

2026-27 AEEF Application

Form Preview

Form Explanation

Acknowledgement of Country

The Health and Community Services Directorate acknowledges the Ngunnawal people as traditional custodians of the ACT and recognises any other people or families with connection to the lands of the ACT and region.

We acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.

Before commencing an application, please read the [2026-27 Aboriginal Community-Controlled Organisation \(ACCO\) Establishment and Expansion Fund \(AEEF\) Grant Guidelines](#).

The AEEF aims to support new and existing ACT ACCOs to build organisational capacity and capability to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people across Canberra.

If you have any questions about the application process or require assistance in filling out the form please contact the Aboriginal Services Development (ASD) Team via email AboriginalServiceDevelopment@act.gov.au

Eligibility

* indicates a required field

Entity Type

Please read the [2026-27 Aboriginal Community-Controlled Organisation \(ACCO\) Establishment and Expansion Fund \(AEEF\) Grant Guidelines](#) before you start your application.

You can only apply for a grant if you meet the eligibility criteria. Please do not complete this application form if you do not meet all of the eligibility criteria. If you do not meet the eligibility criteria, but are interested in establishing an Aboriginal Community-Controlled Organisation, please contact the Aboriginal Service Development team at AboriginalServiceDevelopment@act.gov.au

Organisation Eligibility

The following section **MUST** be completed by the Applicant Organisation:

Applicants must be an organisation established to provide culturally appropriate human services to the ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community. The applicant must operate in and have established governance structures in the ACT.

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The Health and Community Services Directorate is working with the definition of an ACCO in the [National Agreement on Closing the Gap](#) (Clause 44), which is: An Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community-Controlled Organisation that delivers services, including land and resource management, that builds the strength and empowerment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and people and is:

- o incorporated under relevant legislation and not-for-profit
- o controlled and operated by Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people
- o connected to the community, or communities, in which they deliver the services
- o governed by a majority Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander governing body.

Further information about this can be found on page 6 of the [Grant Guidelines](#).

What entity type are you? *

- ☐ Incorporated association
- ☐ Registered not-for-profit or charitable organisation

Individuals, profit making groups, government entities and registered political parties are not eligible to apply.

Under the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006 (CATSI Act), corporations are classified as small, medium and large. Which classification does your organisation belong to? *

- ☐ Small
- ☐ Medium
- ☐ Large

To assist you to answer Small, Medium or Large, please refer to the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006 (CATSI Act) <https://www.legislation.gov.au/C2006A00124/latest/text>

Does your Organisation meet Clause 44 of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

To assist you to answer Yes or No, please refer to the sources of evidence outlined on pages 5-7 of the Grant Guidelines.

Does your Organisation operate in and have established governance structures in the ACT? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If you operate outside of the ACT, you may not be eligible for these grants.

Does your Organisation provide culturally appropriate human services to the ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If your Organisation does not yet meet Clause 44, do you have a formal commitment from the Board to becoming an ACT ACCO as per Clause 44, and have a demonstrated positive relationship with the Aboriginal Service Development Branch, Health and Community Services Directorate? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Has your organisation received funding from another source to deliver or provide the same or similar project/program? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unsure

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If yes, please provide details

Has your organisation received any funding previously from the Health and Community Services Directorate? *

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Unsure

Overdue reporting or acquittals for any previous Health and Community Services Directorate grants will make your application ineligible.

To check the status of a previous grant with the Health and Community Services Directorate click the My Submissions link near the top left of the screen.

If a different user has previously lodged grant applications for your Organisation, you may not be able to see these outstanding acquittals. Please contact the HCSD Grants Team to discuss further at HCSDGrants@act.gov.au

Have you met acquittal conditions for previous funding received from the Community Services Directorate? *

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Unsure
☐ No previous grant funding received

If you or your organisation have previously received a grant from the Health and Community Services Directorate and you are unsure if acquittal obligations have been met, please contact the CSD Grants Team at HCSDGrant@act.gov.au for assistance to identify any outstanding acquittal reporting.

Please provide details of any Health Community Services Directorate grants you have received.

Grant Program	Grant ID Number	Funding acquitted?
Please ensure that you include any previous AEEF funding you have received		

Do you currently receive any ongoing funding from state governments or the Australian Government? *

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

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Does your organisation receive: *

- ☐ Less than \$1 million per annum in total from state governments and/or the Australian Government
- ☐ More than \$1 million per annum in total from state governments and/or the Australian Government

Contact Details

* indicates a required field

Applicant Details

Applicant Organisation Name *

Organisation Name

Applicant Primary Address *

Address

Address Line 1, Suburb/Town, State/Province, and Postcode are required.

Applicant Postal Address (if different from above)

Address

Applicant Primary Phone Number *

Must be an Australian phone number.

Applicant Other Phone Number

Must be an Australian phone number.

Applicant Primary Email *

Must be an email address.

Organisation Details

Applicant - Head of Org *

Title First Name Last Name

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Applicant - Head of Org Position *

Applicant - Head of Org Primary Phone Number *

Must be an Australian phone number.

Applicant - Head of Org Primary Email *

Must be an email address.

Applicant Primary Website *

Must be a URL.

Is the CEO/Chair/President or equivalent the project contact person for this project? *

☐ Yes ☐ No

Details of project contact person

Applicant Project Contact *

Title First Name Last Name

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Applicant Project Contact Position *

Applicant Project Contact Primary Phone Number *

Must be an Australian phone number.

Applicant Project Contact Primary Email *

Must be an email address.

Is your Organisation Incorporated? *

☐ Yes ☐ No

IA or ACN Number *

Incorporated Association or Australian Corporation Number

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Please upload your Certificate of Incorporation. *

Attach a file:

Does your organisation have an Australian Business Number (ABN)? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Applicant ABN *

The ABN provided will be used to look up the following information. Click Lookup above to check that you have entered the ABN correctly.

ABN

Entity Name

ABN Status

Entity Type

Goods & Services Tax (GST)

DGR Endorsed

ATO Charity Type

ACNC Registration

Tax Concessions

Main Business Location

Must be an ABN.

Insurance

Appropriate insurance cover must be held by the organisation implementing a funded project. This may include Public Liability of no less than \$10 million, Personal Accident, Volunteer Cover and or Directors Professional Indemnity.

Evidence of insurance may be required as a condition of the grant.

Please note that the Certificate of Currency must show that your organisation is covered for your proposed activity.

Does your organisation have public liability insurance? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Public Liability must be current at the time you are submitting your application. If your cover expires before you are awarded the grant, you may be required to submit an updated Certificate of Currency.

Please provide a copy of your organisation's Certificate of Currency or evidence that the insurance is being renewed. *

Attach a file:

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Insurance expiry date *

Must be a date.

Project Details

*** indicates a required field**

Project Details

The AEEF is designed to support the growth and sustainability of new and existing ACT Human Service delivery ACCOs by providing a funding source focused on supporting establishment, capacity and capability building activities.

Which of the following project/activity categories does your application fall into? *

- ☐ People (skills and abilities) i.e. workforce development and training
- ☐ Governance and Partnerships
- ☐ Resources (facilities, infrastructure, equipment, tools, other resources and assets)
- ☐ Other:

Please refer to the pages 7-11 of the [Grant Guidelines](#) for information about the categories.

Please also refer to the list of what funding cannot be used for on page 11.

People (skills and abilities) i.e. workforce development and training

- ☐ Upskilling staff and volunteers e.g. technical skills, financial management, contract management, human resources, business administration, mentoring.
- ☐ Enabling staff to attend workshops and training which are relevant to the core business (for example, community health, childcare, mental health services).
- ☐ Cultural training workshops.
- ☐ Cultural safety activities such as developing a cultural safety debriefing model for staff.
- ☐ Other:

Please note that funding **cannot** be used for salaries.

For more detail on what the funds cannot be used for, please refer to page 11 of the [Grant Guidelines](#).

Governance and Partnerships

- ☐ Contracting business specialists to work with the ACCO to develop and publish key business documents e.g. strategic planning, operational direction, quality assurance.

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- ☐ Undertaking a needs assessment to identify funding requirements for organisational growth and development as part of service design and continuous improvement.
- ☐ Building the skills and capability of Board members i.e. contracting governance specialists to support this skills and capability development.
- ☐ Contracting finance, HR and legal specialists to build and support core administrative systems and functions such as recruitment and partner/collaboration arrangements.
- ☐ Activities to streamline operations i.e. accreditation/reporting processes.
- ☐ Collaboration or partnerships between ACCOs or other entities which further build the capacity and capability of the ACCOs or improve service or program outcomes.
- ☐ Contracting business specialists to increase an ACCO's success rate in competitive grant or tender processes.
- ☐ Funding to undertake upfront feasibility work to apply for Commonwealth and Territory funding opportunities.
- ☐ Volunteer engagement and management strategies.
- ☐ Other:

Please note that funding **cannot** be used for domestic travel or accommodation costs in this category.

For more detail on what the funds cannot be used for, please refer to page 11 of the [Grant Guidelines](#).

Resources (facilities, infrastructure, equipment, tools, other resources and assets)

*

- ☐ Developing new or improved systems e.g. information technology, information, or data management, reporting systems, work to ensure data sovereignty.
- ☐ Advertising and promotional strategy development and implementation including website development.
- ☐ Monitoring and Evaluation framework development and ongoing activities, including commissioning external program evaluations for key initiatives, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led evaluations of programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families.
- ☐ Upgrading, repairing, and refurbishing buildings which is not covered by the leasing/tenancy arrangement (see Note 1 below).
- ☐ Costs associated to acquire and maintain office space for a period of 2 years for ACT ACCOs who are in the establishment phase (see Notes 2 & 3 below).
- ☐ Specialised equipment.
- ☐ Hiring, leasing or purchasing service delivery vehicles (see Note 4 below).
- ☐ Other:

Please note that funding **cannot** be used for commitments such as maintenance and operational costs for any good beyond the funding period including ongoing vehicle costs.

Funding cannot be used for domestic travel or accommodation in this category. For more detail on what the funds cannot be used for, please refer to page 11 of the [Grant Guidelines](#).

Notes:

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1. Where applications include building or refurbishment works, confirmation of building owner (private or ACT Property Group) and owner consent will be required as part of the application process. Applicants need to remain mindful that most tenancy agreements require the tenant to return the property to the original state as per when they moved in. Therefore, applications will need to include information on how the organisation will future proof the modifications. Applications seeking to fund repairs to ACT Property Group (ACTPG) properties, where ACTPG is responsible for these repairs are not eligible under this Grant Program.

2. An ACT ACCO can apply for 2 years of funding to support the organisation to acquire and maintain an office space if the organisation:

- does not already occupy an office space;
- can demonstrate the office space is needed to increase and improve quality service delivery;
- is considered to be within its initial establishment phase and does not hold any ongoing contracts (2 years or more) with either the ACT Government or Australian Government.

3. Where the submission includes infrastructure or equipment there must be a clear and defined link to a service or program indicating how this will improve and further strengthen outcomes in Closing the Gap. In addition, the application will need to outline how the organisation plans to maintain this post the funding period as ongoing maintenance, licenses and repairs will not be funded through this Grant Program.

4. An ACT ACCO can apply for a one-off contribution to the cost of a vehicle which will support improved service delivery. The ongoing vehicle costs such as registration, insurance, maintenance and repairs will not be funded through this Grant Program. If applying to purchase a car (5-seater), the applicant can apply for up to \$50,000. If applying for a people mover/minibus (6-seater and above), the applicant can apply for up to \$80,000. As part of the application process, the applicant will need to demonstrate the organisation's capacity to meet ongoing vehicle costs such as servicing and registration.

Assessment Criteria

Please provide a response demonstrating how your proposal meets the following criteria (please limit each response to 500 words).

Please describe what your organisation does, and how it delivers Human Services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the ACT. *

Word count:

If you are applying in the Start Up Tier, please describe what your organisation intends to do and how it will deliver Human Services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the ACT.

Aim alignment - How will the proposed activity support you to build and/or strengthen the organisational capacity and capability of your ACCO? And how will the proposed activity support the future growth and sustainability of your ACCO? *

Word count:

The extent to which the application supports the growth and sustainability of the ACT ACCO by building and/or strengthening the organisational capacity and capability.

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Capacity - Has your organisation managed a similar project/activity to which you have proposed in the past? Was it managed to successful completion? What lessons did your organisation learn and how will those learnings be applied to the management of this proposed project/activity? *

Word count:

The application demonstrates the ACT ACCO has the capacity to see the project/activity to completion and manage the funding. If the application relies on a third party to perform a component of the project/activity, the applicant must provide a copy of the received quote. If the application outlines a project/activity which is to be undertaken in partnership or collaboration with one or more ACT ACCOs and/or mainstream service providers, the application must: a.outline the roles and responsibilities of each organisation, including who is taking the lead, financial roles and responsibilities, and responsibility for submitting the final acquittal; and b.demonstrate agreement has been reached between the organisations. A letter of support for the partner organisations must be provided as supporting documentation.

Outcome - please describe the outcome you are aiming to achieve and how it will improve quality services for ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. *

Word count:

Budget Information

* indicates a required field

GST Component

As there are no goods or services being exchanged and the funding is intended as a contribution to your project, GST is not applicable to grant payments.

Are you registered for GST (goods and services tax)? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Will you receive any other support for this project? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

For example, In-kind support is a donation of goods or services, time or expertise rather than cash or appreciated property which is converted into a dollar amount.

If yes please provide details

Budget

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The 2026-27 AEEF Grant Program is designed to be an open non-competitive grant round, noting the grant round will remain open until the total funding available for the 2026-27 financial year is expended, or 30 June 2027, whichever comes first.

Once the 2026-27 financial year funding allocation is exhausted the grant round will be closed until the 2027-28 financial year. At this time, the AEEF Grant Program is expected to run for 4 financial years, with the last round being delivered in 2027-28.

Regular updates on the expenditure will be included in the Aboriginal Service Development Newsletter.

Eligible ACT ACCO's can submit multiple applications throughout the time the grant round is open. There is no limit to the number of applications received from an eligible ACT ACCO, however a tiered funding approach with an associated capped amount per organisation/applicant applies.

Consideration may be given to limiting the number of applications from the same organisation/applicant if there is a risk of inequity between ACT ACCOs.

Which Tier are you applying for? *

- ☐ Start Up - up to \$15,000
- ☐ Establishment - up to \$150,000
- ☐ Development - up to \$150,000
- ☐ Growth - up to \$120,000

Please refer to pages 12-13 of the [Grant Guidelines](#) for further information about these tiers.

What is the total amount of funding you are seeking from this grant? *

Must be a dollar amount.

Additional Information

Please upload any additional information or documentation that may support your application.

Attach a file:

Feedback, Review and Submit

* indicates a required field

Certification - Organisation

I certify that to the best of my knowledge the statements made within this application and the information provided is true and correct.

I understand that if the Health and Community Services Directorate approves the grant, I will be required to accept the terms and conditions of the grant as outlined in the grant guidelines, application form and Deed of Grant/Letter of Offer.

I understand the Territory may wish to contact me to seek feedback on the application form.

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Name *

Title

First Name

Last Name

Position *

Chief Executive Officer, Chair, President or equivalent

Date *

Must be a date

I agree if I am successful, the Territory may contact me to seek permission to publish information about my application and how the grant benefited me. *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Privacy Notice

In compliance with the *Information Privacy Act 2014* (the Act) personal information on this form may be stored in the Health and Community Services Directorate records and may also be used for statistical research, information provision and evaluation of services. Your personal information may be disclosed to other agencies and third parties for purposes related to this application and/or monitoring compliance with the Act. Except in these circumstances, personal information will only be disclosed to third parties with your consent unless otherwise required or authorised by law.

Feedback

You are now coming to the end of your application process and before you **REVIEW** and click the **SUBMIT** button, please take a few moments to provide some feedback.

We would value any feedback you may have regarding our online grant application process.

Please indicate how you found the online application process: *

☐ Very easy

☐ Easy

☐ Neither

☐ Difficult

☐ Very difficult

Please tell us how you found out about the AEEF Grant Program *

☐ Direct contact from the Aboriginal Service Development team

☐ Social media - Facebook

☐ Social media - Linked in

☐ Social media - other

☐ Our Canberra (printed or online)

☐ Aboriginal Services Development Newsletter

☐ ACT Government Grants Portal

☐ Community Partner Update

☐ Word of Mouth

☐ Other:

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Please provide us with any improvements and/or additions to the application process/form that you think we need to consider:

No more than 100 words.