Queensland Community Foundation – Regional Funds
Grant making 2027
Funding Guidelines and Criteria - Closing date 11 December 2026

About Queensland Gives Regional Sub Funds

Our Queensland Community Foundation (QCF) Regional Sub Funds were established for the purpose of creating a perpetual source of charitable funding for specific regions. The Public Trustee of Queensland is trustee. Donations to QCF Regions are pooled and invested with a percentage of the net income available each year for granting purposes.

Each community fund seeks to build a permanent pool of funds to support local communities in their region. As a sub-fund of QCF the Regional Fund:

- seeks to improve the quality of life for all people within their region
- Operates independently from other organisations or government influence
- Is overseen by a board appointed local committee to assess how best the objectives and distribution of funding from the regional sub-funds can be achieved
- Provides grants to eligible non-profit and community groups to address disadvantage and a wide variety of emerging and changing needs in the community
- Offers services to donors to help them achieve their philanthropic goals.

Grant Objective and Criteria

The QCF grants program aims to support eligible charitable organisations providing services in each region.

Applications from the *Sunshine Coast and Gold Coast* are invited for grants between $5,000 and $30,000 maximum each.

Application from *Toowoomba and Northern Queensland* are invited for grants between $5,000 and $15,000 maximum each.

Charities and causes supported may fit within, but are not limited to community wellbeing, health, arts and culture, animal welfare, children and youth, education, environment, medical research, indigenous and religion and follow these objectives:

- *One-off projects for a specific purpose*
- *Demonstrate sustainability beyond the funding period by preparing for the future with forward thinking*
- *Strengthen the community and reduce social disadvantage by helping find solutions to community problems*
- *Be very clear on spending, identifying all budget items and ensure project shows bang for buck*
- *Benefit as many people as possible showing the likely sustained or systemic changes*

QCF prefers to fund whole projects rather than a small contribution to a large project. Part funding will be considered where applicants can demonstrate access to co-funding.

Eligibility

1. Applications are open to **only** those charitable organisations that have Deductible Gift Recipient Item 1 (DGR1) status from the Australian Taxation Office. To confirm your DGR 1 status, enter your ABN at this link: http://www.abr.business.gov.au/
2. **If you do not have DGR1 status it is possible to apply through an auspice agreement. Please contact Seana Osbourne at enquiries@qcf.org.au if you require further details on how this can be arranged.**
3. The annual revenue of the organisation is under $5M and organisations are ideally Queensland based, with all grant funds going to help communities in the region applied.

APPLICATION PROCESS

1) All applications must be submitted via an online process, which will be available on our website;
2) As part of the application process, you will be required to submit a minimum of three (3) photographs which best depict the organisations core service delivery or funding project. In the event your organisation is successful in gaining a grant this photo will be used for promotional purposes.
3) Applications will close on **Friday 11 December 2026.**
4) Written advice of the Trustee's decision will be sent to applicants on and around May 2027. For successful applicants, the letter of offer will detail conditions, if any, attached to the grant, as well as reporting requirements. Grants are payable by end June 2027. Projects for which funding is sought must not have commenced prior to **30 June 2027.**
5) You are welcome to discuss your idea and are encouraged to do so if you are unsure whether your project meets the criteria. Email enquiries@qcf.org.au or alternatively, please telephone Queensland Community Foundation on (07) 3360 3854.

MANAGEMENT OF APPROVED PROJECTS

Successful organisations will be required to publicise, wherever possible, the Foundation's contribution to the initiative/project.

Successful organisations must also agree to QCF publicising the grant through their Annual Report, and QCF and Queensland Gives websites and social media.

APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS

All applications will be assessed on merit, based largely on the written information provided and will consider the following:

- *Evidence of need and how many beneficiaries are impacted*
- *Extent of benefit/outcome to the community showing how significant the community problem is being addressed.*
- *Cost effectiveness and demonstrating sustainability beyond the funding period*
- *The organisation's capacity to deliver the project and clearly demonstrating the outcomes and what change will occur as a result of the activities and outputs.*
- *Level of recognition and brand exposure to Queensland Gives*

Grant applications will be evaluated by the QCF Regional Committee for recommendation to the QCF Board of Governors. The Trustee has final approval on the distribution of grants.

PRIVACY

QCF respects your privacy and is committed to protecting your personal information. Applications for funds and other written information provided to QCF will generally be treated in confidence. However, in the interest of the applicant, QCF may collaborate with other funding bodies for alternate sources of funding.

GST

Grants from Queensland Gives are GST exempt.

https://www.ato.gov.au/businesses-and-organisations/not-for-profit-organisations