

Pride Events and Festivals Fund 2025–26

Program guidelines

OFFICIAL

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Victoria and pay respects to their Elders past and present. We acknowledge that Aboriginal self-determination is a human right and recognise the hard work of many generations of Aboriginal people.

We are committed to safe and inclusive workplaces, policies, and services for people from LGBTIQA+ communities and their families.

To receive this document in another format, email the Equality unit [equality-grants@dffh.vic.gov.au](mailto:equality-grants@dffh.vic.gov.au).

Authorised and published by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne.

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In this document, ‘Aboriginal’ refers to both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. ‘Indigenous’ or ‘Koori/Koorie’ is retained when part of the title of a report, program or quotation.

ISBN 978-1-76130-852-9 (pdf/online/MS word)

Available at [Victorian Government’s Pride Events and Festivals Fund page](https://www.vic.gov.au/pride-events-and-festivals-fund) https://www.vic.gov.au/pride-events-and-festivals-fund.

# Message from the Minister for Equality

As Minister for Equality, I am pleased to announce the launch of the 2025–26 Pride Events and Festivals Fund (PEFF). This program supports LGBTIQA+ events and initiatives that build social connection, strengthen community networks and encourage participation. Victoria has a strong track record of championing and celebrating the diversity and culture of LGBTIQA+ communities – and this fund continues this commitment.

The PEFF is one example of the Victorian Government’s support to strengthen LGBTIQA+ equality through *Pride in our future: Victoria’s LGBTIQA+ strategy 2022–32*.

Working together and collaboratively will ensure the success of Victoria’s LGBTIQA+ strategy. This includes LGBTIQA+ organisations, their workers and volunteers who unceasingly strive to support, advocate and celebrate this beautiful community.

A key area of *Pride in our future* is the steadfast commitment to build safe, strong, and lasting communities. The PEFF responds to this through supporting organisations to create and hold events that promote inclusion, build resilience, and above all, celebrate and connect our LGBTIQA+ communities.

In 2025–26, the program continues to include 2 funding streams. Smaller events or festivals can apply for grants of up to $10,000. Larger events can apply for between $10,001 and $25,000 with an emphasis on ensuring these events are sustainable into the future. Two funding streams allows for more diversity of events across Victoria, and broader benefits for LGBTIQA+ communities.

This Victorian Government will always support and celebrate the rich diversity within our LGBTIQA+ communities. As in past years, the PEFF 2025–26 program focuses on inclusion and intersectionality, helping everyone - no matter their background or identity – to be active drivers and participants in building equality. We recognise and understand the discrimination and barriers people can experience, and while much has been done to address this inequality, we know this work must continue.

When we are seeing, hearing and experiencing louder and uglier voices of discrimination here and overseas, proud visibility is paramount and must be supported.

I am grateful to be in this role as Victoria’s Minister for Equality and I thank the community for their welcome and inclusion of me when I was appointed seven months ago. Please attend information sessions to learn more about PEFF and how to create strong proposals that support and celebrate our LGBTIQA+ communities.

I look forward to the year ahead of celebrations, joy and pride.

**Vicki Ward MP**   
Minister for Equality

Contents

[Message from the Minister for Equality 3](#_Toc204090814)

[Program overview 5](#_Toc204090815)

[Program objectives 5](#_Toc204090816)

[LGBTIQA+ celebration and social connection 6](#_Toc204090817)

[Accessibility and inclusion 6](#_Toc204090818)

[Diversity and intersectionality 6](#_Toc204090819)

[Capacity building and sustainability (large stream only) 7](#_Toc204090820)

[How to apply 8](#_Toc204090821)

[Eligibility criteria 8](#_Toc204090822)

[Eligibility overview 8](#_Toc204090823)

[Organisation eligibility 9](#_Toc204090824)

[Activity eligibility 11](#_Toc204090825)

[Other eligibility criteria 12](#_Toc204090826)

[Eligibility checklist 13](#_Toc204090827)

[Assessment process 14](#_Toc204090828)

[Merit assessment 14](#_Toc204090829)

[More assessment considerations 15](#_Toc204090830)

[Notification of application outcomes 16](#_Toc204090831)

[Conditions of funding 17](#_Toc204090832)

[Insurance requirements 17](#_Toc204090833)

[Funding agreements 17](#_Toc204090834)

[Payment of grant funds and reporting requirements 17](#_Toc204090835)

[More information and help 18](#_Toc204090836)

[Best practice inclusive events 18](#_Toc204090837)

[Information sessions 20](#_Toc204090838)

[Contact the Equality Programs team 20](#_Toc204090839)

[Useful resources 20](#_Toc204090840)

# Program overview

The Pride Events and Festivals Fund (PEFF) supports events and festivals for LGBTIQA+ communities and all Victorians to:

* connect
* celebrate diversity
* build resilience
* promote inclusion.

The PEFF is one of many ways the Victorian Government supports and celebrates LGBTIQA+ communities. *Pride in our in future: Victoria’s LGBTIQA+ strategy 2022–32* outlines this.

The program funds activities across Victoria that:

* promote LGBTIQA+ arts and culture
* create opportunities for LGBTIQA+ communities to connect with each other
* celebrate the diversity of LGBTIQA+ communities
* raise awareness to combat LGBTIQA+ discrimination
* improve the sustainability of LGBTIQA+ events.

The program began in 2018–19. Since then, more than **240** diverse events have received funding across Victoria.

**In 2025–26, the total available funding is $400,000.**

To support a diverse range of events across Victoria in 2025–26, you can apply for funding for eligible events under **one of 2 program streams**:

* **small stream** – grants of up to **$10,000** for small events and festivals for LGBTIQA+ communities.
* **large stream** – grants of between **$10,001** and **$25,000** for large events and festivals for LGBTIQA+ communities. Organisations applying under the large stream must show consideration in their application for capacity building and event sustainability.

**All approved projects:**

* can begin from **1 October 2025**
* must be complete and funds spent by **30 November 2026**.

# Program objectives

The Pride Events and Festivals Fund supports events that:

* connect communities
* celebrate diversity
* build resilience
* promote inclusion.

Strong applicants show how their event supports each of the following program objectives:

* celebration and social connection
* accessibility and inclusion
* diversity and intersectionality
* capacity building and sustainability (**note**: only applicable for the **large** stream).

## LGBTIQA+ celebration and social connection

Events should celebrate LGBTIQA+ communities and offer meaningful opportunities for LGBTIQA+ Victorians to connect in safe and supportive ways.

Examples of event goals that maximise LGBTIQA+ celebration and connection include to:

* strengthen LGBTIQA+ communities’ pride and knowledge of places and history
* combat social isolation and build community resilience through representation, participation and celebration
* build the public profile, visibility and understanding of LGBTIQA+ communities to address discrimination
* provide opportunities for at-risk groups to connect with community
* include people isolated by their location or by age.

## Accessibility and inclusion

All LGBTIQA+ people should be able to engage fully and meaningfully in all areas of life. This includes through events and community activities. Events should aim to actively remove barriers that stop LGBTIQA+ people from taking part.

Examples of accessible and inclusive event goals are to:

* make sure LGBTIQA+ people with disabilities can take part in events
* remove barriers that prevent communities from participating in events. For example, communities often excluded from public life, including:
* LGBTIQA+ people from diverse cultural backgrounds
* communities in isolated locations
* people with financial barriers.
* give audiences ways to access events online or in a hybrid format. This gives more people the chance to engage.
* provide free or low-cost ticket options to increase the number of people who can participate.

## Diversity and intersectionality

The PEFF prioritises events that celebrate the diversity of LGBTIQA+ communities. This includes:

* intersex communities
* bi+ communities
* asexual communities
* trans and gender diverse communities
* older people
* people with disabilities
* culturally and linguistically diverse communities (CALD)
* Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
* communities from low socio-economic status backgrounds
* faith-based communities
* peri-urban[[2]](#footnote-3), regional and rural communities (including border communities).

All events should consider the factors that shape the identity of LGBTIQA+ Victorians. This includes considering intersectionality[[3]](#footnote-4). Events should embrace diversity. They should show it as a way of creating positive and inclusive experiences for all.

Examples of event goals that address diversity and intersectionality include to:

* celebrate the diversity of LGBTIQA+ communities by highlighting people who have been excluded or isolated because of their identities and lived experiences
* create inclusive and safe spaces sensitive to the needs of diverse and intersectional LGBTIQA+ communities
* consult LGBTIQA+ communities while planning events. This helps to better understand your audiences and their unique lived experiences
* apply an intersectional lens to your event planning. Think about how a person’s identity may affect how they engage with your event by considering characteristics like:
* gender, sexual orientation or sex characteristics
* ethnicity, language or cultural background
* faith
* socio-economic status
* disability
* age.

## Capacity building and sustainability (large stream only)

LGBTIQA+ events should build the knowledge, skills and processes of the organisation. Events should equip organisations to:

* develop event resources
* expand their events
* embed sustainability and resilience in their operations
* celebrate and support LGBTIQA+ Victorians.

Applicants should plan for the long-term sustainability of LGBTIQA+ events and festivals. Consider how you can:

* promote long-term viability
* reduce reliance on external funding
* increase ongoing capacity.

Examples of event goals that build organisational capacity or sustainability include to:

* develop your own event resource pack to guide future event planning and delivery.
* make sure you document your organisational knowledge throughout the project. Examples of documentation could include:
* stakeholder lists
* community engagement best practice guidance
* fundraising and sponsorship guidance
* resources for volunteers
* process guides for delivering successful events
* post-event evaluation or feedback documentation.
* develop community or industry connections and partnerships. This will support the long-term viability of your event or organisation.

# How to apply

| Before you apply | Submit application | Applications close |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Read the program guidelines.  Read [How to write a grant application](https://www.vic.gov.au/how-write-good-grant-application)[[4]](#footnote-5) on the vic.gov.au website.  Make sure your organisation meets the eligibility criteria.  Attend an information session. Registration information is available on the [Pride Events and Festivals Fund webpage](https://www.vic.gov.au/pride-events-and-festivals-fund).[[5]](#footnote-6)  Contact the Equality Programs team if you have any questions. Email: [equality-grants@dffh.vic.gov.au](mailto:equality-grants@dffh.vic.gov.au) | Register to log-in to the [DFFH Grants Gateway](https://grantsgateway.dffh.vic.gov.au/)[[6]](#footnote-7) to complete an application.  Contact the Equality Programs team if you are unable to apply through the Grants Gateway. Email: [equality-grants@dffh.vic.gov.au](mailto:equality-grants@dffh.vic.gov.au)  Answer all questions. The Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH) does **not** accept incomplete applications.  Attach relevant or mandatory documents with the application.  Submit the application by the due date and time. | **Tuesday, 26 August 2025, 5pm** |
| To ensure a fair process, we do **not** consider late or incomplete applications.  Respond to requests from the department for more information to support your application. |

# Eligibility criteria

## Eligibility overview

To be eligible to apply for funding through PEFF:

* An eligible organisation must submit the application (see ‘[Organisation eligibility](#_Organisation_eligibility)’section).
* The funding must be for an eligible activity (see ‘[Activity eligibility](#_Activity_eligibility)’ section).
* If applying through the large stream, you must also:
* show consideration for **event sustainability** over time and **capacity building**
* have **not received PEFF funding for more than 3 consecutive years** (starting from 2023–24).

Find more detailed eligibility information in the following subsections, including an [Eligibility checklist](#_Eligibility_checklist).

## Organisation eligibility

To be eligible to apply, your organisation must meet the following eligibility criteria.

**You must be either:**

* a **community, not-for-profit or peak community body** based in Victoria that is an incorporated legal entity under the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) or the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2001* (Vic) or a similar type of organisation, or
* a **social enterprise** with a strong preference for enterprises with a clearly stated purpose or mission statement related specifically to supporting LGBTIQA+ communities.

You must also have:

* a current Australian Business Number (ABN)
* at least $10 million in public liability insurance to cover all aspects of funded activity for the term of the funding agreement – or an auspice arrangement with this insurance cover
* no outstanding reporting requirements from previous state government funded grants. This includes reports, acquittals, evaluations and any requests the department has made of your organisation.

Organisations that **do not** meet these criteria are **not** eligible to apply for funding but might consider partnering with an eligible organisation under an [Auspice arrangement](#_Auspice_arrangements).

How to check your Australian Business Number (ABN)

* To check your ABN, visit the [Australian Business Register (ABR)](https://abr.business.gov.au/)[[7]](#footnote-8).

How to check your organisation type:

* For incorporated associations, co-operatives or organisations incorporated through other means, visit [Consumer Affairs Victoria](https://www.consumer.vic.gov.au/)[[8]](#footnote-9).
* For a Company Limited by Guarantee, visit [ASIC Connection online](https://connectonline.asic.gov.au/RegistrySearch/)[[9]](#footnote-10).
* For registered charities go to [Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC)](https://www.acnc.gov.au/charity/charities)[[10]](#footnote-11).
* For Aboriginal corporations go to [Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC)](https://www.oric.gov.au/)[[11]](#footnote-12).

To check if your organisation is up to date on reporting requirements, please view your current grants in the [DFFH Grants Gateway](https://grantsgateway.dffh.vic.gov.au)[[12]](#footnote-13). Any report showing as red is **overdue**.

You must complete the reports **before** you submit your application to this grant program.

You can also [email the Equality Programs team](mailto:equality-grants@dffh.vic.gov.au) to check whether your organisation is up to date on reporting requirements.

### Auspice arrangement

If your organisation is not incorporated or does not have an ABN, you may consider partnering with another organisation that meets these eligibility criteria. This other organisation, known as the auspice, will accept legal responsibility for the grant. This is known as an auspice arrangement.

If the application is successful, your organisation delivers the activity. But the auspice organisation:

* signs the grant funding agreement with the department
* makes sure the legal and financial requirements of the grant and funding agreement are met
* receives and distributes grant funds
* monitors the project budget and accounts for all expenditure
* makes sure all project activities are completed.

The following organisations can act as an auspice for unincorporated community groups:

* LGAs
* registered primary and secondary schools
* registered preschools
* registered TAFE institutes and universities.

If you apply as an auspice arrangement, your application must include:

* **a letter of support** from the auspice organisation. The letter must reference an understanding of the roles and responsibilities between the 2 organisations.

If your application is auspiced by an organisation, you can include associated **auspice fees** in your application budget.

**Note:** Included auspice fees must **not be more than 10%** of your total funding request.

### Partnership applications

We strongly encourage partnerships between eligible organisations and other community organisations. For example, advocacy groups and peak bodies.

A strong partnership may help your event to better engage with diverse LGBTIQA+ communities and other priority groups.

If you are a mainstream community-based provideror a non LGBTIQA+ organisation, you must show a commitment to working:

* in partnership with LGBTIQA+ led organisations, **or**
* with meaningful involvement with LGBTIQA+ communities.

You must outline proposed partnerships in your application, including financial and in-kind contributions.

### Who cannot apply?

The following **cannot** apply for these grants:

* unincorporated associations (unless applying with an eligible auspice)
* state and federal government departments, agencies and programs
* public-private companies or commercial enterprises
* individuals and sole traders, **including** those applying with an auspice organisation
* trusts
* local government authorities (LGAs), including:
* LGA-managed, operated, administered and regulated trusts
* registered educational institutions, including:
* primary and secondary schools
* preschools
* TAFE institutes
* universities
* mainstream hospitals and health service organisations
* applicants with overdue or outstanding reports from previous or current department grants.

## Activity eligibility

### Eligible activities and costs

The following are examples of activities that the program may fund:

* events and festivals celebrating LGBTIQA+ arts, culture, music and history
* networking or educational events, such as:
* forums
* conferences
* hackathons
* guest speaker series
* events that promote and support a better understanding of LGBTIQA+ diversity and intersectionality. These events should be designed for or in consultation with LGBTIQA+ communities
* community capacity-building events that connect LGBTIQA+ communities and allies
* events that promote a greater understanding of LGBTIQA+ issues **or** address LGBTIQA+ discrimination
* events that promote visibility and use connections for priority LGBTIQA+ communities. This includes those listed in the [Diversity and intersectionality](#_Diversity_and_intersectionality) section
* events hosted online, in-person **or** in a hybrid format
* transport that increases accessibility to your event. For example, a chartered bus to transport regional attendees to an event or regional travel bursaries
* community engagement and co-design activities to design and deliver your event
* wages for staff for the time employed or contracted to deliver your event, for example:
* project manager
* box office staff
* lighting designer.
* other communications activities for your event, for example:
* marketing
* merchandise for sale
* advertising.

### Ineligible activities and costs

The following activities are **not** eligible for funding:

* activities that don’t align with the program’s principles and goals
* creating or commissioning new artistic works or other creative efforts (**note:** events that present or display existing artistic works are eligible)
* costs associated with applicants attending events hosted by other organisations. For example, the costs of a community stall at a regional festival
* commercial or fundraising activities. For example, a product launch
* activities that promote or held for politically partisan purposes
* invite only or members only events
* activities that pollute the environment or destroy or waste natural resources on purpose
* events that rely on recurrent annual funding
* activities that take place outside of Victoria (excluding border communities)
* non-essential travel. For example, private travel interstate and international travel (excluding travel necessary for border communities)
* activities occurring outside the funding period
* wages for staff who are **not** working on delivering the event
* buying alcohol
* building works
* items with unclear descriptions like ‘miscellaneous’ or ‘contingency’ in the application and budget
* retrospective funding for projects or programs that have already started or are complete
* applications from organisations that failed to meet the terms and conditions of other department grants.

We encourage applicants to reach out to the Equality Programs team to discuss proposed project activities. This will help make sure proposed activities are eligible and meet program objectives.

Email the Equality Programs team if you’re **not** sure if your proposed event is eligible for funding. Email [equality-grants@dffh.vic.gov.au](mailto:equality-grants@dffh.vic.gov.au) and request a call back.

## Other eligibility criteria

### Large stream eligibility

The large stream is for large events and festivals for LGBTIQA+ communities. Applicants can apply for between $10,001 and $25,000 through this stream.

Organisations applying under this stream must also show:

* consideration for event sustainability over time
* capacity building in their application.

Organisations can only receive annual funding through the PEFF large stream for **3 consecutive years at most** – starting from 2023–24.

This is in-line with the program’s aim to build LGBTIQA+ community events that are self-sustaining and resilient.

Matched funding is not required for this round of PEFF. But we encourage you to consider in-kind and other funding sources as part of your event planning to show sustainability.

Successful large stream organisations need to meet with the Equality Programs team to discuss event planning and risk management.

Large stream organisations must also report on sustainability and capacity building in both the Progress Report and Final Report.

## Eligibility checklist

For recommendation to receive funding, applications must:

* meet all the eligibility criteria (see Table 1)
* answer all the application questions
* provide required documentation (see Table 2).

Does your application meet all requirements? Use the following table and mark ‘Yes’ or ‘No’ or ‘NA’ (if not applicable).

Table 1: Eligibility criteria checklist

| Criterion | Description | Application meets criterion? (Yes, No or NA) |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Organisational eligibility | Your organisation:   * is one of the eligible organisation types listed in [Organisation eligibility](#_Organisation_eligibility), **or** * has an auspice arrangement with an eligible organisation. |  |
| PEFF goals | The event meets and shows it supports all 3 objectives listed in [Program objectives](#_Program_objectives). |  |
| All Victorians welcome | The event:   * is open to the Victorian public * has free or low-cost admission * is not only for the organisation’s members. |  |
| Budget | Costs are:   * accurate * reasonable * show good value for public money.   Budget section is complete, with grant funds requested broken down by expenditure type.  Expenses are supported by quotes from suppliers where applicable, or by cost estimates.  **Note**: Any unsupported costs are **not** included in grant funding if offered. (See [Activity eligibility](#_Who_is_not).) |  |
| No outstanding final reports | All overdue final reports from previous state government grants (including the Equality portfolio) submitted by **Friday, 22 August 2025**.  Check that your organisation is up to date with reporting. Email the Equality Programs team [equality-grants@dffh.vic.gov.au](mailto:equality-grants@dffh.vic.gov.au) |  |
| **(Large stream only)** Show sustainability and capacity building | Show that you have considered event sustainability and capacity building in your application (see [Large stream eligibility](#_Large_stream_eligibility)).  If **successful,** you will report on sustainability and capacity building in your Progress Report and Final Report. |  |

Table 2: Documentation checklist

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Documentation | Description | Application includes documentation? (Yes, No or NA) |
| Mandatory Public Liability Insurance (PLI) Certificate | A current certificate of PLI. (If using an auspice, the auspice organisation will need to upload their PLI certificate.) |  |
| Mandatory documentation **for auspiced grants only** | A current letter of support from an auspice organisation, where auspice arrangements are in place. |  |
| Mandatory documentation **for social enterprise only** | The organisation’s constitution or foundation documents. |  |

# Assessment process

Assessment for all applications to the Pride Events and Festivals Fund follows:

**Step 1 – Eligibility assessment:** Once applications have closed, the department checks that your organisation and proposed activities are eligible.

**Step 2 – Merit assessment:** Eligible applications are independently assessed and scored against the assessment criteria outlined in this document by the department.

**Step 3 – Expert endorsement panel:** The independently scored applications are reviewed and endorsed by an expert panel of representatives from the department and other relevant Victorian government representatives.

**Step 4 – Ministerial approval:** The Minister for Equality makes the final decision based on the recommendations from the assessment panel.

**Step 5 – Application outcome:** All applicants are emailed with the outcome of their application. Personalised feedback will be provided to applicants on request.

**All decisions made by the Minister for Equality are final.**

## Merit assessment

The department assesses applications against the [Program objectives](#_Program_objectives), the weighted assessment criteria in Table 3: Merit assessment criteria for all applications, and other [Additional assessment considerations](#_Additional_assessment_consideration), including:

* priority group representation
* value for money
* regional and rural community representation.

Table 3: Merit assessment criteria for all applications

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Criterion | Weight |
| Event purpose and rationale | 30% |
| Audience and engagement | 25% |
| Project management | 45% |

Download an accessible document of all the questions included in the PEFF application on the [Pride Events and Festivals Fund](https://www.vic.gov.au/pride-events-and-festivals-fund) page of the Victorian government website[[13]](#footnote-14).

## More assessment considerations

### Priority groups

As reflected in the criteria, we prioritise applications that work with and engage priority LGBTIQA+ groups including:

* intersex communities
* bi+ communities
* asexual communities
* trans and gender diverse communities
* older people
* people with disabilities
* culturally and linguistically diverse communities (CALD)
* Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
* communities from low socio-economic status backgrounds
* faith-based communities
* peri-urban, regional and rural communities (including border communities).

### Value for money

Value for money underpins all financial decisions made by the Victorian Government. It refers to achieving a desired outcome at the best possible price. This is not always the lowest price. Assessment is based on a balanced judgement of financial and non-financial factors.

Financial factors include how expensive an event is to deliver and attend. Assessors check this as they review each application’s proposed budget and ticket pricing. This is part of the merit assessment process.

Some examples of **non-financial factors** include:

#### Employment opportunities

Events or projects that create:

* paid work
* work experience
* volunteer opportunities.

#### Organisational impacts

Projects that help organisations to grow, including:

* team and skill-building
* positive work culture
* knowledge sharing between events.

#### Community impacts

Showing the benefits for priority communities, including:

* economic benefits
* social benefits.

#### Scalability and adaptability

Creating events with the potential to grow by considering:

* venues
* program formats
* operational processes that can accommodate different budgets and conditions.

#### Demonstrating long-term viability

Ensuring the event’s viability beyond the funding period. Considering the event’s future sustainability on supports such as:

* financial
* operational
* community supports.

### Regional and rural communities

The department has a target to support **25%** of successful grant recipients from regional and rural areas. This also includes grant projects that provide support to primarily regional and rural communities.

### Other supporting materials

You can upload relevant supporting material with your application to help the panel understand your proposed event. This is **not** essential, and you are not penalised if you don’t upload extra materials.

# Notification of application outcomes

All applicants receive written notification of the outcome of their application via email by the end of October 2025.

**If you are successful**, we will tell you of any specific conditions attached to the grant.

**If you are unsuccessful**, you may ask for feedback within **30 days** of being advised of the outcome.

Until you are formally notified of the outcome of your application, do **not** assume you are successful or make financial or other commitments.

This is a competitive program. The department may award less than the requested amount to successful applicants.

In case your application is unsuccessful, you should plan for other possibilities and consider other funding sources and options.

# Conditions of funding

## Insurance requirements

You must have:

* at least $10 million public liability insurance. This will cover all aspects of the funded activity for the term of the funding agreement

**or:**

* an auspice agreement with this insurance cover. The department asks for proof of insurance that covers the project period.

## Funding agreements

If successful, you (and your auspice organisation, if relevant) must:

* enter a legally binding Funding Agreement with the Department of Families Fairness and Housing (DFFH), represented by the Equality Programs team, **within 14 days**.

If a funding offer is not accepted during this period, it may be withdrawn.

The Funding Agreement is based on the Victorian Common Funding Agreement (VCFA). The VCFA outlines:

* the grant’s terms and conditions, including use of funds
* key deliverables and due dates
* reporting requirements.

You need to deliver the funded activity as set out in the Funding Agreement. You also need to meet all reporting and other requirements on time. For more information, visit the [VCFA](https://www.vic.gov.au/victorian-common-funding-agreement)[[14]](#footnote-15) webpage.

If your application is successful, your organisation’s name and key project details such as project name, description and grant amount will be published on the [Victorian government](https://www.vic.gov.au/successful-recipients-pride-events-and-festivals-fund)[[15]](#footnote-16) website. It will also be included in the department’s Annual Report.

For more information about entering into a VCFA with the department, email the Equality Programs team [equality-grants@dffh.vic.gov.au](mailto:equality-grants@dffh.vic.gov.au) to request a call back.

## Payment of grant funds and reporting requirements

The department pays successful organisations on completion of agreed project milestones and deliverables outlined in the Funding Agreement.

If you are successful in receiving funding, your organisation needs to submit a final report and financial acquittal after your event to show successful delivery.

Milestone payments are made via electronic funds transfer (EFT) once deliverables are met, in line with the VCFA.

Final report and budget acquittals must be complete to satisfy the acquittal requirements of your grant and the terms of the Victorian Common Funding Agreement.

Failure to acquit the grant can:

* affect an organisation’s ability to receive Victorian Government funding in the future
* result in a request for a return of funds from the department.

Successful grant recipients receive more information about final reports and financial acquittals, including templates and due dates.

### Goods and services tax (GST)

* GST is paid if the grant is funding a good or service, and if the recipient organisation is registered for GST.
* GST is **not** paid if the recipient organisation is not registered for GST.
* GST is **not** paid if the recipient organisation is a government entity (e.g., school, local council).
* GST is **not** paid if the grant is **not**funding a good and/or service.

From 1 January 2025, organisations not registered for GST can use grant funds to cover the cost of GST from goods and services purchased with department grant funds. Non-GST registered organisations should show the GST inclusive cost for all goods and services in your application budget. More information is available from the [Grants Gateway](https://grantsgateway.dffh.vic.gov.au/s/help-guides-and-documents)[[16]](#footnote-17).

# More information and help

## Best practice inclusive events

The PEFF events must be respectful and accessible for all LGBTIQA+ communities to attend.

Please make sure your event or festival is inclusive by considering the following.

### Acknowledgment of Traditional Owners or Welcome to Country

We encourage an Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners or a Welcome to Country at all events.

An Acknowledgement of Country recognises that Victoria has a strong and proud Aboriginal history by paying respect to the Traditional Owners.

Visit the [First Peoples – State Relations](https://www.firstpeoplesrelations.vic.gov.au/) website[[17]](#footnote-18) to learn more about providing an Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners or a Welcome to Country.

### Accessibility

You must consider accessibility as an important part of event planning and make sure the event is accessible to everyone.

Learn how to make your event accessible by visiting the Victorian Government website’s [Accessibility guidelines for government communications](https://www.vic.gov.au/accessibility-guidelines-government-communications)[[18]](#footnote-19) pagehttps://www.vic.gov.au/accessibility-guidelines-government-communications#making-events-and-venues-accessible.

To embed accessibility in the program, funded events should be **free or low cost**.

### Environmental impact

Reduce environmental impact by making sure your event is environmentally sustainable and improves waste management.

You can reduce your event’s impact by:

* advertising online and producing digital event collateral to reduce paper waste
* reducing single-use plastics.

### Community safety

All applicants must consider community safety during event planning. You must make sure risks associated with the event are managed accordingly.

Possible strategies include:

* plan your event in advance with Victoria Police
* consider targeted marketing approaches
* do not share identifiable information publicly to ensure safety
* carry out strong engagement with stakeholders
* put in place communication and safety plans.

For more information about community safety, read ACON’s A Guide to Hosting LGBTQ+ Events Safely on the [ACON](https://www.acon.org.au/wp-content) website[[19]](#footnote-20).

You can include the costs for people’s safety and security at events in your application. This may include:

* hiring security personnel
* relevant staff training or development
* digital security expenses for online events.

#### Victoria Police

Victoria Police can work with event organisers to support the safety of attendees at LGBTIQA+ community events.

Victoria Police encourages all event organisers to prepare risk assessments and safety plans for LGBTIQA+ events (where risk has been identified). Notify and engage local police about your event as early as possible.

Police support aims to make sure the event goes ahead as planned.

LGBTIQA+ liaison officers (LLOs) give specialist support and serve as a contact point for LGBTIQA+ communities. Based on community feedback, Victoria Police has published a list of LLOs on the [Victoria Police website](https://www.police.vic.gov.au/LGBTIQA-liaison-officers)[[20]](#footnote-21).

For more information, contact local police or email a LLO [LLO-Coordintor-Mgr@police.vic.gov.au](mailto:mailto:LLO-Coordintor-Mgr@police.vic.gov.au).

More information on event safety for event organisers is available on [Victoria Police‘s Events page](https://www.police.vic.gov.au/events).[[21]](#footnote-22)

## Information sessions

To help you with the application process, the Equality Programs team hosts 3 **free** online information sessions.

The first 2 sessions provide an **overview of the program** and information on **how to apply**.

The third information session is for unincorporated groups **applying with an auspice**. The session will include:

* a brief overview of the program
* auspice and project organisation responsibilities
* a demonstration of how to apply with an auspice.

Visit the Victorian Government’s [Pride Events and Festivals Fund](https://www.vic.gov.au/pride-events-and-festivals-fund)[[22]](#footnote-23) page for more information on sessions, including dates and how to register.

## Contact the Equality Programs team

Email the Equality Programs team [equality-grants@dffh.vic.gov.au](mailto:equality-grants@dffh.vic.gov.au) with any questions or to request a call back:

* for help with your application
* to check if you have any outstanding final reports.

## Useful resources

Find more information and resources on the Victorian Government’s [Pride Events and Festivals Fund](https://www.vic.gov.au/pride-events-and-festivals-fund)[[23]](#footnote-24) page. This page includes the **application questions** and **information session times**.

Other useful resources:

* Victorian Government’s [Pride in our future: Victoria’s LGBTIQA+ strategy 2022–2032 page](https://www.vic.gov.au/pride-our-future-victorias-lgbtiqa-strategy-2022-32)[[24]](#footnote-25)https://www.vic.gov.au/pride-our-future-victorias-lgbtiq-strategy-2022-32
* Victorian Government's [LGBTIQA+ inclusive language guide page](https://www.vic.gov.au/inclusive-language-guide)[[25]](#footnote-26)https://www.vic.gov.au/inclusive-language-guide
* The Department of Families, Fairness and Housing’s [How to write a grant application page](https://www.dffh.vic.gov.au/how-write-good-grant-applications)[[26]](#footnote-27)https://www.vic.gov.au/how-write-good-grant-application
* Victorian Government’s [Grant terminology explained page](https://www.vic.gov.au/grant-terminology-explained)[[27]](#footnote-28)https://www.vic.gov.au/grant-terminology-explained.

1. https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/ [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. **Peri-urban areas** also include interface areas that are at the borders between established urban and regional areas but may be included in a metropolitan or urban local government area (LGA). They are often considered as semi-regional as they have characteristics of both urban and regional or rural areas. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. **Intersectionality** refers to the ways that different aspects of a person’s identity can expose them to overlapping forms of discrimination and marginalisation.

   This is an approach to understanding how social meanings related to the way we categorise and identify people can overlap and interconnect. This creates different layers and types of discrimination or disadvantage for people or groups. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. https://www.vic.gov.au/how-write-good-grant-application [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. https://www.vic.gov.au/pride-events-and-festivals-fund [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. https://grantsgateway.dffh.vic.gov.au/ [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. https://abr.business.gov.au/ [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
8. https://www.consumer.vic.gov.au/ [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
9. https://connectonline.asic.gov.au/RegistrySearch/ [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
10. https://www.acnc.gov.au/charity/charities [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
11. https://www.oric.gov.au/ [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
12. https://grantsgateway.dffh.vic.gov.au [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
13. https://www.vic.gov.au/pride-events-and-festivals-fund [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
14. https://www.vic.gov.au/victorian-common-funding-agreement [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
15. https://www.vic.gov.au/successful-recipients-pride-events-and-festivals-fund [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
16. https://grantsgateway.dffh.vic.gov.au/s/help-guides-and-documents [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
17. https://www.firstpeoplesrelations.vic.gov.au/ [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
18. https://www.vic.gov.au/accessibility-guidelines-government-communications [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
19. https://www.acon.org.au/wp-content [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
20. https://www.police.vic.gov.au/LGBTIQA-liaison-officers [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
21. https://www.police.vic.gov.au/events. [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
22. https://www.vic.gov.au/pride-events-and-festivals-fund [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
23. https://www.vic.gov.au/pride-events-and-festivals-fund [↑](#footnote-ref-24)
24. https://www.vic.gov.au/pride-our-future-victorias-lgbtiqa-strategy-2022-32 [↑](#footnote-ref-25)
25. https://www.vic.gov.au/inclusive-language-guide [↑](#footnote-ref-26)
26. https://www.dffh.vic.gov.au/how-write-good-grant-applications [↑](#footnote-ref-27)
27. https://www.vic.gov.au/grant-terminology-explained [↑](#footnote-ref-28)