups:** projects must focus on meeting the recovery and healing needs of victim survivors of sexual violence from at least one of the identified priority groups.
- **Geographic location:** projects must be delivered within the state of NSW only.

Assessment criteria

Criteria	Sub-criteria
Demonstrated need	• Demonstrated understanding of local context, priority groups and needs. • Project to be evidence-based. Clear description of the capacity building need including any data on demographics, prevalence and location, as well as the proposed project to address the need.
Outcome and impact	• Alignment to NSW Sexual Violence Recovery & Healing Grant Program expected outcomes as outlined in the draft Program Logic. • Strong link between demonstrated need and proposed project activities and outcomes. • Outcomes are clearly defined and achievable within the project period. • Project impacts and sustainability beyond the life of the funding are articulated.
Capacity to deliver	• Demonstrated experience supporting the healing and recovery needs of victim-survivors of gender-based violence, in particular sexual violence, and trauma-informed practice. • Demonstrated experience designing and delivering similar projects. • Clear and feasible project plan including key milestones and activities. • For partnership applications: Partner roles identified and relevant to project outcomes.
Value for money	• Clear, cost-effective budget based on reasonable cost estimates.
Risk management	• Demonstrated awareness of potential risks to the project and how they will be addressed.

In and out of scope



In line with project requirements:

- ✓ Projects that focus on **capacity building** to enhance **existing practices and services** aimed at supporting victim-survivors to heal and recover, and
- ✓ Projects that focus on **meeting the recovery and healing needs** of victim-survivors from identified **priority groups**.



- ⊘ Establishing a **new frontline service** or **expanding** an existing service
- ⊘ **Primary prevention, early intervention** and **crisis response** activities
- ⊘ **Medical or therapeutic treatments** delivered within clinical or health funded settings, and focused on individual diagnosis or treatment
- ⊘ **Projects not undertaken in NSW** and not benefiting NSW communities.

In and out of scope - costs



- ✓ Eligible costs are costs directly associated with delivery of the project, including:
 - Technical and professional staff involved in delivery of the proposed project
 - Expenses related to design or publication of material and resources
 - Advertising expenses
 - Development costs such as licence fees for third party provider services used during the term of the project
 - Travel, such as transport and accommodation, to deliver project components.



- ⊘ Any activity of a commercial nature that is for profit
- ⊘ Buying core business capital equipment such as office equipment, tables and computers
- ⊘ Costs already approved through other funding sources
- ⊘ Business as usual service delivery, costs or general operating expenses
- ⊘ Salaries and on-costs for temporary or ongoing staff not directly involved in the project
- ⊘ Retrospective activities, such as work already undertaken
- ⊘ Interstate or overseas travel.

Our obligations

- DCJ is committed to conducting business to the highest standards of probity: this means acting ethically, fairly, and honestly at all times, disclosing and managing any conflicts of interest, and protecting confidential information.
- To support this, DCJ has appointed an independent probity adviser to oversee the SVRH grant process.

Your obligations

- DCJ expects organisations and individuals to abide by the same standards of probity.
- As such we remind all applicants to:
 - maintain confidentiality with respect to the grant process
 - only communicate with the Department about the grant process via the established communication channels
 - notify the Dept if there are any probity issues you wish to raise.
- You may also wish to contact our probity adviser directly: dbishop@procuregroup.com.au

Application process

Applying

- All applications must be completed via the SmartyGrants portal. No other form of submission will be accepted.

Supporting documentation

- Evidence of existing practice or service aimed at supporting victim survivors to heal and recover
- Evidence of Public Liability Insurance (\$10m)
- Recent bank statement
- For partnership or subcontracting arrangements: Letter confirming arrangements, signed by partners or subcontractors

Key dates

Applications open	Monday 27 October 2025
Application close	4pm on Friday 12 December 2025

Support

- SmartyGrants or application form:
grantdesignandsupport@dcj.nsw.gov.au
- General:
SVRH.grants@dcj.nsw.gov.au
- ACCOs:
aboriginalcommissioning@dcj.nsw.gov.au

Assessment process

Stages

1. Eligibility assessment
2. Merit assessment
3. Assessment Panel recommendation
4. DCJ Delegated Decision-maker final decision

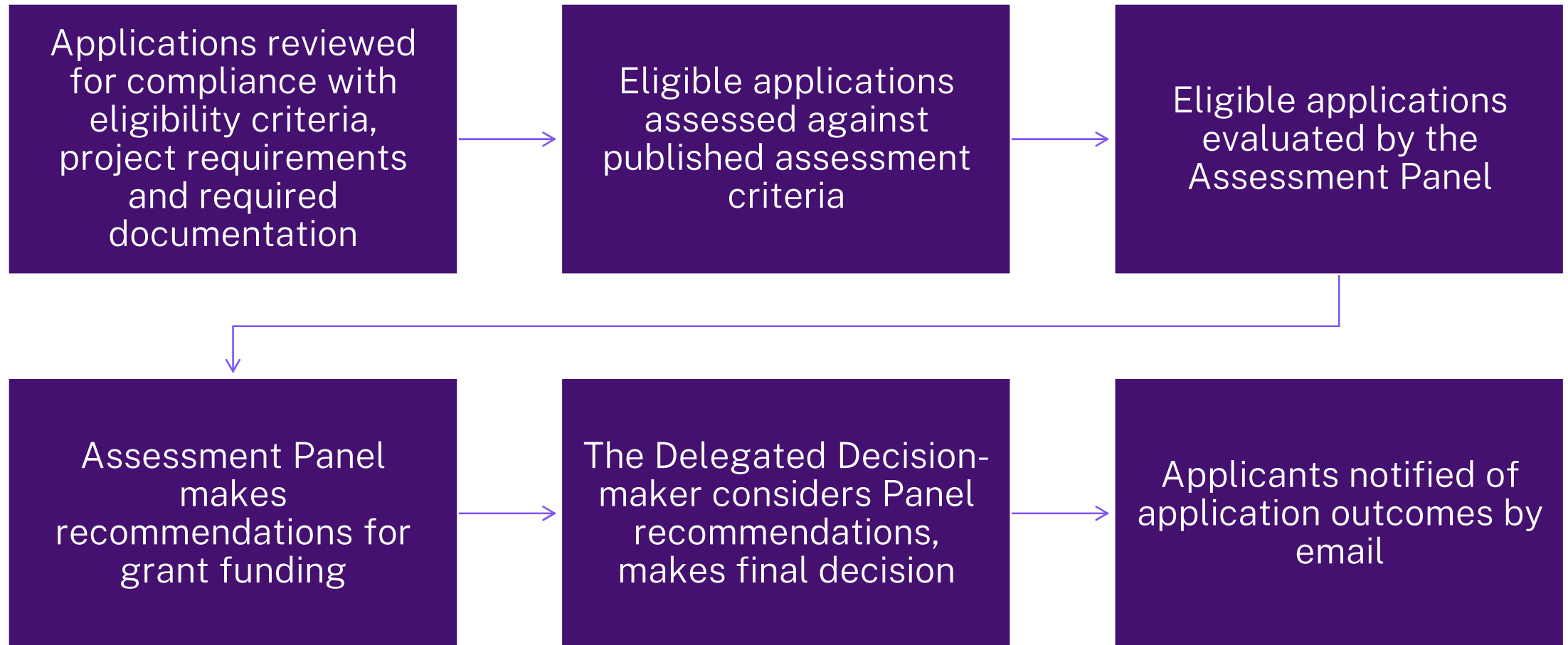
Prioritisation

- The assessment process may prioritise equitable distribution of grants across priority groups.
- Applications may also be prioritised to ensure geographic distribution across NSW including an equitable spread of funds and projects in regional, rural and remote areas, and to avoid service duplication.
- Preference may be given to applications by ACCOs.

Key dates

Application outcomes advised	March 2026
Funding agreements established	April 2026
Projects commence	1 July 2026
Projects conclude	30 June 2028

Assessment process



Successful projects – Funding agreement

- ✓ All applicants will be notified by email.
- ✓ Grant Funding Agreement will be sent to successful applicants who will be required to return the signed Funding Agreement **within two weeks of receipt.**
- ✓ Details of payment arrangements and commitments will be identified in the funding agreement.
- ✓ Grant holders will be required to submit six-monthly progress reports and a final report including financial acquittal.
- ✓ All funds must be spent and projects delivered by **30 June 2028.**



Successful projects – monitoring and evaluation

- ✓ External evaluator(s) will be appointed to evaluate the program.
- ✓ Grant holders will contribute to the independent evaluation process via data collection and input and also receive support in the design and evaluation aspects of their project.
- ✓ Note – no need to budget for project-level evaluation beyond time allocation for relevant personnel.
- ✓ In the event that evaluation requires endorsement of a Human Research Ethics Committee, including an appropriate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research Ethics Committee, this process will be managed by the external evaluator with input from grant holders.

For further information and before you start your application, please review:

1. [Grant Program Guidelines](#)
2. [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#)
3. [SVRH Application Checklist](#)

You may also wish to review:

- [Help guide for applicants](#)
- [Sample answers for grant applications](#)



Support

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Chat

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