



Citizen Science Grants

Citizen Science Grants support community participation in scientific research projects that have a national impact.

What does it offer?

Citizen Science Grants is a competitive element of the [Inspiring Australia – Science Engagement Programme](#).

It aims to provide opportunities for the public to engage in science by participating in scientific research projects. These projects must include the collection or transformation of data in Australia.

The Australian Government will provide ongoing funding of \$1 million per year for Citizen Science Grants.

The minimum grant amount available is \$50,000.

The maximum grant amount available is \$500,000.

The maximum project duration is 3 years.

How does it work?

Participants will be able to take part in scientific research projects by a range of means, including collecting and analysing data, formulating questions and organising research teams.

To be eligible to apply you must meet all eligibility criteria and have an eligible scientific research project.

Research projects are expected to be peer-reviewed and produce credible, reliable data that will be shared (as appropriate) with participants, the science community and the public. Participants will be empowered by learning new skills, forming new networks, being acknowledged for their participation, and by receiving updates on their participation in specific research projects.

What projects are eligible?

To be eligible your project must

- be a research project in a field of science
- include either data collection or the transformation of data as an eligible activity
- include at least \$50,000 in eligible expenditure
- involve participation by members of the public in either data collection or data transformation activities – that is, participation is not restricted to scientists specialising in the relevant subject matter
- include a core activity or core activities that take place within Australia

You must also

- commit to share results publicly and comply with open science principles (exemptions are available for proprietary materials)
- identify how you will evaluate the performance of your project
- comply with ethical codes and guidelines as outlined in the [Programme Guidelines](#).

Who can apply?

To be eligible you must have an Australian Business Number (ABN) and be one of the following:

- an entity incorporated in Australia
- an eligible research organisation
- a Publicly Funded Research Organisation
- an incorporated not for profit organisation
- a local government agency or body (including government business enterprises).

You must also provide confirmation from your governing board, faculty head (CEO or equivalent) that the project is supported and that you can complete the project and meet the costs of the project not covered by grant funding.

See Schedule 1 of the [Programme Guidelines](#) for more information.

Who is not eligible to apply?

- a Commonwealth or state/territory agency or body that does not undertake publicly funded research
- an individual or trust (though an incorporated trustee may apply on behalf of a trust).

What activities are eligible?

To be eligible your project must include one of the following activities

- data collection or
- transformation of data.

Your project may also include any of the following eligible activities

- dissemination of results/outcomes
- network building activities
- other activities as deemed eligible by the Programme Delegate.

Ineligible activities include

- projects with identified unacceptable ethical concerns
- core research infrastructure development activities where the primary purpose is not related to the project
- activities that generate a profit.

How will my application be assessed?

We will assess your application against the eligibility criteria. If your application is eligible, it will be forwarded to an independent Committee. The Committee will assess your application against the merit criteria and compare it to other eligible applications in the same funding round.

To be competitive you must score highly against all of the following merit criteria

- the reach and impact of the project (40 points)
- your capacity, capability and resources to carry out the project (30 points)
- your need for funding (30 points).

What will I need to do if successful?

You must enter into a grant agreement with the Australian Government.

The grant agreement requires you to report on your completed activities. You must report on your progress against agreed milestones, the contributions of participants and the eligible expenditure of your grant funds.

You will receive an initial payment when the grant is finalised and subsequent payments based on the progress of your project. Five per cent of the grant (or \$5,000 whichever is greater) is set aside for the final payment. We will pay this when you submit a satisfactory final report.

How do I apply?

You should read the [Programme Guidelines](#) before you apply.

You can only submit an application during a funding round. We will publish the opening and closing date for each round on [business.gov.au](#).

To apply you must

- complete the online application form
- address all eligibility and merit criteria
- submit your application.

Where can I find more information?

Visit [business.gov.au/csg](#) or call **13 28 46**.