

## Community Grant Writing

Information for Dementia-Friendly Communities  
and Alliances

### Getting Started

The best way to begin is to make sure what you are applying for is grant ready. This means that whether it is a project, program, piece of equipment or an event, it needs to be well developed with the following key information:

- Clear objective(s) – What is/are the aim(s) of the project
- Defined long and short-term benefits (or outcomes) – What you are trying to achieve and/or what benefits will this have on the community?
- Clear timeline – When can you start? How long will it take? What are the key milestones?
- Detailed and accurate budget – All line items should have a short description and equal the total exactly

**Tip:** Having a Program Plan completed is the best way to start, here is one example **Project Plan Template**

### Finding Grants

There are many different grants available, and all funders have their own objectives and outcomes they are trying to achieve. Below are some great places to start looking for grants.

#### Local Council

Some of the best places to begin looking for grants is your local council. They all have yearly grant rounds for different categories. Council is a great place to start looking because they have a dedicated grant person who will make time to discuss your project, provide advice and offer direction on the grant.

#### Local Banks

Local businesses in your community are great for grants and banks have great options for grant funding. Look for your local branch under the following examples:

- Bendigo - <https://www.bendigobank.com.au/community/community-funding/>
- Westpac - <https://www.westpac.com.au/about-westpac/our-foundations/westpac-foundation/grants/>
- ANZ - <https://www.anz.com.au/about-us/esg/community/community-grants/>

- NAB - <https://www.nab.com.au/about-us/social-impact/community/nab-foundation-and-grants>
- Commonwealth Bank - <https://www.commbank.com.au/about-us/opportunity-initiatives/opportunity-from-community/commbank-foundation/community-grants.html>

**Tip:** Small local banks also do grants, such as Bank of Sydney, so don't hesitate to ask. <https://www.banksyd.com.au/grantforgood>

## Grant Search Engines

There are lots of great companies who research grants and post them on their search engine. Some examples include:

- Our Community has tons of great resources, below is a good article on grant writing [https://www.ourcommunity.com.au/marketing/marketing\\_article.jsp?articleId=2626](https://www.ourcommunity.com.au/marketing/marketing_article.jsp?articleId=2626)
- The Grants Hub is my favourite and offers a free trial to test it out. <https://www.thegrantshub.com.au/>

**Tip:** There are a few search engines and they all range in price and quality but splitting a subscription amongst a few community groups might be useful and cost effective.

## Government

All government grant websites are free to search and subscribe. There are always a range of government funding opportunities that may support smaller local projects. The two best sites to subscribe to are:

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

## Grant Resources

The Internet is full of free grant writing resources. There are many courses you can take on writing grants, but I personally don't think these are worth your time or money. Anyone can write a grant application, the best way to learn is to try, and if you don't get the grant, ask for feedback. Many funders will provide feedback and provide advice on how to improve next time. The best education is to try and learn from any mistakes. Below are some helpful resources that can provide information on writing grants:

- <https://www.instrumentl.com/blog/best-grant-writing-resources>
- [https://www.communities.tas.gov.au/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0021/11289/GrantWritingWorkshopPresentation.pdf](https://www.communities.tas.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0021/11289/GrantWritingWorkshopPresentation.pdf)
- <https://www.communitygrants.gov.au/information-applicants/what-makes-good-grant-application>