

What are the *Landcare Australia Special Projects Grants*?

The *Landcare Australia Special Projects Grants 2016* are intended to support Landcare and farming groups in undertaking projects and activities that protect environmental assets, address priority issues and improve the health of the environment.

Groups are invited to apply for a grant of up to \$15,000 to support projects that focus on one or more of the following areas:

- > Biodiversity
- > Sustainable agriculture

Where does the funding come from?

The *Landcare Australia Special Projects Grants* are largely funded by Landcare Australia's Workplace Giving Program, a program that allows individuals to make regular pre-tax donations to Landcare Australia through their employer's payroll system. These generous Workplace Giving donations are combined and then applied by Landcare Australia in support of a range of activities including, distribution to Landcare groups across Australia to maximise on-ground environmental benefits.

Is my group eligible for a grant?

Biodiversity stream:

- > The *Landcare Australia Special Projects Grants 2016* program is open to all volunteer-based community groups across Australia that embrace the Landcare ethos, including Landcare, Bushcare, Beachcare, Dunecare, Coastcare and "Friends of" groups.

Sustainable agriculture stream:

- > The *Landcare Australia Special Projects Grants 2016* program is open, but not limited to, Landcare groups, farming systems groups and community groups.

Schools and pre-schools are not eligible to receive funding in this program; instead they are invited to apply for Junior Landcare grants as they become available.

Groups with project reports still outstanding from previous grants are ineligible for further funding until all reporting requirements are met. Incomplete and late applications will not be considered.

If you are unsure if your group is eligible, please email grants@landcareaustralia.com.au to check.

Is my group eligible if it has received funding from Landcare Australia in the past?

Yes, however preference will be given to groups that have not received funding from Landcare Australia in the last two years.

Groups with outstanding final reports from previous grants are ineligible for further funding until all reporting requirements are met.

Does my group need an ABN to receive a grant?

Yes, however if your group does not have an ABN you can arrange for an affiliated group with an ABN to receive the grant funds on your behalf.

Does my group need DGR status to receive a grant?

No, Landcare Australia is able to give grants to any group, as long as they meet the criteria for funding.

Does the grant include GST?

The grant amount is for up to \$15,000 + GST. Landcare Australia will pay GST to grant recipients if they are registered to receive GST. If the grant recipient is not registered for GST then they are unable to claim it on top of their funding request.

Check whether your group is eligible to receive GST [here](#). Independent advice should be sought if you are unsure.

Who decides which projects get funding?

Landcare Australia is committed to ensuring that the assessment process for the selection of projects is fair and transparent.

The following assessment process will be undertaken for the *Landcare Australia Special Projects Grants 2016*:

- > Stage 1: Eligibility check. Applications that are incomplete or that do not meet the eligibility criteria will be deemed unsuccessful.
- > Stage 2: Initial assessments conducted by internal Grants Team. Applications will be marked against the criteria set out in this document.
- > Stage 3: Shortlist provided to the Landcare Australia Grants Steering Committee for review.
- > Stage 4: Successful and unsuccessful applicants notified by email.

The Landcare Australia Grants Steering Committee consists of:

- > Two members of the Landcare Australia Strategy Forum, an external body of acknowledged thought leaders and champions of the environment and/or sustainable land use, who provide expert input on future directions in education, engagement, fundraising and science.
- > Three members of Landcare Australia's management team

Landcare Australia will endeavour ensure that the geographical spread of grant recipients across states and territories is equitable. Preference will be given to groups that have not received funding from Landcare Australia in the last two years.

How do I apply for the grant?

Groups can apply for the *Landcare Australia Special Projects Grants 2016* on the Landcare Australia Communities Portal. To submit an application:

1. Login or register as a user on the [Landcare Australia Communities Portal](#).
2. Click on '**Landcare Australia Special Projects Grants 2016**'.
3. Click on '**Create an application for this grant**'.
4. If you wish to leave a partially completed application, press '**Save**' and log out. You can log back in and continue to edit your application form until you are ready to submit.
5. To submit your application, select the '**Is application complete?**' checkbox and press '**Save**'.
6. You will receive a confirmation email when your application has been successfully submitted.

For questions about online submissions, please refer to the FAQs tab on the Landcare Australia Communities Portal or email help@landcareaustralia.com.au .

Can my group submit more than one application?

No, one application per group will be accepted.

When do I find out if my application was successful?

Successful and unsuccessful applicants will be notified via email in mid-June. Please ensure that the email address provided on the application form is checked regularly.

If successful, what are my group's obligations?

If successful, your group is obliged to do the following:

- > Conduct the project according to the activities and budget for which the funding was approved and received.
- > Provide a progress report and photographs of the project within six months of receiving funds.
- > Provide a final report on outcomes of the project, including how funds were spent, within 12 months of receiving funds.
- > Permit Landcare Australia and partners to use project report and photos for promotional

purposes.

Do you provide feedback if an application is unsuccessful?

Yes, Landcare Australia will provide feedback on unsuccessful applications upon request.

Does this grant fund school gardens?

No. The *Landcare Australia Special Projects Grants* are intended to help Landcare and community groups to fund projects, core activities and capacity building activities. Schools and pre-schools are not eligible to receive funding in this program; instead they are invited to apply for a grant in the [Junior Landcare](#) stream.