



An Australian Government Initiative



Regional
Development
Australia

YORKE AND MID NORTH

Grant Writing Workshop for Community Groups

Presented by Muriel Scholz

June 2024

Acknowledgement of Country



Regional Development Australia Yorke and Mid North and Wakefield Regional Council acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet today and pay our respects to Elders past and present.

RDA Yorke and Mid North

Regional Development Australia Yorke and Mid North (RDAYMN) is a not-for-profit organisation funded by Federal, State and local government.

Our purpose

Facilitate growth in economic prosperity within our region and improve the liveability of our communities

Our vision

Leverage our regional advantages to deliver and grow a resilient, attractive and secure future

Our partners

- 11 local governments
- State Government
- Federal Government
- Businesses
- Community groups
- Individuals

What is a grant?

- Grants are funds given out by private, public and not-for-profit organisations for a range of purposes.
- Grants are always for discrete, stand-alone projects with a beginning, end and clear outcomes from the project.
- They are not for ongoing running costs of an organisation, such as permanent staff costs, rent and utilities. You can use grant funding for these costs but **ONLY** if they relate to the current project you are doing.
- Grants are not retrospective, which means that you cannot get grant funds to reimburse you for a project already completed or work already started.



What is the purpose of a grant?

To achieve government policy objectives

To implement election or government promises

To promote new ways of doing things

To improve public infrastructure

To preserve historical buildings

To recognise service

To help with research and development

To encourage new businesses

To stimulate economy

To create jobs

To assist or enrich the community

To support disadvantaged people

To alleviate adverse circumstances (drought, fire...)

To support the Arts, sports, multiculturalism...

Get your project ready before applying for a grant

What do you want to apply for?

Who will it benefit?

Can you fund your project any other way?

Do you have a project plan?

Do you have a budget?

Do you have realistic and up to date quotes?

Have you consulted with the landowner and local government?



What do you need

- Quotes
- Letters of Support
- Audited accounts
- Constitution if relevant
- ABN
- Bank Details
- Committee minutes
- Landowner consent
- Photos and newspaper articles



Show me the money!

- RDA Yorke and Mid North Grant Bulletin

<https://yorkeandmidnorth.com.au/grants/>

- Subscribe to Wakefield Council Facebook page

- Grant Connect (Government Grants)

<https://help.grants.gov.au/>

- Community Grants Hub

<https://www.communitygrants.gov.au/>

- Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR)

<https://frrr.org.au/>



Found a grant?



Read the guidelines and FAQs at least twice!!



Are you eligible? Grant writing is hard work. Do not apply if you are not eligible.



When does it close? Do not leave to the last minute, it will take longer to write than you think.



Most applications are online. Copy questions on a Word document to work out your answers.



If the application specifies 400 words, do not try for more.



Look at previously successful grants for inspiration and how to frame your project.

Golden rules

- Answer ALL the questions
- Read the questions carefully and answer accordingly
- Do not answer a question with “as previously stated or as above”
- Do not repeat the same thing twice
- Research and quote strategic plans
- Make sure your facts are right
- Explain how the grant body will be recognised
- Do not pad your budget
- Whenever possible make a cash and in-kind contribution
- If successful, you need to implement the EXACT project you described in your application
- If you need to change project or timeline, negotiate with the granting body
- Complete contracts and acquittals on time
- Do not start works prior to signing the contract



What is a project plan?

- A **description** of your project
- How** your project will be undertaken
- A **budget** outlining all costs
- A timeline of when key **deliverables** will be achieved
- An **evaluation** of how you will measure the success of your project



Support letters

Community

- Do not provide a proforma unless specifically requested or a template is given by the grant .
- Explain the project, if possible, face to face or via a phone call to convey how important it is.

Commonwealth, State, Local Government and RDA

- Provide a brief of the project including objectives, brief description and amount required.
- At least two weeks' notice.

Always contact the letter writer to let them know about the result of the grant and to thank them for their letter

The boring bits

- If you are registered for GST, your budget should NOT include GST. If you are not registered for GST, your project SHOULD include GST.
- Make sure your application is grammatically correct without spelling mistakes.
- Do not use acronyms unless you have defined them once: Regional Development Australia Yorke and Mid North (RDA Yorke and Mid North).
- “Business as usual” is ineligible expenditure.
- Do not assume the evaluation panel knows anything about your town, your club or your project. Spell it out in plain English.
- Do not trust Wikipedia!

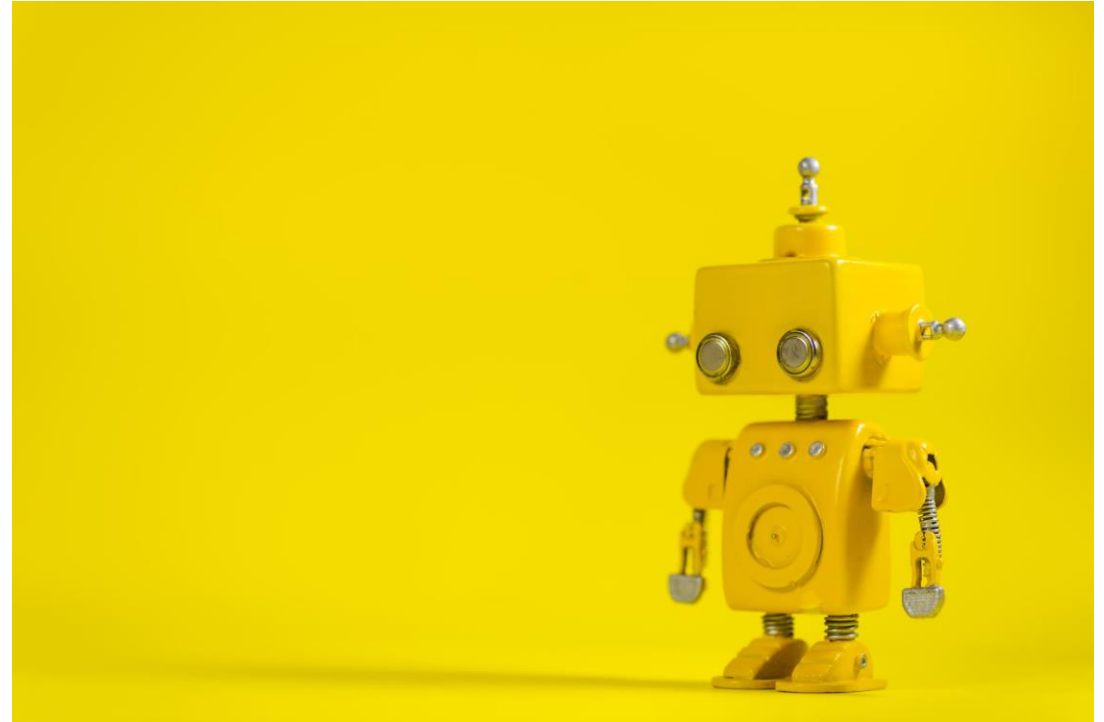
To AI or not to AI

Do not write a grant using AI. It is obvious and will be discarded.

Moderation is key. It can help you finish a paragraph or provide some inspiration.

Double check anything AI generated.

If you are passionate about your project, your own words will convey it best.



AI example



You

write a response to why this project will support social capital in Graceville

This project is poised to bolster social capital in Graceville for several compelling reasons. Firstly, by creating opportunities for community engagement and collaboration, it fosters a sense of unity among residents. As individuals come together to participate in the project's initiatives, whether it's through volunteering, attending events, or contributing ideas, they forge meaningful connections with one another, thereby strengthening the social fabric of the town.

Moreover, the project's focus on inclusivity ensures that diverse voices are heard and valued. By actively involving people from all walks of life, regardless of age, background, or socioeconomic status, it promotes a culture of mutual respect and understanding. This, in turn, cultivates a more cohesive and resilient community where everyone feels empowered to play a part in shaping Graceville's future.

Better AI example



You

Write a response of 200 words in third person to describe how social netball provides social capital in the Graceville district in South Australia. Include opportunity to come together, health and fitness outcomes, meeting new people. Discuss how important this is following drought and covid, for people to come together and support each other.

Social netball plays a pivotal role in fostering social capital within the Graceville district of South Australia. Through the platform of this sport, community members have the opportunity to come together regularly, not only to engage in physical activity but also to connect on a social level. Netball provides a structured environment for individuals to interact, build relationships, and forge bonds with one another.

Participating in social netball not only promotes health and fitness outcomes but also contributes to mental well-being by offering a sense of camaraderie and belonging. In the aftermath of drought and the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, the need for social support and connection is more significant than ever. Social netball serves as a beacon of resilience, providing a space where people can come together, support each other, and collectively navigate through adversity.

Moreover, the inclusive nature of netball allows for the opportunity to meet new people and expand social networks, creating a sense of community cohesion. By facilitating these social interactions and fostering a supportive environment, social netball strengthens the social fabric of the Graceville district, promoting unity, resilience, and well-being among its residents.⁶

Example of a good grant

We are seeking funds to install a new kitchen in our clubrooms.

The Graceville Netball Club is an old club and a great club. Established in 1932, the club plays host to more than 200 competitors every weekend from the tiniest Net Set Go participant to former Vixens stars in our senior's ranks. We are a community club and we are growing as our community grows.

Situated in coastal South Australia, Graceville has always been a destination for tourists and is now sought after by those looking for a tree change. Our Club wants to provide a welcoming and inclusive environment for the new families in town, a community destination for all ages and genders and a catalyst for increased participation in sport.

A significant obstacle to our mission is our kitchen. Built in the 1980s, our kitchen is cramped, hot, potentially unsafe and in dire need of an upgrade. In addition to feeding the hungry hordes and increasing safety for our volunteers, an upgraded kitchen will also allow us to improve our facility hire revenue stream. A new kitchen will help us attract new players, volunteers and supporters.



Council Grants

Wakefield Regional Council's Community Grants Program (major and minor grants) aims to provide financial support to community not-for-profit organisations to connect people in our region and support delivery of our Wakefield 2030 Community Plan and vision: "Wakefield is a thriving and connected regional community known for its lifestyle, vibrant towns and economic prosperity".

- Minor Grants cover up to \$2,000
- Major Grants cover \$2,001 to \$25,000

Applicants must demonstrate alignment with at least one of the three themes of [Wakefield 2030](#):

- Liveable Communities – activities that enhance the quality of life for our community.
- Thriving Region – activities that encourage economic growth and development.
- Sustainable Future – activities that support sustainability in the use of waste, water and energy, or promote and enhance the environment.

Council Grants cont..

The Minor or Major Event Sponsorship

Up to \$500 (minor) or \$2,000 (major) per financial year per person/organisation, subject to available funds. The program is open all year round, until funding is expended.

What is the Event Sponsorship Program?

It provides funding assistance to eligible individuals, groups, and not for profit organisations for activities that benefit the Wakefield region.

Applicants must clearly demonstrate a social, environmental, or economic need for the wellbeing of the community.

Applications for the ***Small Business Incentives*** are open until funding budget is expended.

The program aims to encourage small businesses to start up, grow, innovate and develop.

\$3,000, matched on a dollar for dollar basis, for activities that give the business a competitive edge, enhance the skills of employees or market business activities.

Applicants may not receive the full amount being sought and eligibility does not guarantee grant funding.





Questions?

THANK YOU

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