

# Connection to Country Small Grants Guidelines

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## The project

Central West Local Land Services is pleased to be able to offer the opportunity for Aboriginal community groups across the Central West Region to apply for our first round of Connection to Country Small Grants. The program aims to empower local Aboriginal communities to come together and work on projects that are important to them, in line with the project priorities. Funding is proudly made available by the NRM Services- Healthy Landscapes program.

The Connection to Country Small Grants project will offer grants of between **\$1000-\$5000 and projects must be delivered in full 30 April 2023**. This is a great opportunity to fund projects, workshops, events, site enhancements or training.

Applications will be of a competitive nature. Central West Local Land Services encourage innovative, resilience projects that focus on ensuring partnerships and community participation where possible.

## Project priorities

Projects should improve community resilience with a focus on:

- **Caring for Country** - Protecting or preserving Cultural heritage values
- **Practice change** – Facilitation, partnering and collaborating with customers and stakeholders to enable participation in positive Natural Resource Management practice change
- **On-ground enhancement, rehabilitation, or restoration of:**
  - Native Vegetation
  - Areas of Threatened Ecological Communities
  - Threatened Species Habitat

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## Project schedule

- Applications open – 13 September 2022
- Applications close – 21 October 2022
- Assessment close – 28 October 2022
- Applicants notified by – 11 November 2022
- Project check in – 10 February 2023
- Project completion – 30 April 2023

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## Eligibility

In addition to the outlined priorities, projects must meet the following criteria:

- Applicant is a member of an Aboriginal owned and/or operated organisation
- Applicant is a member of an incorporated association
- Application received by due date and time
- Application aligns with at least one project priority
- Project is undertaken within Central West Local Land Services boundaries
- The applicant does not have any outstanding debts with Local Land Services
- All previous Local Land Services projects are completed
- ABN or written agreement for auspice confirmed
- Administration costs are less than 10% of total grant
- The organisation must maintain public liability insurance of \$10 million or greater for the duration of the project
- Projects must be completed by 30 April 2023

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## Ineligibility

The following are not eligible for consideration:

- Applications that do not meet the eligibility criteria
- Individuals
- Projects that benefit an individual or private enterprise
- Activities for personal or private benefit
- Projects do not meet project priority requirements
- Applications for projects outside Central West Local Land Services boundaries
- Applications involving in-stream works
- Activities already delivered
- Your organisation/group is subject to an Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC), Local Land Services, Department of Regional NSW or other legal investigation

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## Who can apply

- Local Aboriginal Land Councils (LALCs)
- Aboriginal Corporations
- Traditional Owner Groups
- Indigenous Education and Pathways Programs
- Not for profit Aboriginal organisations
- Community Advisory Groups

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## How to apply?

Applications can be submitted online through the [Central West Community Engagement Hub](#).

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## How are applications assessed?

All project applications must meet eligibility requirements and will then be assessed on the following criteria:

- Provision of a clear project design and budget
  - Demonstrate a contribution to community resilience
  - Alignment to one or more project priority
  - Value for money
  - Value of in-kind contribution or leveraged investment
  - Partnerships
  - Ability to monitor and deliver the project by 30 April 2023
  - Ability to report on outcomes of the project
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## Project Examples

Project may include, but not limited to:

- **Caring for Country events** – Awareness raising events, public displays, development of resources etc for sharing of cultural knowledge and traditional land management practices, events showcasing land management work on Country.
  - **Field based events** - Events aimed at building local community knowledge of on-ground cultural activities and traditional land management practices, this could include activities such as cultural burns, community tree planting events, cultural emersion demonstrations.
  - **School programs** – activities that build students/school communities knowledge of relevant cultural, environmental, and/or sustainable land management practices
  - **Training or capacity building events** – Training events delivered to build relevant skills for local projects or initiatives, eg: cultural heritage awareness and identification training, native bush food and medicine ID training, grass/weed ID and training, drone/app training.
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## For further information

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