

Community Local Infrastructure Recovery Package (CLIRP) - Arts and Culture Priority Needs Program (the Program)

Frequently Asked Questions

I am an arts and cultural organisation in a declared 2022 flood disaster Local Government Area (LGA)*. What support can I apply for?

The Arts and Culture Priority Needs Program is part of the CLIRP. The Program aims to prioritise funding to support assessment and future planning and urgent small-scale repair and replacements for arts and cultural infrastructure assets most affected by the February - March 2022 floods.

Why are there only specific LGAs that can access this funding? Why can't I apply if I am not in one of the targeted 8 LGAs but have been impacted by the recent flooding in another LGA?

The Program funding is targeted towards LGAs which have been assessed as the most impacted and experienced significant damage to essential community assets due to the February-March 2022 NSW flood events.

The list of LGAs eligible for this Program includes:

- Ballina Shire
- Byron Shire
- Clarence Valley Council
- Hawkesbury City Council
- Kyogle Council
- Lismore City Council
- Richmond Valley Council
- Tweed Shire Council

Please subscribe to [Create NSW eNews](#) to keep up to date on further funding opportunities and targeted support for the arts and culture sector. The NSW Government has recently launched a 'one stop shop' grant finder website. Please visit <https://www.nsw.gov.au/grants-and-funding> to search for all grants currently available from the NSW government.

We also encourage you to visit www.service.nsw.gov.au for the full list of NSW Government assistance available for businesses.

The Federal Government is responsible for providing support to individuals. Please visit the [Services Australia](#) website for a full list of support available.

How much can I apply for?

You may apply for funding from \$5,000 up to \$500,000 to fund works such as:

- damage and risk assessments, feasibility studies, planning, design and options for repair, rebuild, replacement of arts and cultural infrastructure assets that consider flood mitigation strategies and supporting potential future resilience
- protection and make safe works to ensure arts and cultural infrastructure assets are not further damaged
- urgent small capital works on flood damaged arts and cultural infrastructure assets to enable creative activity to continue

Is there a financial contribution required from the applicant?

There is no required financial contribution from the applicant under this program.

How are the applications being assessed?

Applications will be assessed by Create NSW on a rolling basis in batches throughout the application period, or until all allocated funds are exhausted. Therefore, the assessment of the funding allocation will be on a first received, first assessed basis. Create NSW will assess submitted applications and notify applicants on the outcome of their application within 3 – 4 weeks from submission.

What are the important dates?

Applications will be open online from Wednesday, 24 August 2022 and closing on Wednesday, 30 November 2022 unless allocated funds are exhausted prior. This means that priority may be given to applications on the basis of time received.

How soon can my project start?

Projects must be able to commence within six months of receiving confirmation of funding.

How soon can I receive funding?

If your application is successful, the funding will be paid as milestone payments. The first milestone payment will be made after the execution of the Funding Agreement.

Can I submit more than one application?

Applicants may submit more than one application if these are for separate projects. There is no limit to the number of applications from one organisation.

Is insurance eligible for funding?

Under this Program, costs for insurances are not eligible. A full list of ineligible costs is listed in the Program Guidelines.

What about the other Priority Needs Programs, how do I apply for those?

There are three programs under of Priority Needs funding - Arts and Culture, Aboriginal and Sport.

The Aboriginal-owned Assets Priority Needs Program is being administered by Aboriginal Affairs.

The Sports Priority Needs Program is being administered by Office of Sport.

More information on the funding streams and guidelines is available on the [Office of Sport](#) and [Aboriginal Affairs NSW](#) websites.

Can I apply as an individual, sole trader or unincorporated organisation?

You are able to apply for funding as an individual, sole trader or unincorporated organisation if your project is eligible however you must have a grant administrator (such as a Regional Arts Development Organisation (RADO) or local council) apply on your behalf.

Can I apply as a for-profit organisation in the declared disaster LGAs?

For-profit organisations may apply for funding but will have to clearly demonstrate that the project delivers a clear public benefit that is not for profit and widely accessible to the general public.

If I am successful will the grant incur tax?

Please note that grants paid by Create NSW may be considered part of your income in a financial year and may be subject to tax. You must determine your own taxation liabilities. Create NSW suggests you consult your financial adviser or contact the Australian Taxation Office on 13 28 66.

Can I apply for exemptions to the Guidelines?

No. The Department is bound by strict probity principles to administer the program in accordance with the Program Guidelines. The Program Guidelines outline the criteria against which all applications will be assessed.

Do costs in the budget need to be verified?

Having costs verified by evidence such as quotes, quantity surveyors reports or even a well-supported estimate is crucial to making the assessors confident of the accuracy of project costs. If costs are not accurate, it will put the project at risk of not being completed on time and to budget.

Do I need to add a contingency amount to the budget? Is it OK to add this to the budget in the application even though it would increase the total cost of the project?

Your application should include sufficient contingency amount in the budget to allow for risks such as construction delays, unexpected project issues or changes in quotes. Applicants should consider the accuracy of their costings. This will then determine the level of contingency that should be included in the budget. Riskier projects should allow for a larger contingency. An explanation of how the contingency amount was arrived at should be detailed in the budget section of the application. The appropriate amount will differ between projects.

Do I have to have a project management budget?

For complex and larger projects, a suitably qualified project manager must be allocated to the project and budgeted for.

Can I apply for administration costs and project management costs?

Administration costs and project management costs must not exceed 20 per cent of the requested funding.

How many quotes do we need per line item in the budget?

At least have one quote for each line item. However, more than one quote can assist to demonstrate value for money. The more evidence you can provide the better.

Can I provide additional information or make a change to my application after the closing date?

No further information can be accepted, or changes made to your application after the closing date. The Department reserves the right however to seek clarification during the assessment process.

Can I submit a late application?

Requests for late submissions will initially be set aside and will only be admitted for assessment at the sole discretion of Create NSW, having regard to the material fairness of allowing the application to be assessed. Applicants requesting late submissions to be assessed are encouraged to provide explanation and evidence of unforeseeable circumstance or major disruption that have prevented the application from being submitted in time.

Will Create NSW contact me with questions relating to my application?

Through the assessment process Create NSW may request additional information or clarification from applicants or from any other source. Create NSW may also seek advice from other NSW Government agencies or other third parties (such as probity advisors and industry experts) to assist with the assessment of applications.

The project has already started. Am I eligible to apply?

No. Eligible projects must not have already taken place or be due for completion before the funding period starts.

I don't have an ABN. Am I eligible to apply?

If you don't have an ABN as an unincorporated organisation, sole trader, individual, or group, you need to have a fund administrator that is included in the eligible entities to apply on your behalf.

Eligible entities include the following:

- existing funded Create NSW organisation clients
- arts and cultural organisations (including service organisations)
- local councils, including entities owned or controlled by local councils
- Regional Arts Development Organisations (RADOs) – RADOs may apply as a Funds Administrator for multiple projects in their region.

When do I have to finish the project?

Applicants who are successful for funding are expected to have their projects completed by December 2024.

Can the funding be used to pay for staff salary?

Funding from this program may be used for staff costs directly related to project management, but not for recurrent salary of existing staff.

We are in a flood affected LGA, but the building was not directly affected by flooding. Am I eligible to apply?

No. Only buildings/infrastructure located in the specified LGAs that are directly affected by the February-March 2022 flooding is eligible for this funding.

The project is for a multipurpose space, some of which is used for arts and culture. Am I eligible to apply?

You must be able to demonstrate that the building/infrastructure have arts and culture as a core activity, even if it is also used for other purposes, to be eligible for this funding.

Can the funding be used to pay for rent for a project office?

No. The funding available from this program can not be used for administrative, overhead, operational and/or maintenance costs not related to the project, which include rental costs.