



Yarra City Council

Grant Guidelines 2026

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Yarra City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and true sovereigns of the land now known as Yarra. We also acknowledge the significant contributions made by other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to life in Yarra. We pay our respects to Elders from all nations and to their Elders past and present.

Cover image credit: Ben Vella/Shoot Everything. Photo taken at the World Environment Day planting event on 9 June 2024, Merri Creek Labyrinth. Arranged by Friends of Merri Creek (2024 grant recipients)

Introduction

What is the purpose of these grants?

The Yarra Grants Program funds community driven projects that improve access to, and the quality of, social, economic and cultural life across the neighbourhoods, shared spaces and communities of the City of Yarra.

Projects funded through the program must now align with the following three principles:

Promote Access and Equity — Actively remove barriers and promote fair access, ensuring that people from diverse backgrounds and with varying needs can participate and benefit.

Deliver Local Benefit — Provide clear and tangible benefits to the municipality— supporting its people, neighbourhoods and public spaces—while fostering local development, wellbeing and inclusion.

Enable Participation — Promote community engagement to foster wellbeing and social, cultural and economic participation while enabling connections between community members to strengthen social cohesion.

What size are the grants?

There are three levels of grants:

Small (up to \$4,000, also called [Quick Response Grants](#))

Small grants are suited to short-term, low-cost initiatives—typically volunteer-led and involving fewer than 50 participants—such as single events or pilot activities with minimal logistics and reporting requirements.

Medium (\$4,001–\$20,000)

Medium grants support multi-activity projects or short-term programs with moderate staffing, engagement, and evaluation needs.

Large (\$20,001–\$40,000)

Large grants fund more intensive, longer-term or partnership-driven initiatives that involve formal governance, significant coordination, and the potential for broad or sustained community impact.

Key dates for the 2026 Yarra Grants Program

Application form available on SmartyGrants	Monday 1 September 2025
Grant Information Sessions	August/ September 2025
Grant round opens	Monday 8 September 2025
Applications close* (for medium and large grants)	Sunday 19 October 2025 11:59PM
Announcement of grant outcomes	Wednesday 17 December 2025
Projects commence	From January 2026

*Please note: the [Small/Quick Response Grants](#) (up to \$4,000) do not have a set application close date. They will open on Monday 8 September 2025 and stay open until all their funding pool has been allocated.

Grant Streams

The grants program has six funding streams:

- First Peoples Self-Determination and Partnerships
- Healthy, Inclusive and Connected Communities
- Vibrant and Resilient Local Economies
- Creative City and Cultural Participation
- A Climate-Resilient and Adapted City
- Safe, Clean and Welcoming Neighbourhoods

Grant stream descriptions and objectives

First Peoples Self-Determination and Partnerships

Yarra City Council acknowledges the First Peoples of Australia, with their connection extending back tens of thousands of years to the land and waterways now known as Yarra.

We have a strong commitment to the local First Peoples' communities and are always thinking about exploring approaches that centre community strengths, foster mutual learning and celebrate the cultural richness of First Peoples.

The grant objectives are to:

- Invest in First Peoples-led projects that advance self-determination through wellbeing and economic prosperity.
- Enable initiatives that celebrate and strengthen First Peoples' cultural expression, ceremony, and living heritage.
- Resource First Peoples-led truth-telling projects that deepen awareness of history, culture, and ongoing connection to Country.

Eligibility criteria specific to this stream

Before applying through this stream, contact the Principal Advisor Aboriginal Partnerships at aboriginalpships@yarracity.vic.gov.au and consider the following points:

- Is the project First Peoples led?
- What are the project impacts?
- How will the project be evaluated?
- Is it a collaboration?
- Who are the project partners?

Also see the [overall eligibility criteria](#) below.

Also see [Special requirements/Working with First Peoples](#).

Healthy, Inclusive and Connected Communities

The Healthy, Inclusive and Connected Communities Stream is designed to strengthen social connection and wellbeing in the City of Yarra and encourage people from all backgrounds to participate in community life.

This stream supports the valuable work undertaken by a diverse range of not-for-profit organisations and community groups in Yarra who run projects building social inclusion, supporting social justice and strengthening our local communities.

The grant objectives are to:

- Support community health initiatives that promote physical activity, nutrition, mental wellbeing, and healthy lifestyles.
- Strengthen community-led projects that improve food security, local food systems, and access to affordable, nutritious food.
- Enable inclusive sport, recreation, and physical activity programs that encourage active living across all age groups.
- Support early years programs, family wellbeing initiatives, ageing well activities, and lifelong learning opportunities.
- Empower under-represented groups to participate in and shape community life, fostering greater equity and inclusion.
- Build the capacity of organisations that assist people experiencing disadvantage, isolation, or barriers to participation.
- Foster neighbourhood-scale leadership and engagement initiatives that strengthen community resilience and connection.

Eligibility criteria specific to this stream

There are no specific eligibility criteria for this stream, see the [overall eligibility criteria](#) below.

Vibrant and Resilient Local Economies

There are more than 18,000 businesses operating in Yarra, making us home to one of the largest economies in metropolitan Melbourne. Our vision is for Yarra to be recognised as a smart and sustainable city, with vibrant and thriving precincts and an engaged local business community.

The grant objectives are to:

- Support initiatives led by small-to-medium enterprises that activate retail precincts and strengthen local economies. Small enterprises are up to and including 20 FTE (full time equivalent) staff. Medium enterprises are 21 to 50 FTE staff.
- Strengthen destination marketing initiatives that increase visitation, profile, and investment in activity centres.
- Support projects that build business capability, foster innovation, and encourage entrepreneurship among small-to-medium enterprises.
- Advance economic resilience by supporting partnerships that diversify and grow local enterprise opportunities.
- Encourage projects that create local jobs and training opportunities, particularly for young people, migrants, and disadvantaged groups.

Eligibility criteria specific to this stream

- Business applicants (or sole traders operating a business) must currently operate a business in the City of Yarra.
- Business applicants must have an active ABN.
- Applications must clearly articulate how the project will meet the grant objectives.
- Applications are open for groups of five or more business OR at least two businesses working with community representatives.
- A business must be the main applicant and evidence of support from other businesses and/or community representatives is required.
- Large enterprises with more than 51 or more FTE staff are ineligible.

Information session for Vibrant and Resilient Local Economies stream

- 12pm, Tuesday 19 August 2025, online. [Register to attend.](#)

Creative City and Cultural Participation

This stream supports the creation and presentation of arts and cultural projects, events, activities and works within the City of Yarra. Our vision is for arts and culture to be integrated into our city so that it can be an everyday experience and be enjoyed by our community, whether as makers, audience members or participants.

The grant objectives are to:

- Support the creation, development, exhibition, and performance of new artistic works by artists, arts organisations or creative enterprise across all career stages and art forms.
- Strengthen cultural festivals and events that celebrate Yarra's diversity and foster community leadership and participation, encouraging new and innovative models in event delivery.
- Activate public spaces through accessible, inclusive, and innovative arts and events programming.
- Support new creative partnerships that enable connections within the community and across a range of sectors.
- Encourages creative projects that are artist-led, community-collaborations that strengthen cultural participation, drive cultural enrichment and deliver experiences that promote social connection.

Eligibility criteria specific to this stream

- Individual artists, arts organisations or creative enterprises operating under an active sole-trader ABN¹ can apply under this stream. Creative enterprises must successfully demonstrate that their project will run on a not-for-profit basis.
- Artists and artist CVs will need to be submitted with the application.
- Also see the [overall eligibility criteria](#) below.

¹ Applicant names must match the entity (legal) name for the ABN, or a registered business name or trading name associated with the ABN and the name on the bank account provided for payment. The ABN entity name can be checked when entering your ABN into the application form. Applications with an active sole-trader ABN listed on their application, except for those submitted under the Vibrant and Resilient Local Economies and Creative City and Cultural Participation Stream, will be deemed ineligible and not assessed.

A Climate-Resilient and Adapted City

The Climate-Resilient and Adapted City Stream seeks to support initiatives that accelerate community-led climate and environmental action in line with the strategic directions and actions in [Yarra Council's Climate Emergency Plan 2024 – 2030](#). This stream places a priority on funding projects that engage and mobilise our community to take climate action, including growing a network of people taking climate action and advocating for change including better climate policies.

The grant objectives are to:

- Support community-led projects that expand urban greening and cooling through tree planting, community gardens, and green infrastructure initiatives.
- Strengthen the restoration and protection of remnant vegetation and the enhancement of urban biodiversity corridors.
- Support community-driven climate adaptation and environmental stewardship initiatives that build local resilience.
- Advance projects that improve the quality, accessibility, and amenity of parks, waterways, and natural green spaces.
- Build local capacity to deliver long-term environmental sustainability, stewardship, and climate resilience.

Eligibility criteria specific to this stream

There are no specific eligibility criteria for this stream, see the [overall eligibility criteria](#) below.

[You may wish to reference Yarra's Climate Emergency Plan 2024 – 2030, Climate Emergency Action Plan 2024-27 or our Climate Emergency Plan Snapshot.](#)

Safe, Clean and Welcoming Neighbourhoods

The purpose of this grant stream is to make our streets safer and more beautiful. This may involve implementing improvements to our streets and public spaces to keep them clean and reduce waste, litter and graffiti or measures to enhance safety in our streets and public spaces.

The grant objectives are to:

- Foster community-led activations that build pride in place, strengthen neighbourhood identity, and encourage social connection.
- Support local initiatives that address graffiti, improve the visual appearance of public spaces, and enhance the amenity and usability of community places.
- Support initiatives that enhance accessibility, wayfinding, and inclusive design to ensure public spaces are welcoming and safe for all members of the community.
- Enhance perceptions of safety by supporting public space improvements informed by CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) principles.

Eligibility criteria specific to this stream

There are no specific eligibility criteria for this stream, see the [overall eligibility criteria](#) below.

Overall eligibility criteria

Applicants must meet all the following eligibility requirements. Ineligible applications will not be assessed. Check each stream for specific eligibility criteria.

Eligible applicants

- Applicants must live, work, be located in, or demonstrate a clear connection to the City of Yarra.
- Applicants must have an active ABN (Australian Business Number). See below for advice regarding sole traders*.
- Applicants (excluding individual artists) must provide a financial statement.
- Not-for-profit community groups, and arts organisations, collectives or groups, that meet all other eligibility criteria but do not have an ABN can be auspiced by an eligible incorporated organisation or Neighbourhood House.
- Applicants must be a not-for-profit, incorporated group **or** meet **one** of the following specific exceptions:
 - Be a registered charity, public benevolent institution or have DGR status.
 - Be a state government entity seeking funding for activities beyond those considered the responsibility of State or Federal Government.
 - Unincorporated not-for-profit community and arts groups can have their applications auspiced by an eligible incorporated organisation or [Neighbourhood House](#).
 - Individual artists or arts-related businesses operating under an active sole trader ABN² can apply as individuals under the [Creative City and Cultural Participation](#) stream. Arts-related businesses must successfully demonstrate that their project will run on a not-for-profit basis.
 - Sole traders operating as a business can apply under the [Vibrant and Resilient Local Economies](#) stream (and must meet criteria for this stream).
 - Businesses and creative industries operating as for-profit businesses can apply under the [Vibrant and Resilient Local Economies](#) stream (and must meet criteria for this stream).
 - Be a Social enterprise (as registered with Social Traders).
- Applicants must have acquitted all previous grants and have no outstanding debts to Yarra City Council.

² Applicant names must match the entity (legal) name for the ABN, or a registered business name or trading name associated with the ABN and the name on the bank account provided for payment. The ABN entity name can be checked when entering your ABN into the application form. Applications with an active sole-trader ABN listed on their application, except for those submitted under the Vibrant and Resilient Local Economies and Creative City and Cultural Participation Stream, will be deemed ineligible and not assessed.

- Applicants must be able to provide [public liability insurance](#) (with a suitable level of coverage³), if their application is approved. This is requested at the funding agreement stage, if your application is approved.
- If applicable, applicants must have Working With Children Checks, WorkCover and superannuation coverage.
- Relevant applicants must, as required by law, implement and adhere to [FairWork legislation](#) for all contractors, performers and project staff.
- Relevant applicants must, as required by law, implement and adhere to the [Victorian Child Safe Standards](#).

Eligible projects

- Applicants must be locally based and/or apply for a program, service or activity of benefit to the Yarra community.
- Applicants can apply for funding for more than one project. Multiple applications for the same project will not be considered. Only one application will be considered per project.
- Projects must meet any other specific requirements outlined for the individual stream (see [Grant Stream Descriptions and Objectives](#) above).
- Projects must be completed by 31 December 2026, unless otherwise agreed through a project variation.

Eligibility restrictions

- Do not submit an application for the same project to different streams. If you believe your application crosses multiple streams, please contact the grants team for advice.
- Do not submit an application for the same project from multiple organisations.
- If an application has been lodged under an incorrect stream, the grants team may move your application to a more suitable stream. If this occurs, you will be advised by email. Stream changes are only made to ensure applications are given the best chance at success.

Ineligible applications

- A program that is considered the responsibility of State or Federal Government (e.g. core school curriculum activities). This includes state government entities delivering non-core services.
- Activities that take place outside the City of Yarra (including touring costs), unless part of a larger project with a proven and public benefit to the Yarra community.

³ For professional indemnity insurance: Yarra City Council seeks a minimum of \$10,000,000 Professional Indemnity Insurance for contractors and suppliers engaged to provide advice and a minimum of \$20,000,000 in Public Liability Insurance.

- Applications with an active sole trader ABN listed on their application, except for those submitted under the [Creative City and Cultural Participation](#) or [Vibrant and Resilient Local Economies](#) stream, will be deemed ineligible and not assessed.
- Staff salaries or administration costs not specific to the project.
- Competitions (other than one-off sporting events).
- Prize-events, award exhibitions or exclusively fundraising events.
- Applications to fund projects retrospectively.
- Projects that promote religion or have a proselytising purpose.
- Projects solely for training, study, academic research, or assessed coursework.
- Requests for funding to cover Council facility bonds or venue deposits.
- Also check specific eligibility criteria listed in the description of each stream.

Special requirements

Working with First Peoples

Yarra is committed to upholding the rights of self-determination, supporting First Peoples led decision making, respectful partnerships and working alongside First Peoples to create meaningful and lasting change within our municipality.

Any project involving First Peoples must be able to demonstrate that those involved have given their free, prior informed consent. This principle is explained in full in the [Indigenous Cultural Protocols and the Arts](#) guidelines by Terri Janke. The way the project supports this should be made clear in the grant application.

All Yarra Council-funded events

All events must ensure compliance with the Live Performance Award 2020 and Fair Work Act 2009 for all Council-funded events. Funding agreements will include clauses requiring adherence to the Fair Work Act 2009 and the relevant award (i.e., the Live Performance Award 2020). Performers must be paid a minimum of \$250 (plus GST) for a 3-hour call.

Any suspected non-compliance should be reported to the grants team (yarragrants@yarracity.vic.gov.au). Whether Council is directly engaging performing artists or funding a third party to deliver an event via a grant or other contribution, it is critical that there is full adherence to these legal obligations.

While maintaining the principle of the \$250 minimum rate for funded events, in cases of not for profit, community or volunteer performers, such as with large community/school group performances, this should be discussed with Council Officers and a case made in your application, for an adjustment of artist fee proposals and structures, to be considered.

The Live Performance Award 2020 (MA000081) covers a wide range of roles within the live performance industry, including musicians, stagehands, technicians, and various administrative

positions. It sets minimum standards for wages, working conditions, overtime, penalty rates, and allowances for employees within the sector. Notably, performing artists must be paid a minimum of \$250 (plus GST) for a 3-hour call, in accordance with this award).

Preparing your grant application

When preparing your grant application, please consider the following:

- Begin your application as early as possible. We strongly recommend you submit your application before the due date. **The grant round closes strictly on Sunday 19 October 2025 at 11:59pm (for medium and large grants)**
- Ensure that you state explicitly what your project is. Describe the event/activity/program, so that it is clear what you want to do, how you want to do it, and why it is worth doing.
- Bear in mind that the assessors change each year and may not be familiar with your organisation or your previous projects. Assessors are not given access to your grant history.
- Be as precise as possible. The assessors are aware that your project may still be in the planning stage and that definite plans are not always possible until funding is secured. However, you can still clearly state what your intentions are and, if needed, adjust the project plan through a project variation if your grant is successful.
- If your project involves partnering with another organisation, it is useful to show some evidence of that partnership, such as a letter of support.
- If you are using an organisation to be your Auspice, talk to them early on to give them time to help you. You will need to submit a copy of their financial statement.
- All questions marked 'response required' must be completed.
- Make sure your application shows how you meet the grant objectives for the stream you are applying for.

Prepare your project budget

When preparing a budget for your project, please consider the following:

- It is important that all costs are realistic and justified/explained within your application.
- Ensuring that your budget is as detailed as possible helps the assessors understand the amount requested and demonstrates what the impact of reduced funding might be.
- If you have applied for other funding for your project, please note this in your budget and ensure it is clear if the funding is confirmed or unconfirmed.
- Including quotes in your support material, especially for significant items, may help assessors understand your costs.
- [See Budget Example](#) under the Resources section on Community Grants page on our website.

Before submitting your application

Information sessions

Council will hold **information sessions** for applicants seeking further information on this grant program and how to apply. Each session will include time for one-on-one discussions about your project. For further details please visit the [Community Grants](#) page on the Yarra Council website and keep an eye on social media. If you require an interpreter at the information session you wish to attend, let us know so this can be arranged. Please call us on 9205 5555 or [submit an enquiry online](#).

Grant information session details

- 12.00pm, Tuesday 19 August 2025, online. Grant Information session for applicants applying for the Vibrant and Resilient Local Economies stream. [Register to attend](#).
- 6.00pm, Tuesday 26 August 2025, Collingwood Library Meeting Room, 11 Stanton St, Abbotsford
- 10.00am, Thursday 28 August 2025, Meeting Room 1, Richmond Town Hall. 333 Bridge Rd, Richmond
- 12.00pm, Tuesday 2 September 2025, Seminar Rooms 1 & 2 (ground floor), Bargoonga Nganjin North Fitzroy Library, 182–186 St Georges Rd, Fitzroy North

Having trouble writing your application?

The Grants Team are available to help all applicants with preparing their application. You can call us on 9205 5555 to talk about your project and your application. We can also help in person with completing your application form to submit it online. This needs to be **by appointment** (to make sure we are available) until **5pm Monday 13 October 2025**. Interpreters can be booked if requested.

If you are having trouble accessing your SmartyGrants user account, please contact SmartyGrants directly via service@smartygrants.com.au.

Speak to a Council Officer

You may wish to talk to a Council Officer who can advise on how to shape your application to give it every chance of success. Please call Yarra City Council on 9205 5555 or [submit an enquiry online](#).

Auspiced applications

Auspecting helps small or new organisations who are not incorporated or who do not have an ABN, to access grant funds. They accept legal and financial responsibility for the grant if successful.

An auspice organisation must be incorporated and have an ABN.

The auspice organisation must agree to be your auspice – talk to them about your grant application and ensure they agree to be your auspice. They may charge a fee to be your auspice (this could be anywhere from 10% - 20%).

You will be covered under their PLI (public liability insurance), and a copy of their COC (certificate of currency) will need to be supplied to Yarra City Council with the funding agreement, if your grant is approved.

Applications can be submitted directly by groups being auspiced. However, the funding agreement for successful grants will be made between the auspice organisation and Council, and grant money will be paid directly to the auspice organisation. You will need to provide information from the auspice organisation including: their contact details, ABN, and most recent financial report.

Accessibility

All applicants are encouraged to consider how their organisation and project will be accessible and inclusive of people with a disability. For ideas on how to make your program, project, or event more accessible, please see the [Accessibility Guide](#). For more information, please contact Laurice Younge, Access and Inclusion Officer on 9205 5414.

Environmental impact

All applicants are encouraged to incorporate activities that improve the sustainable outcomes of their projects. For further information please contact Taryn D'Costa 9205 5434 or Samantha Green on 9426 1450.

Examples of successful past grants

While the grants streams have changed this year, applicants are still encouraged to view last year's successful grants to see the range of projects funded and realistic grant allocation amounts. [A list of successful grants is available on our website](#).

Attachments and support material

You may wish to include supporting material with your application. Some items that might be appropriate include:

- letters of support from partner organisations, confirming their intention to work with you on this project
- letters of support from organisations consulted
- evaluations or assessments of previous programs or projects
- links to short videos about your project

Please note, the maximum attachment size in SmartyGrants is 25MB. To avoid technical difficulties which may prevent you being able to submit your application, we recommend keeping files to a maximum of 5MB. Files can only be uploaded one at a time and upload speeds will vary depending on your computer's specifications, your internet connection and the amount of traffic on the SmartyGrants server. If you do have concerns or encounter any issues, consider providing links to specific website pages or online/cloud file transfer services in the space provided instead.

Financial statements

All applicant organisations must upload a copy of the organisation's (or auspicing organisation's) most recent annual financial statement to their grant application. For most applicants, this will be the previous year's financial statement. Alternatively, you can upload the organisation's most recent profit and loss statement.

Applicants who do not provide a financial statement will be ineligible.

All incorporated organisations are required by Consumer Affairs to prepare a financial statement every year and present this at their AGM. More information on financial statements can be found at [Financial statements and auditing requirements for incorporated associations - Consumer Affairs Victoria](#)

Child safe standards

Victorian organisations that provide services or facilities for children (anyone under 18 years old) are required by law to implement Child Safe Standards to protect children from harm. Therefore, if your project/program will engage children as either participants or audience members you will be required to demonstrate that you are complying with the Child Safe Standards by uploading a copy of your organisation's Child Safe Policy or Statement of Commitment to Child Safety.

If your organisation does not yet have a Child Safe Policy or Statement of Commitment to Child Safety, a template document is available on the [Community Grants](#) page of your website under the Resources section.

Tailor this document to suit your organisation and activities, then attach the document to your application as evidence. Remember to make sure a copy is distributed to your organisation members.

For further information on the Child Safe Standards visit the [Commission for Children and Young People](#).

Public liability insurance

Applicants are not required to include a copy of their public liability insurance with their application. However, if the application is successful, Council requires grant recipients to provide evidence of public liability insurance, with an adequate coverage level, before payments can be processed. In most cases this will be a copy of your public liability insurance certificate of currency. If you do not have public liability insurance, you will need to provide a copy of the public liability insurance certificate of the venue where your project will take place. Organisations that are being auspiced may be covered by the auspice body's public liability insurance and so will need to provide a copy of their certificate of currency.

Grants assessment criteria

To ensure a fair and transparent evaluation process, grant applications are assessed against specific criteria tailored to the size and scope of the proposed project. The table below outlines how assessment criteria differ for small, medium, and large grants.

Assessment Questions (for all streams)	Small	Medium	Large
How well does the project address the relevant stream objectives?	✓	✓	✓
How well does the applicant demonstrate the capacity to successfully complete the project?		✓	✓
How well does the project meet a clear community need?	✓	✓	✓
How clearly defined and appropriate are the project's evaluation methods?			✓
How clear, specific, and realistic are the project's intended outcomes?			✓
How well will the community benefit from this project?		✓	✓
How well does the budget accurately reflect the scope and scale of the project?	✓	✓	✓

Questions for specific streams only

First Peoples Self-Determination and Partnerships	Does the project celebrate and strengthen First Peoples' cultural expression, ceremony and living heritage in Yarra?
Healthy, Inclusive and Connected Communities	Does the project empower under-represented groups to participate in and shape community life, fostering greater equity and inclusion.
Vibrant and Resilient Local Economies	Will this project/initiative activate retail precincts and strengthen local economies?
Creative City and Cultural Participation	Is there adequate supporting documentation, such as quotes and letters of support, to help the application?
A Climate-Resilient and Adapted City	Does the project accelerate community-led climate action in Yarra?
Safe, Clean and Welcoming Neighbourhood	Will this project foster community-led activations that build pride in place, strengthen neighbourhood identity, and encourage social connection

Outcomes

To support alignment with [Yarra's Community Vision](#) and the Community Grants Program Aims, Council has developed an Outcomes Framework.

As part of the application process, grant applicants must select outcomes and indicators from the Council-developed framework that best match their project goals. These will be used to measure success and must be reported on at the acquittal stage.

[Our Outcomes Framework is in the Resources section](#) of the Community Grants webpage.

Successful applications

What will happen if your application is successful?

If you are successful, a funding agreement which outlines the conditions of your grant will be sent to you (or your auspice organisation). You will be required to sign and return a copy of the funding agreement and provide a copy of your organisation's bank statement showing the account number, BSB number and name that matches the applicant's ABN details. You will be asked to include a copy of your public liability insurance with the funding agreement. All payments will be made by electronic transfer.

What to do if your grant is not fully funded

If your application is successful but you did not receive the full amount of funding requested, and you would like to proceed with the grant, the grants team can discuss any changes you need to make to the project. The grants team can also advise you whether you need to submit a project variation form outlining the changes being made.

Acquittals

Each grant recipient is required to submit an acquittal form within two months of completion of the project.

The required acquittal form is attached to each successful application. To access an acquittal form, please [log into your SmartyGrants account](#) and click on the 'My Submissions' tab and scroll down to the specific grant. You can then complete and submit the acquittal.

****Please keep receipts for expenditure items over \$250 to upload into your online acquittal. ****

To be eligible for a grant, organisations and/or individuals must have successfully acquitted all previous completed grants from Yarra City Council. Applications from applicants with outstanding acquittals will not be assessed.

Promoting your project

If your grant application is successful, Yarra City Council reserves the right to contact you and your organisation for promotional purposes. This may include but is not limited to profiling your project on the Council's corporate website, social media channels, electronic and print newsletters and magazine and external media outlets.

Quick response grants (formerly small project grants)

If you require only a small amount of funding, you may wish to consider applying for a small grant, also known as Quick Response Grants.

Quick Response Grants provide up to \$4,000 in funding for projects in any of the 6 streams.

These grants allow recipients access to funding quickly with the assessment process taking around four weeks. If your grant is approved, it can take a further 2–4 weeks for payment to be made once a signed Funding Agreement is received. Applicants can apply for one Quick Response Grant per financial year.

The Quick Response Grants round will stay open until their allocated funds are dispersed. The medium and large grant rounds will close on Sunday 19 October 2025 at 11:59PM.

Further questions?

[If you have other questions, please see information on our website.](#)

We have compiled a list of helpful documents to assist you, they are all in the Resources section of the [Community Grants](#) page.

If you have any questions, [submit an enquiry online](#) or call Yarra City Council on 9205 5555.