



VicHealth (Victorian Health Promotion Foundation)

# Strong Young Mob Funding Guidelines



**VicHealth and Strong Young Mob  
acknowledge the Traditional Land  
Owners across Victoria and pay  
our respects to their Elders past,  
present, and emerging.**

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Preamble: The term Aboriginal used throughout this document and any supporting documents for this funding round refers to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

# Contents

<b>What is Strong Young Mob?</b> . . . . .	<b>1</b>
<b>What's on offer?</b> . . . . .	<b>1</b>
<b>What is the funding for?</b> . . . . .	<b>1</b>
Levels of Funding on offer . . . . .	.3
Funding Agreements . . . . .	.3
Funding not available for . . . . .	.3
<b>What we'll prioritise</b> . . . . .	<b>4</b>
<b>Who can apply?</b> . . . . .	<b>4</b>
Eligible . . . . .	.4
Not eligible . . . . .	.4
<b>Assessment process</b> . . . . .	<b>5</b>
<b>Assessment criteria</b> . . . . .	<b>6</b>
<b>Insurance Requirements</b> . . . . .	<b>7</b>
<b>Steps to apply</b> . . . . .	<b>7</b>
<b>Important dates</b> . . . . .	<b>8</b>
<b>Reporting</b> . . . . .	<b>8</b>
<b>Support available</b> . . . . .	<b>9</b>

## What is Strong Young Mob?

Strong Young Mob is a committee made up of Victorian Aboriginal-led organisations who have come together to develop the Strong Young Mob Funding Round. With support from VicHealth, the committee have overseen the design and development of a project plan that includes delivering on the focus areas outlined in this funding round.

## What's on offer?

Total funding of \$300,000 is available in 2024 for Aboriginal-led organisations to improve the health and wellbeing of young mob<sup>1</sup> (0-30 years) across Victoria. Funded projects should be delivered by May 2025.

## What is the funding for?

Funded programs and initiatives will deliver on **one** or more the following focus areas:

- Leadership
- Healing and wellbeing
- Healthy eating (including bush food, bush medicine), movement, and connection through music and arts

Organisations can apply for funding for:

- Delivery of a program or initiative **by your organisation**, including supporting young mob to access your program or initiative.
- Supporting young mob to access programs, events, and activities delivered **by another organisation**.

Supporting young mob to access events and services could include but are not limited to:

- Cost of transport
- Professional development courses
- Hiring a space
- Sporting season participation
- Sanitary items

Examples of programs and initiatives which could be funded:

Focus Area	Examples
Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Running an event with a leadership focus</li><li>• Providing opportunities and support to young mob to develop leadership skills</li></ul>
Healing and wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• On Country gatherings</li><li>• Practising, or teaching or celebrating of culture</li><li>• Providing spaces to connect</li></ul>
Healthy eating, movement, and connection through music and arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Activities, sports, or games promoting physical movement</li><li>• Classes for cooking and learning about traditional foods</li><li>• An art exhibition for young artists</li></ul>

Funded programs and initiatives will achieve **one** or more of the following outcomes:

- Back emerging leaders in the Community
- Promote the practice of leadership and self-determination
- Elevate connection to culture, healing, and Country through traditional practices
- Celebrate cultural knowledge and engagement in cultural practices
- Elevate social, emotional, spiritual, and physical wellbeing
- Amplify expression of cultural identity through music and the arts
- Provision of culturally safe spaces
- Greater access to programs, events, and activities within the three focus areas

## Levels of Funding on offer

There is a total of \$100,000 available for tier 1 grants and \$200,000 for tier 2 grants.

### **TIER 1: \$1000–\$10,000**

Applications within this tier of funding will:

- Complete a simple application form (no budget required)
- If successful, provide the final outcomes once the project is complete (more details under reporting below)

### **TIER 2: \$10,001– \$50,000**

Applications within this tier of funding will:

- Complete an application form including a [draft budget](#) with the application (using template provided)
- If successful, provide a progress update mid-way through the project, a final update on outcomes once the project is complete, and financial acquittal (more details under reporting below)

## Funding Agreements:

- Successful applicants receiving \$1000–\$35,000 will be required to agree to and sign a [simple funding agreement](#)
- Successful applications receiving over \$35,000 will be required to agree to and sign a [standard funding agreement](#)

## Funding not available for:

- Programs not targeting young mob aged 0–30
- Programs which include participation by under 18 year olds who will NOT be supervised by a parent, guardian or caregiver (i.e. Teacher or someone with duty of care) ([services to children](#))<sup>2</sup>
- Equipment, materials, staffing costs or overheads not directly related to implementation of the project<sup>3</sup>
- Health service delivery, early intervention (e.g. health assessments such as skin checks), treatment or rehabilitation<sup>4</sup>
- Reimbursement for expenses already incurred, or funded by another source<sup>5</sup>
- Fundraising or activities with no sustained benefit to participants or community or delivered without connection to health promotion activities<sup>6</sup>
- Projects supporting deliberate targeting of the head or where activity involves striking or kicking another individual with the purpose to injure
- Applications with 20% or more of the total budget allocated to capital works, infrastructure (including IT infrastructure), building works, or assets<sup>7</sup>

## What we'll prioritise

This funding round will prioritise programs that:

- Are youth led
- Are place-based<sup>8</sup>
- Delivered in regional and rural areas
- Support the delivery of recommendations from the [Ngaga-Dji report](#).

## Who can apply?

### Eligible:

- Aboriginal-led Victorian organisations with an Australian Business Number (ABN) and an incorporated association; a registered co-operative; or a registered company (visit <https://abr.business.gov.au/> to locate the ABN for your organisation)

For this funding round, Aboriginal-led organisations refers to the below list. In addition to the above, your organisation must be **one** of:

- Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation (ACCO)<sup>9</sup>
- Registered with ORIC<sup>10</sup>
- Have a minimum of 51% Aboriginal representation on your board and/or minimum of 51% Aboriginal ownership
- Aboriginal organisation established by Acts of Parliament (e.g. Traditional Owner group)

**\*\*Organisations based on the border of Victoria and a neighbouring state are eligible to apply however funded activities must take place in Victoria**

### Not eligible

- Organisations which are not Aboriginal-led
- Organisations who have relationships with tobacco/e-cigarette industry
- Individual/sole trader business types (eligible to apply through an eligible auspice organisation)<sup>11</sup>
- For-profit organisations
- Government
- Organisations with outstanding contractual requirements attached to existing or previous VicHealth funding (please contact VicHealth if you are unsure).

Ineligible applicants may apply for funding through an auspice arrangement which involves partnership with another eligible organisation (Auspice). The Auspice takes legal and financial responsibility for the funding, while funded project activities can be delivered by the partner who may have additional capacity or expertise.

Written confirmation of the arrangement between the Auspice and Project Delivery Organisation must be attached to the application.<sup>12</sup>

**\*Note: Organisations which are not Aboriginal-led and organisations with a relationship with the tobacco/e-cigarette industry cannot apply through an auspice arrangement.**

## Assessment process

### Phase 1

#### Initial checks and compliance

Eligibility and mandatory criteria checks

- Organisation is an eligible organisation
- No links with the tobacco/e-cigarette industry
- No outstanding contractual requirements attached to existing or previous VicHealth funding

### Phase 2

#### Scoring

All applications will be assessed twice, with the average score being taken as the final score.

- All applications will be reviewed by two Aboriginal youth assessors if possible\*
- If above point is not possible due to number of applications then VicHealth staff may assess some applications
- If scores between two assessors are greater than 3 points different for the same application, VicHealth will bring assessors together as a form of moderation to discuss scores and the disparity

\*Based on availability.

### Phase 3

#### Shortlisting scored applications

Recommended applications for tier 1 will go straight for approval.\*

Shortlisting for tier 2 applications will be determined for the assessment panel based off scoring in phase 2.

Shortlisting to consider scores and distribution of funds across focus areas, and regional Victoria and Melbourne.

\*Recommendations based off average application score compared to a cut-off score to be confirmed (based on number of applicants, average application scores, and harmful industry declarations)



## Phase 4

### Harmful industry declaration assessment

All harmful industry declarations for shortlisted applications will be assessed by VicHealth.

## Phase 5

### Assessment panel

An assessment panel with a minimum of 51% Aboriginal representation will review shortlisted grant applications for tier 2 and provide recommendations for funding to the VicHealth CEO for final approval.

## Phase 6

### Approval of recommended applications

The VicHealth CEO may seek additional information to help decision making.

Post approval, VicHealth will begin notifying successful applicants, contracting, and delivering funding.

## Phase 7

### Feedback to unsuccessful organisations

Feedback for unsuccessful applications will be documented to provide to organisations on request.

## Assessment criteria

Each application will be scored twice with a recommendation of whether to fund based on the below criteria.

1. **Focus Area and outcome:** Application demonstrates how the idea meets one or more of the focus areas and outcomes outlined in the funding guidelines with reasonable budget spend. **Weighting 20%**
2. **Youth led:**<sup>13</sup> Applications demonstrate the program has been designed with youth and there is youth need and support. If not, there should be evidence of youth support for the program. **Weighting 30%**
3. **Strengths based:**<sup>14</sup> Application focuses on the strengths of young mob, and how to foster these strengths. **Weighting 15%**
4. **Place based:** Application demonstrates that the program and/or idea targets specific settings (such as where a person lives). **Weighting 10%**
5. **Impact:** The application demonstrates who will benefit from the program and the impact it will have on these people/broader Community. **Weighting 15%**
6. **Readiness to deliver:** Application outlines your organisation's skills, experience and resources that demonstrate your capacity and readiness to deliver your idea. **Weighting 10%**

# Insurance Requirements

To be eligible to receive funding your organisation must provide evidence or a quote of:

- Work safe certificate of currency, and
- Public liability insurance of \$10,000,000 per event which covers both the project period and the following 7 years after delivery of the project, and
- If required for your project (to be confirmed by VicHealth), professional indemnity insurance of \$5,000,000 per event which covers both the project period and the following 7 years after delivery of the project

Applicants can use grant funding to purchase any of the required insurances should your organisation not already hold them. If you do not currently hold these insurances you will be required to provide a quote in your application.

## Steps to apply

### Step 1

Read these guidelines and make use of the links provided within.

### Step 2

Use the [Application Drafting Tool](#) for tier 1 and 2 applications to prepare the information you need for your application.

### Step 3

Register and log in to the [VicHealth Stakeholder Portal](#).

### Step 4

**Tier 1:** Complete the online application.

You may also upload additional documents to support your application including photos or letters of support.

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**Tier 2:** Complete the online application and upload completed [budget template](#).

You may also upload additional documents to support your application including photos or letters of support.

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If you prefer to tell the story and impact of your application through video, [click here](#) for more information.

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## Step 5

All applicants must complete a harmful industry declaration of any current, planned or past 12-month relationships with food, sugary drink, alcohol, gambling, tobacco, and e-cigarette industries. This does not affect your eligibility to apply, but declarations will be assessed by VicHealth for potential risk. Read VicHealth's [Harmful Industry Relationship Funding and Procurement Policy](#) for more information.

## Step 6

Submit your completed application form before **12pm midday 20 February 2024**. You will receive an email to confirm your application has been received. Once submitted, your application cannot be changed.

## Important dates

<b>Information session</b>	Week of grant opening
<b>Applications open</b>	16 January 2024
<b>Grant writing workshop</b>	Thursday 1 February 1:30–3pm (see website to register)
<b>Applications close</b>	12pm midday 20 February 2024
<b>Notification of funding</b>	May 2024
<b>Program delivery begins</b>	May – June 2024
<b>Program delivery to finish by</b>	May 2025

## Reporting

We understand that colonial ways of reporting to funders can be a barrier to mob applying for important work in the community. The below table is a framework of what your reporting could look like, which we will adapt to suit your needs.

### EXAMPLE OF REPORTING OUTLINE – TIER 1: \$1000–\$10,000

- Applicant to provide update on outcomes at the end of the agreement (format to be decided with applicant)
- Financial acquittal may be required.

## EXAMPLE OF REPORTING OUTLINE – TIER 2: \$10,001– \$50,000

- Submit project plan + updated budget (if there have been any changes)
- Progress update halfway through the program (format to be decided with applicant)
- Applicant to provide update on outcomes at the end of the agreement (format to be decided with applicant)
- Submit financial acquittal (template provided)

## Support available

- [Online information session](#) (see website for more)
- [Grant writing workshop with Q&A](#) (see website for more)
- Attendance at capacity building forum (optional)
- [FAQs](#)
- [Local access to a computer or internet](#)
- Advice on alignment of your idea – call 03 9667 1333
- Access a computer or internet at VicHealth’s Health Promotion Hub – call 03 9667 1333

## FURTHER QUESTIONS

If you have further questions on these guidelines, more information can be found at the [Strong Young Mob funding webpage](#). You can submit a question on the VicHealth [Stakeholder Portal](#) after you’ve registered or email us at [partnershipgrants@vichealth.vic.gov.au](mailto:partnershipgrants@vichealth.vic.gov.au). Our business hours are 9am–5pm Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) however our office will be close Friday 22 December 2023 and re-open Tuesday January 2 2024.

## HELP FOR PEOPLE WITH HEARING OR SPEECH DIFFICULTIES

Contact VicHealth through the National Relay Service (NRS). For more information, visit the

If you require translation in other languages, you can let us know by: • Calling TIS National on 131 450 and asking them to call VicHealth on (03) 9667 1333. This is a free service • Calling us using your preferred interpreter on (03) 9667 1333 • Emailing us at [partnershipgrants@vichealth.vic.gov.au](mailto:partnershipgrants@vichealth.vic.gov.au)

NRS website ([communications.gov.au/accesshub/nrs](https://communications.gov.au/accesshub/nrs)) to choose your preferred access point or call the NRS Helpdesk on 1800 555 660. This is a free service. Help desk business hours are 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays).

<sup>1</sup> **Young mob:** Children and young people up to age 30

<sup>2</sup> **Services to children** refers to any programs or activities provided to participants under the age of 18 without the supervision of a parent, legal guardian, or caregiver.

<sup>3</sup> **Equipment:** items purchased for use in the activity that is being funded, equipment may be used after the funded activity ceases, but it is needed for the activity

<sup>4</sup> Refers to any healthcare completed by a health professional including early intervention activities, as well as treatment or rehabilitation for existing health conditions

<sup>5</sup> Funding is not available to cover the costs of previous expenses or expenses which have been paid for by another source of funding

<sup>6</sup> **Sustained benefit:** Improved health and wellbeing associated with your idea are beyond the life of the program/event

<sup>7</sup> Refers to works that create a new structure or significantly alter an existing structure owned by your organisation (includes IT infrastructure such hardware, software, facilities and services that support the delivery of business systems and IT).

<sup>8</sup> **Place based:** A project that is developed in partnership with those who will benefit from the idea. Place based programs target specific circumstances (such as where a person lives).

<sup>9</sup> **Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation (ACCO):** An ACCO is a term that encompasses a broad range of community-based organisations which are established and governed by First Nation people, generally adhering to First Nation corporate and cultural governance

<sup>10</sup> **Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC):** The Registrar of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporations is an independent statutory office holder appointed by the Minister for Indigenous Australians under the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006 (CATSI Act). Find out more about the Registrar [here](#).

<sup>11</sup> An individual or sole trader is not eligible to apply individually however are able to apply through an auspice organisation who is eligible. The auspice organisation would take legal responsibility for the funding.

<sup>12</sup> **Auspice:** An Auspice is an organisation who takes legal and financial responsibility for the funding, while funded project activities can be delivered by the partner who may have additional capacity or expertise.

<sup>13</sup> **Youth led:** Programs and events are designed and implemented by young mob

<sup>14</sup> **Strength based:** A project that focuses on the strengths of young mob, and how to foster these strengths.