

Gender Equality through the Arts Project Grant

Frequently Asked Questions

ELIGIBILITY

Who is eligible to apply?

The funding calls for proposals from Victorian local councils who can demonstrate either current or potential partnerships with arts, cultural and creative sectors and additional public or private sector organisations with an interest in promoting gender equality to develop community based arts initiatives.

Projects in rural and regional locations are strongly encouraged – particularly in areas of high unemployment or social disadvantage.

To be eligible for the grant you need to:

- be a Victorian Local Government Authority
- demonstrate the potential to work in partnership with an arts/cultural/creative internal department or external organisation and/or additional public or private sector partners
- be able to undertake the proposed activities within the 12-month funding period
- show a commitment to participate in program evaluation
- have acquitted previous grants awarded to it by VicHealth (to the satisfaction of VicHealth).

I already receive funding from VicHealth - can I apply?

Yes, but in the interest of equity, funding may be prioritised towards those who are not currently in receipt of VicHealth funding for any other project. All applications will be assessed according to the key selection criteria and how well they address the objectives of the program.

FUNDING, SUBMISSION & ASSESSMENT PROCESS

How do I apply?

You can apply online at: <https://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/funding/gender-equality-arts>

When should I apply?

The Gender Equality through the Arts Project Grant will be open from 11th December 2018 to 8th February 2019.

What is on offer?

The Gender Equality through the Arts Project Grant will provide funding of up to \$85,000 (excluding GST) over a 12 month period to deliver their project. This program will support the development of new creative arts initiatives or extend and strengthen existing promising arts-based initiatives that raise awareness of and promote gender equality.

Will staffing costs be funded?

Yes, VicHealth allows councils to allocate budget expenditure to staffing costs to drive this project. This may include EFT for staff depending on the scope of the project. This can include existing council staff and new staffing resources for the project. There is a line in the budget template (see question 7 of the application) where councils can outline staff costs. Please provide comments against the budget line item to provide explanation of the staffing resources required.

Are there any restrictions to the way the budget can be allocated?

The budget you submit as part of your application should align with the scope of your project. The listed line items provide a guide as to the type of expenses your project will likely have. You can add line items as needed but please provide comments to support your budget.

How will applications be assessed?

Applications will be assessed by a Panel in late February. For assessment criteria, please refer to Table 1 in the Guidelines.

What are you going to do with my Intellectual Property?

In short, you will retain all copyright and any other intellectual property rights in your submission, and will allow VicHealth use of the project findings to contribute to the evidence base in this area (see our terms and conditions for further details).

Who are the judges on the assessment panel?

Our assessment panel is made up of a combination of VicHealth experts and representatives from the gender equality and arts sectors.

Can I request an extension?

No. Under no circumstance will late applications be accepted.

Can I apply for multiple grants?

More than one application may be submitted however in the interest of equity it is unlikely that we will fund more than one submission from each Council. We recommend focusing your energies on the proposal most likely to meet the program objectives.

FUNDING APPLICATION SYSTEM

I've forgotten my password for the funding application system - how do I retrieve it?

If you already have an account, we cannot retrieve your password but you can request a new password. On the User Logion page click 'Forgot your password. Click here'. A new password will be sent to the email address that you used to register. If you prefer, you can request a new password by contacting the VicHealth IT Helpdesk via helpdesk@vichealth.vic.gov.au

I can't find my draft application- how can I access it?

If it is not under the 'Show in Progress Applications' section on the Online Submissions portal screen it has not been saved. You need to select the 'Save & Finish Later' button on the bottom of the application form pages otherwise your work will be lost when you click out of the page.

I am experiencing issues logging in using Google Chrome/Google.

Please try either clearing your cache, or try using another browser such as Internet Explorer or Firefox instead.

PARTNERSHIP

What kind of support/contribution is available from VicHealth?

Support will be available from staff at VicHealth including:

- Meeting periodically with project staff and partners;
- Participation in project advisory groups;
- Access to VicHealth resources, including independent evaluator;
- Provision of resources and services to assist with dissemination of project outcomes including; expertise and advice on written reports; access to workshop venues and support to publicise and disseminate project activities and publications
- Media and knowledge translation support for profiling outcomes locally and nationally including press releases.

What level of partner commitment is expected at the application stage?

VicHealth would like to see clear agreed partnerships already in place and requires councils to provide letters of support from project partners. Where this is not possible then proof of the history of partnership and likelihood of success of partnership is required. We recommend prioritising the inclusion of those most crucial to your project meeting the program objectives.

What is required in the letter of support from partners?

The letter should be supplied in PDF on the partner organisations letterhead including contact details and website address. The body of the letter should include details on the organisations commitment to the project and what type of support they will be providing i.e. planning, delivery, access to networks, additional funding or in-kind support etc.

Do libraries and schools count as cultural partners?

Yes, the term 'creative industries' incorporates these types of partners.

What is Councils role in this process/grant?

Local Councils role in this process is to lead and coordinate the project, to submit the application, receive and manage the funds and be responsible for all reporting. Councils can play a powerful role in connecting communities and through their municipal health and wellbeing plans have experience and expertise in gender equality and the prevention of violence against women. They may also have strong links with creative industry partner organisations through their arts and culture departments on and provide access to municipal facilities, partners and audiences.

PAYMENTS**If we are successful how are payments made?**

Payments will be made in instalments. An initial payment on signing of the contract, a second instalment after submission of the workplan at the commencement of the project and the final 10% on submission of all project requirements and completion of the project.

Once contractual agreement is reached VicHealth will be in touch with successful grantees to confirm payment arrangements.

FUNDING CONDITIONS**What are the funding conditions of VicHealth if successful in obtaining a Gender Equality through the Arts Project Grant?**

If your proposal is successful with VicHealth, your Administering Organisation will be required to enter into VicHealth's Standard Funding Agreement. Successful applicants are also required to submit an annual report, a final report and certified financial statements. Additional funding conditions can be found in the Guidelines.

Will you make successful submissions public?

We will be announcing the successful projects publicly via our website. If your pitch is unsuccessful we'll let you know via email.

EVALUATION

What is involved in the evaluation of successful projects?

Applicants will need to provide information on their understanding of evaluation and successful applicants will be required to submit a plan outlining how they will monitor and evaluate their initiatives. They will also be required to work collaboratively with an external VicHealth appointed evaluator with design/collection/management/supply of minimum data set (data required to be confirmed in conjunction with VicHealth, external evaluator and funded Councils, and where possible using already existing tools).

GENERAL

Is it better to have a specific target audience (ie. Young men) or focus on whole of community as the target?

This depends on the project rationale and engagement strategies. Projects that focus on a specific subset of the population and those that target whole of population will be considered, but will need to clearly articulate the rationale and strategies proposed to engage with each.

Will projects that seek to address systemic gender discrimination within the arts industry itself be considered?

No. VicHealth acknowledges the stubborn persistence of inequities of opportunities and representation in the creative industries and the impact this has on cultural production more broadly. However as there have been a number of industry targeted initiatives, this grant program is focussed solely on projects that produce art based responses to the issues of gender inequality to help us increase the evidence base on how art itself can influence cultural change.

Will Projects with a focus on LGBTIQ communities be considered?

Any arts initiative that is focussed on addressing one or more of the underlying drivers of violence against women, as outlined in the National Framework for the prevention of violence against

women and their Children, Change the Story, will be considered. It is important to articulate in your application how your arts initiative aims to address these drivers.

With the short turnaround for applications over the Christmas period, do we need to have partnerships and additional funding secured prior to submitting our proposal?

It is preferable that partnerships are secured prior to submission. Should this not be possible please outline any prior relationships and likelihood of successful partnerships/funding with organisations that you intend on partnering with for this grant. Detail the current status of each partnership in your application. VicHealth will assess your application based on this information.

Will there be a community of practice created for funded projects?

If resources allow, VicHealth hopes to facilitate a community of practice for successful Gender Equality through the Arts projects to share learnings, problem solve challenges and receive support and professional development as required.

Will there be funds available beyond year one to build on the success of arts initiatives developed during this funding round?

No, this is strictly a 12-month funding opportunity to contribute to the Victorian evidence base on what works. We are very interested in project proposals that will explore ways to extend the message and impact of their art work beyond its initial launch. Based on the recent review of arts initiatives internationally, applications that can articulate how they will use partnerships, digital technology and other strategies to increase the reach and stretch and extend the life of their work will have a greater likelihood of success.