

2024 Thrive Community Grants Application Guidelines.

Connection and participation.

We believe every child and young person should have the best opportunities to connect with friends, family and the community, participate in activities that build resilience, develop new skills and enrich their lives, and feel they belong.

Connections provide us with happiness, security, support and a sense of purpose, are critical to our identity and important for our wellbeing. Connection is also a protective factor for mental health.

However, we know that poverty, discrimination and disadvantage can make it very difficult for children and young people to participate in community life.

About the grants.

Each year, Bank of Melbourne Foundation Thrive Community Grants offer up to \$50,000 to improve the social and emotional wellbeing of children and young people.

We invest in smaller, local charities that provide children and young people with opportunities to connect and participate in community life.

We prioritise funding to support children and young people facing the greatest barriers to reaching their potential.

Priority groups.

Our focus is on supporting children and young people (0-24 years):

- From Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds.
- From culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, including children of refugee and asylum seeker families.
- With disability.
- Who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and gender diverse, or children who have intersex variations.
- Living in out of home care.
- Who are incarcerated or have had contact with the criminal justice system.
- Experiencing socioeconomic disadvantage.
- Living in rural and remote communities.

Eligibility.

1. Your organisation is endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR-1 status) and registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission (ACNC).
2. Your organisation can provide recent, audited financial statements, signed by the auditor. Those with annual revenue less than \$500,000 are exempt from requiring an auditor's report.
3. Your organisation has an annual gross revenue of less than \$5 million.
4. Your organisation receives less than 60% of its annual revenue from federal, state or local government funding, where income is above \$1million per annum.
5. Your proposed initiative is located within Victoria or Tasmania.

Selection criteria.

1. **Demonstrating organisational alignment and robustness.**

- With an inspiring vision, goals, programs and services that align with building a fairer, more inclusive community.
- Experienced working with children and young people experiencing disadvantage and discrimination to foster social connections and participation in community life.
- Strong governance, with appropriate systems, risk and compliance processes, and child protection policies and practices.
- Sound financial management.

2. **Initiative demonstrates an innovative, collaborative approach to engaging children and young people experiencing disadvantage.**

- Initiative directly involves children/young people from one or more of our priority groups.
- Initiative addresses a clear community need with strengths-based and child/youth centred approaches.
- Initiative reflects an evidence-based approach, with clear rationale.

3. **Demonstrating commitment to social impact, creating effective opportunities to uplift connection and participation for children and young people in our priority groups.**

- Clarity on intended initiative outcomes.
- Committed to measurement and outcome evaluation.
- Compelling link between the initiative and its contribution to longer term social impact.

If your organisation and proposed initiative meet the eligibility and selection criteria, you can apply for the grant, regardless of whether you have applied previously.

Previous grants from St.George Foundation, Bank of Melbourne Foundation or BankSA Foundation must be acquitted prior to submitting a new application.

What we will fund.

Our priority is to support initiatives that bring children and/or young people (0-24 years) together to participate in activities that support social and emotional wellbeing.

- Foster individual learning and interests through education, training or skills development.
- Develop independence, engage in society and join the workforce.
- Create connections and build relationships with others.
- Feel they belong to a wider community, social or cultural group.
- Build resilience, self-awareness and confidence.
- Have the practical things they need to participate and develop as active members of the community.

- Have a positive sense of identity and culture.
- Have a say about things that matter to them.

What we won't fund.

- Charity works outside Australia.
- Initiatives outside of Vic/Tas.
- Sponsorship or fundraising activities.
- Residential camps, except where that is the core purpose of the applicant organisation.
- Research.
- Individuals.
- Initiatives targeting adults.
- Individual therapy.
- Health services.
- Medical equipment.

*Auspiced applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

How to apply.

You can apply by completing the online application available on our website: bankofmelbournefoundation.com.au

Applications will be assessed against the criteria by the Foundation team.

Incomplete applications and those that do not meet the grant eligibility criteria will not be assessed.

For enquiries or assistance please contact the Foundation team on: bomfoundation@bankofmelbourne.com.au

Key dates.

- Applications open on Monday 13 May 2024.
- Applications need to be submitted by Sunday 23 June 2024.
- Assessment will occur from Monday 24 June to Friday 19 July 2024.
- Applicants will be notified of assessment outcome by Friday 13 September 2024.
- Funding for successful applicants will be provided by 30 September 2024.

