

VicHealth Alcohol Harm Prevention Grants 2022–2023

Application Guidelines

About this Grant

The VicHealth Alcohol Harm Prevention grants are designed to support Victorian councils to implement their Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plans through exploring what they can do to prevent and minimise alcohol-related harm. These grants can be used to focus on whole of population approaches or key target audiences as identified by the council.

What's on offer

Up to \$40,000 is available over 2 years for Victorian local governments to identify and implement alcohol harm prevention actions, in line with the VicHealth and Alcohol and Drug Foundation guide, 'The Art of Community Alcohol Management: What local government can do to prevent and minimise alcohol-related harm'.

The grants are a new component within the VicHealth Local Government Partnership and are open to fast-track and non fast-track councils under the VLGP. All Victorian local governments are eligible to apply for this grant round.

There are two tiers of funding available:

Alcohol Grant Tier 1: \$10,000	For councils who are ready to work on alcohol harm prevention but aren't quite sure where to start.
Alcohol Grant Tier 2: up to \$40,000	For councils who are ready to implement alcohol harm prevention action/s.

Tier 1: \$10,000 over 1 year

Councils who have identified alcohol harm prevention as an area of focus but aren't quite sure where to start can apply for this funding to kick start their journey. Councils in this tier will develop a community alcohol profile and action plan for alcohol harm prevention.

Over a 12-month period, councils in this tier will:

- Work through the VicHealth and Alcohol and Drug Foundation guide, '[The Art of Community Alcohol Management: What local government can do to prevent and minimise alcohol-related harm](#)', including completing the Prevention Capacity and Infrastructure Self-assessment tool and developing a community alcohol profile. Undertaking these activities will assist councils to understand what local alcohol

issues are occurring, what your council is already doing in response, then what additional actions are going to be the highest priority for the council and community.

- Develop an action plan for alcohol harm prevention for their local government area
- Attend a 1-day capacity building workshop facilitated by the Alcohol and Drug Foundation to develop skills on:
 - Community alcohol profile development
 - Action plan development
 - Key actions within the Guide
 - Evaluating short- and medium-term impacts and utilising data
- Have access to a Community of Practice to share ideas and learnings with other councils
- Receive additional support from the Alcohol and Drug Foundation to develop their action plan

Councils who complete tier 1 can apply for tier 2 funding in 2023.

Tier 2: up to \$40,000 over 2 years

This tier is open to councils who have identified alcohol harm prevention as an area of focus in their Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan and have already developed an action plan for alcohol harm prevention. Actions must be sustainable and create long term change post grant funding. This funding can be used to implement one action, or multiple actions. The total amount of funding you can apply for is \$40,000.

If applying for this tier you must provide evidence that you have conducted a self-assessment of the issues and actions that are required in your local government area. If successful, you must agree to also undertake one of the actions from the VicHealth Local Government Partnership module [“Increasing Alcohol Harm Prevention at a Local Level”](#). If you have already completed an action from the module you must provide evidence of this.

Examples of suggested actions that local governments can undertake to have the most impact include:

- Influencing alcohol product consumption
- Amplify the power of alcohol harm prevention and minimisation strategies
- Improve community safety

Councils in this tier will also receive access to a Community of Practice to share ideas and learnings with other councils and receive additional support from the Alcohol and Drug Foundation.

What are the benefits for councils?

We all want every community across Victoria to be safe and healthy places to live, work and raise children. However, alcoholic products fuel poor health and disease, violence and accidents across the state.

Alcohol products impact such a wide variety of factors in our lives that every dollar invested in effective prevention initiatives returns up to \$14 of long-term savings.

Councils that increase alcohol harm prevention in their communities can expect to see improvements across a broad range of outcomes including:

- fewer alcohol-related risks and liabilities, less waste collection and cleaning, fewer complaints (e.g. noise, antisocial behaviour) and less alcohol-related crime (e.g. physical and sexual assault, property damage)
- changing social and cultural norms to promote activities that do not feature alcohol consumption as a central component, resulting in safer, healthier, more enjoyable, and more inclusive community events
- cost savings (e.g. property damage, insurance costs and legal costs associated with alcohol-related injuries) and sharing resources and improved revenue for council (e.g. through application process, festival sponsorship)
- legislative compliance.

Important dates

Applications open	12pm Monday 10 October 2022
Applications close	12pm Monday 14 November 2022
Funding notifications	November/December 2023
Delivery of projects	February 2023 – February 2025

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What can funding be used for?

Funding is available for essential goods or services directly relating to your project.

This may include:

- Equipment, materials or other items
- Short-term project staffing or sub-contracting
- Organisational capacity-building that will contribute to the project e.g. upskilling staff in short courses
- Minor capital works, infrastructure (including IT), building works or assets, not exceeding 20% of total funds**purchase must directly facilitate the outcomes of the idea/ project/activity
- If part of VLGP, you can use this funding to extend your module implementation funding for alcohol actions

Funding is not available for:

- Equipment, materials, staffing costs or overheads not directly related to implementation of the project
- Applications that expose children or young people to harmful industry products such as unhealthy food and drink, alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarette or gambling industry etc.
- Health service delivery, early intervention, treatment or rehabilitation
- Reimbursement for expenses already incurred, or funded by another source
- One-off events, fundraising or activities with no sustained benefit to participants or community or delivered without connection to health promotion activities
- Tertiary education qualifications
- Projects that support activities where the head is a deliberate target or where activity involves striking or kicking another individual with intent to injure
- Applications with 20% or more of the total budget allocated to capital works, infrastructure (including IT infrastructure), building works, or assets

Note, councils are required to be up to date on all existing VicHealth agreements in order to be eligible for funding.

Harmful Industry Relationships

All applicants are required to declare harmful industry relationships. Funding will NOT be granted if your organisation has had a relationship with the tobacco industry within the past five years. If this has occurred, you are **ineligible** to apply.

If your organisation has had a relationship with the gambling, alcohol, food or sugary drink industry within the past 12 months, you **must declare** this.

Providing a declaration DOES NOT automatically preclude the applicant from being eligible for funding. For more information, see the [VicHealth Harmful Industry Relationship Funding and Procurement Policy](#).

How to apply

Tier 1 applications – \$10,000	Tier 2 applications – up to \$40,000
Read the guidelines and make use of the links provided.	
Use the Application Drafting Tool (Tier 1 or Tier 2) to understand and prepare the information you will need for your application.	
Register and log in to the VicHealth Stakeholder Portal .	
Complete the Alcohol Grants online application form.	Complete the Alcohol Grants online application form. Upload completed Workplan and Budget templates.
Submit your completed application form before 12pm Monday 14 November 2022 . You will receive an email to confirm your application has been received. Once submitted your application cannot be changed.	

All enquiries related to this funding opportunity should be emailed to alcohol@vichealth.vic.gov.au

Assessment process

All funding applications will first be checked against the eligibility criteria and whether they are responding to the Alcohol Harm Prevention focus. If an application does not meet these requirements, it will not be assessed.

Following the eligibility check, a team comprising VicHealth staff and external assessors will score and shortlist applications based on how they meet the assessment criteria (below). An Advisory Panel will consider the shortlisted applications and make recommendations to the VicHealth CEO. Funding recommendations made by the Advisory Panel will be subject to the VicHealth CEO approval.

Funding will be awarded based on a combination of factors including application merit, community need and distribution of funds across Victorian geographic areas.

Generalised feedback will be provided on notification to unsuccessful applications, however we are unable to provide individualised feedback.

Assessment criteria

Eligible applications will be assessed against the following criteria:

Tier 1 (\$10,000):

- Demonstrated commitment to prioritising alcohol as a focus for their council
- Identified staff member/position to lead the work

Tier 2: (up to \$40,000):

- Demonstrated commitment to prioritising alcohol as a focus for their MPHWP
- Do the actions address a demonstrated need in the community?
- Does the project represent overall value for money?
- Project plan must include the delivery of at least one action from the VicHealth Local Government Partnership module "Increasing Alcohol Harm Prevention at a Local Level".
- Indication of how selected actions will be implemented in a way that ensures sustained and embedded change.

If a harmful industry relationship has been declared, this will be assessed and considered throughout the assessment process.

Working with VicHealth

Successful applicants will be required to:

- Enter into a Grant Agreement with VicHealth and comply with its Terms and Conditions.
- Ensure all activities are delivered using COVID-safe methods and if any COVID-related dangers or incidents arrive, let VicHealth know as soon as possible.
- Maintain and hold all necessary and adequate insurance for the purpose of the project. For grants over \$10,000, agree to provide insurance certificates if requested by VicHealth.
- Publicly acknowledge VicHealth's support throughout the funding period using approved logos and text.
- For Tier 1 councils, participate in the capacity building workshop to support the development of your action plan. For all councils, participate in the Community of Practice and ensure availability for the one on one support from the Alcohol and Drug Foundation.
- Meet basic reporting requirements, including a progress/and or final report and financial acquittal at the end of the grant period. These will be part of your Agreement and VicHealth will supply a template so you can let us know what you did with the funding and how it went.

Questions?

If you've read the Grant Guidelines, including relevant documents under the 'Recommended reading' section, and still have questions, please submit an enquiry via alcohol@vichealth.vic.gov.au.

Please note: We are unable to provide advice or feedback on your ideas, however, we can clarify the intention of the grant round and the outcomes it is trying to achieve.

Recommended reading

Before applying, we recommend you read and understand the following documents:

Name	Why is it recommended?
The Art of Community Alcohol Management: What Local Government can do to prevent and minimise alcohol-related harm	<p>The 'How to Guide' draws from the best available evidence and the experience of public health and Victorian local government professionals who have tried and tested strategies in rural and metropolitan areas. The guide will also support local governments to incorporate effective alcohol actions into their Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plans.</p>
Increasing alcohol harm prevention at a local level – VLGP stretch module	<p>This module will strengthen the capacity of local councils to prevent and minimise alcohol-related harm, creating safer and healthier communities in their municipalities. This module is to be used in conjunction with 'The Art of Community Alcohol Management: What local government can do to prevent and minimise alcohol-related harm'.</p>
VicHealth Harmful Industry Relationship Funding and Procurement Policy	<p>This webpage provides an overview of VicHealth's Harmful Industry Relationship Funding and Procurement Policy, when a declaration is required and how they will be assessed.</p>