National Science Week Grants

National Science Week Grants fund science engagement activities during National Science Week. The next National Science Week is from 10-18 August 2019.

What does it offer?
National Science Week Grants (an element of the Inspiring Australia – Science Engagement Programme) helps provide nationwide science engagement activities for the wider community by:

- providing funding to eligible and meritorious high profile projects across all states and territories
- supporting projects that stimulate and leverage further contributions by organisations across Australia
- supporting projects which target new and under-served audiences
- engaging Indigenous Australians in National Science Week activities.

Ongoing funding of $500,000 per year will be available. The minimum grant amount is $2,000 and the maximum grant amount is $20,000.

You can apply for a grant through an annual open competitive funding round.

How does it work?
To be eligible your project must:

- be directed towards a science-related activity that will be conducted in Australia during National Science Week, or where appropriate, in the week before or after National Science Week
- address one or more of the following purposes:
  - draw the nation’s attention towards the sciences
  - spark broad interest and engagement in the sciences
  - provide an opportunity for all Australians to participate in science events and activities
  - foster partnerships between the community, research organisations and industry
  - trial new and innovative science communication activities
  - involve attendance or participation by the general public
  - include eligible activities and eligible expenditure.

Your project can include activities at multiple locations, as long as all locations are within Australia.

School-based projects are not usually eligible. The Program Delegate may agree to consider such an application as eligible if it involves significant general public involvement. Please discuss your project with us before submitting an application for a school-based project.

School-based National Science Week projects may be able to apply for support through the Australian Science Teachers Association which runs a specific National Science Week grants round for schools.

Further information about National Science Week can be found at [www.scienceweek.net.au](http://www.scienceweek.net.au) and through the National Science Week Coordinating Committee in your state or territory.

Who can apply?
To be eligible you must:

- be an individual 18 years of age or older, or
have an Australian Business Number (ABN).

Joint applications are acceptable, provided you have a lead applicant who is the main driver of the project.

Who is not eligible to apply?
You are not eligible to apply if you are:

- a Commonwealth entity (publicly funded research organisations that meet the eligibility criteria in 4.1 of the grant opportunity guidelines are eligible to apply).

What activities are eligible?
Eligible activities must directly relate to the project and can include:

- events relating to existing exhibitions (including travelling exhibitions)
- cinema and theatre
- debates
- quizzes
- open days
- interactive workshops
- expos and fairs
- presentations
- online-events
- forums
- events that relate to the theme for that particular International Year
- events that relate to the National Science Week school theme.

How will my application be assessed?
We first assess your application against the eligibility criteria and then against the merit criteria. Only eligible applications will proceed to the merit assessment stage. An independent National Science Week Grants Committee will assess eligible applications against the merit criteria and compare them to other eligible applications in the same funding round.

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

- the reach and impact of the project (50 points)
- your capacity, capability and resources to carry out the project (30 points)
- impact of funding on your project (20 points)

To support a spread of projects, the Committee will also take into account the fields of science being demonstrated and the state or territory the projects will be occurring in.

The Program Delegate will make the final decision taking into account the Committee’s recommendations and the availability of grant funds.

What will I need to do if successful?
If your application is successful, you will receive a written offer. If you are unsuccessful, we will notify you in writing and give you the chance to discuss the outcome with us.

Successful applicants must enter into a grant agreement with the Commonwealth. The grant agreement will specify the reporting requirements, payment schedule and milestones necessary to receive payments.

We will pay 100 per cent of the grant on execution of the grant agreement. You will be required to report how you spent the grant funds at the completion of the project.

You should contact the National Science Week Coordinating Committee in your state or territory, to let them know that you will be holding an event, as they will be coordinating all National Science Week activities within their region.

You will need to use National Science Week branding in the promotion of events, and register the event on the National Science Week website.

How do I apply?
You should read the grant opportunity guidelines and the sample grant agreement before you apply.

We will publish the opening and closing dates for the annual funding round on business.gov.au

To apply you must:

- complete the online application form
- address all eligibility and merit criteria
- submit your application by the advertised closing date.

Where can I find more information?