

Key Dates



Note: Projects funded in this round must be undertaken between July 2026 and December 2027.

All applications close 5pm Victorian time (AEST).

About FRRR

FRRR is the only national foundation specifically focused on ensuring the social and economic strength of remote, rural and regional communities.

Our unique model connects common purposes and funding with locally prioritised needs. We believe targeted, well-informed investment in local organisations will stimulate ideas that create vibrant communities.

That is why our programs focus on building resilience and strengthening communities.

Program Information



Program Purpose

The FRRR ABC Heywire Youth Innovation Grants program helps communities act on issues of current concern for young Australians, as identified by youth at the annual Canberra Heywire Youth Summit.

The Heywire Youth Summit provides an opportunity for youth from across Australia to collectively identify issues that have impacted them growing up in remote, rural and regional Australia.

The FRRR ABC Heywire Youth Innovation Grants provide up to \$10,000 for communities to act on these issues by developing local projects that respond to these issues.

Through these grants, this program aims to:

- Make remote, rural and regional Australia a better place to grow up for young Australians;
- Put young people at the centre of decision making about issues affecting them within their community;
- Strengthen young people's connections to their community, by providing an avenue for organisations to engage well with youth.



Project Alignment

Grant applications must address one of the six issues that are identified at the annual Heywire Youth Summit in Canberra.

These will be available online on the [Heywire Grants page](#) of the FRRR website on Wednesday, 4 February 2026.

Grant applications must clearly respond to one of these issues, with solutions that work for young people in your local community.

Funds Available & Priorities

There is \$100,000 available nationally, thanks to the generous support of the David Mactaggart Foundation, the Sally Foundation, Kellogg's, and private donors.

Projects that can demonstrate local youth engagement, consultation and/or involvement in the design and delivery of the project will receive preference. Priority will be given to projects that are either:

- **Youth-led projects:** This program highly encourages projects where youth are responsible for the design and delivery of the entire project, with oversight from supporting organisations where needed. Through this grant program, youth are provided with the opportunity to gain experience and skills in project delivery and the granting process.
- **Partnerships between youth and community organisations:** This program encourages projects that facilitate meaningful partnerships between organisations and the youth in their community. Youth should have input into the design and delivery of the project with the community organisation responsible for the actual program delivery. Opportunities should be provided for youth to step in and out of the project design and delivery as needed. In developing and strengthening these partnerships, youth will be supported to become active participants in local community organisations.
- **Youth participation in projects that strengthen the connection to their community:** Community organisations that have strong connections with youth can deliver projects for the benefit of local youth. These organisations should still clearly demonstrate **how local youth have been consulted with** in the development of the project to ensure it meets their needs, and that they will participate in the project if it is delivered locally.

What can be funded

A broad range of charitable projects are considered under this program, including:

- Delivering or providing activities, events, programs and services;
- Purchasing or hiring equipment and materials;
- Community infrastructure projects;
- Organisational capacity building;
- Community resource development.

What can't be funded

There are several areas that we **can't fund** through this program. If in doubt, please contact us.

- Projects that support core business and areas of responsibility of Federal, State and Local Governments;
- Ongoing core organisational operational costs (e.g. rent, utilities, regular wages, loan repayments);
- The encouragement or advancement of sport, recreation and social activities are not considered charitable activities under Australian law.



Applications from sporting organisations need to clearly demonstrate charitable outcomes and benefit to the wider community that are above and beyond the sporting activities of the club.

- Overseas travel and overseas projects;
- Prizes, gifts, trophies or awards;
- Political lobbying;
- Projects that primarily benefit private business, a sole trader, or private interests;
- Projects solely focused on animal welfare.



Eligibility

To apply, you must meet the following criteria:

- Applicant organisations must be a **not-for-profit organisation** with either an **Incorporation Certificate and/or an ABN**. Local Councils are eligible entities for this grant program. If you are unsure if your organisation is a registered not-for-profit (e.g. if you are a Co-operative, Other Unincorporated Entity, Public Company or Trust), please contact FRRR;
- Project must be for charitable purposes and offer clear public benefit;
- Not-for-profit organisations with or without DGR-1 endorsement are eligible;
- Organisations can submit one application per grant round;
- Projects must take place in regional Australia, as defined by ABC Heywire – that is, outside of Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth or Sydney.
- For program purposes, youth is generally defined as ages 12-28.

Please note, you will be considered ineligible if the:

- Application is submitted by individuals, sole traders, private or commercial businesses (as per the submitted ABN);
 - Application is submitted by an organisation that is not a legal entity (i.e. a registered not-for-profit), without the written consent of the governing / partnering body who holds the ABN / Incorporation Certificate;
 - Application is submitted without required financial documentation (see below);
 - Overdue Final report/s from any FRRR grants awarded in the previous seven years have not been acquitted (delivery organisations should check with legal organisation to see if there are any outstanding final reports);
 - Application is for a project or activity that has already occurred / is occurring prior to the announcement of funding;
 - Application is incomplete. **NOTE:** Due to the volume of applications received, applications are assessed based on the documentation received at the time of application. **FRRR is unlikely to follow up missing documentation after applications have been submitted.**
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How to Apply

Interested applicants must first submit an Expression of Interest (EOI). These EOIs will be shortlisted by a Youth Panel, with shortlisted applicants then invited to submit a full application. These applications will be assessed by our Youth Assessment Panel who will determine the final projects to be funded.

Expressions of Interest

Expressions of Interest will be accepted through our online application portal, Blackbaud Grants Portal.

Expressions of Interests are intended to provide an overview of your project concept, with further, more detailed information only required from those projects that are shortlisted.

You will be notified of the results of your EOI by 1 April.

Full Application

Successful EOIs will be invited to submit a full application from 1 April, with applications due 30 April.

- [Download the Sample EOI Form](#)
- [Download the full Sample Application Form](#)

[Click here to submit an EOI.](#)



BLACKBAUD
Grants Portal

FRRR Contact Details

If at any time you need help with your application, please contact the FRRR office on free call 1800 170 020 or email us at info@frrr.org.au.

IMPORTANT NOTES RE: FULL APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Please read the information below to support the planning and preparation of your project **if your EOI is shortlisted**. It also sets out what you **MUST** include for your project to be considered. Contact FRRR if you have any questions about this information or any aspect of the application form.

Eligible Legal Entities

Every application needs to include an organisation that holds either an **ABN or Incorporation Certificate**. If your organisation doesn't have that, FRRR may still fund the project but you need another organisation's support, which we refer to as the '**legal organisation**' (with your organisation being the **delivery organisation**). This situation often occurs when the organisation **delivering** the activity or project is a branch of an overarching organisation - such as a local CWA or YMCA branch. In this case, the CWA or YMCA would be the legal organisation.

Even though your organisation may complete the application (and will be doing the work), **it's the 'legal organisation's' legal and financial information that needs to be provided**. They also need to provide a letter of support, confirming they are willing to play this role.

Why is this important?

This program is only able to distribute funds to not-for-profit organisations with an ABN or Incorporation Certificate, and FRRR needs to know that the organisation with that ABN / Incorporation Certificate understands and agrees to carry out their responsibilities in relation to your project, if successful.

Financial Information

Applications received without the requested financial information are ineligible. Providing incorrect financial information is currently the most common reason why applications are not able to be considered. You must include the organisation's:

- Annual income (total income in your financial year)
- Annual expenditure (total expenses in your financial year); and
- Current assets (from your audited financials, or bank balance minus any debts).

Please note:

- Provide a brief explanation of any large financial surplus or current assets and reasons why FRRR funds are still required.
- If financial information is more than 18 months old, please provide an explanation as to why the organisation does not have more recent documents.
- Please explain any deficits and steps to sustain the organisation financially.

Please contact us if you cannot provide the required financial information or are unsure about what to provide.

Why is this important?

FRRR uses this information to understand your organisation's financial viability and ability to manage grant funds.



Project Budget

You must include a project budget that clearly shows the items that FRRR grant funding would be used for and that also shows all income and expenses related to your project.

Budgets should be realistic and must add up – i.e. total expenditure must match total income.

Applicant contributions in cash or in-kind are highly regarded. Quotes or detailed rationale for items over \$1,000 are required, where possible. Note: FRRR suggests costing unskilled volunteer labour at \$45 per hour.

For more info on costing volunteer labour, visit: <https://explore.fundingcentre.com.au/help-sheets/valuing-volunteer-labour>.

Why is this important?

A clear budget helps FRRR to understand the size of your project, exactly how FRRR funds will be spent and helps demonstrate community support for your project through in-kind contributions either from your organisation or partners / community members.

Supporting Materials

FRRR strongly recommends that you provide supporting materials such as letters of support, community plans, survey results, photographs, media clips and research reports that can show broad-community support and partnerships involved in the project.

Large documents should be referenced and explained in the application.

Why is this important?

FRRR seeks to fund projects that are well-supported by the broader local community, are locally-led and delivered, show good partnerships and benefit multiple parts of the community. As FRRR is not always familiar with your community, our staff consider support material as evidence toward understanding level of community need, benefit and support.

Clear Project Information

A clear description of exactly **what** the grant funds will be used for, **when** and **where** the project will happen, **who** will benefit and **who** will be involved in delivering the project, **why** the project and grant funds are needed, **how** funds will be spent and **how** the activities and success of the project will be recorded, evaluated and shared.

Where possible, we encourage you to make it really clear that your organisation is ready and able to deliver the project and, if required, provide ongoing support for the initiative.

Why is this important?

FRRR needs to clearly understand your project to assess its merits. Applicants should focus on addressing the what, when, where, who, why and how of the project, as this is the best way to clearly communicate the details of the project.

A ready community is best placed to achieve the aims of your project, so during assessment, our staff look for information that tells us that good leadership, skills and awareness exist in your community to support the project now and in the future.



IMPORTANT NOTES FOR SUCCESSFUL GRANTEES

Bank Account

To receive the grant funds, successful grantees (the legal entity) must have a bank account registered under the organisation's name. Without a bank account, the grant funds cannot be disbursed, and the grantee will not receive the funds.

Reporting Requirements

When the project is complete, the grantees will be required to provide a [Project Report](#) on the project's activities, impacts and outcomes, and include a **financial acquittal** of your grant. Project reporting is an opportunity for the organisation to reflect on and celebrate what has been achieved and to share learnings.

Grantees have up to 18 months to deliver the project. **The online Project Report is due 8 weeks after project completion.**

Organisations with an overdue Project Report are not eligible to apply for further FRRR funding until the report is received. If the Project Report is not received, the applicant organisation may be suspended from applying for any FRRR grant programs until it is supplied.