



# SA Youth Week 2026 Grant Funding Guidelines



## Key information

Name of fund:	2026 SA Youth Week Grant
Grants opening date:	13 October 2025 at 9:00 am
Grants closing date:	7 November 2025 at 3:00 pm
Success notification:	By 31 January 2026
Funding available:	Up to \$2,500 (ex GST)
Type of funding:	One-off funding

## About

SA Youth Week (SAYW) is an initiative that celebrates and recognises the value of young South Australians to their communities.

As one of the largest annual events on the South Australian youth calendar, SAYW showcases young peoples' talents, contributions, and achievements; promotes a positive image of young people; acknowledges the common interests of young people as well as their diverse backgrounds and circumstances; and enables young people to express their ideas.

## Purpose

The State Government, through the Department of Human Services (DHS), is providing SAYW grants for local councils and not-for-profit organisations working directly with young people across South Australia to host events and activities during SAYW 2026. The events should promote, acknowledge, recognise and celebrate the contributions of young people in our communities.

The overall purpose of SAYW 2026 is to celebrate young people and youth culture and to encourage all young people to participate in their communities. SAYW represents an opportunity to gain insights from local young people to inform what services or opportunities are available in their community. We encourage organisations to embed a youth community engagement opportunity into their SAYW event.

## Aims and objectives

SAYW 2026 grants support youth-led events and activities held during SAYW in South Australia that support the objectives of SAYW by:

- providing opportunities for young people aged 12 to 25 years to be involved in the planning and delivery of events that celebrate young people and youth culture;
- providing opportunities for young people to express their ideas and views, pursue their

interests, showcase their skills and talents, raise issues of concern to them and/or act on issues that affect their lives;

- providing opportunities for the wider community to listen to young people and acknowledge and celebrate the positive contributions that young people make to their local communities; and
- providing activities that are accessible for all young people.

## Funding

One-off grants of up to \$2,500 (ex GST) are available for eligible organisations hosting events during SAYW 2026 that are in metropolitan and regional South Australia, with the aim of half of grants being provided to rural and regional SA.

## Eligibility

To be eligible to apply, organisations must be:

- A Council as described under the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)*.
- OR
- An Aboriginal Community-Controlled Organisation, or other not-for-profit organisation that is incorporated under the *Associations Incorporation Act 1995*, or the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006*, or have evidence of comparable legal status, such as Australian Public Company limited by guarantee.
- Learn more - ([www.sa.gov.au/topics/family-and-community/community-organisations/types/not-for-profit-organisations](http://www.sa.gov.au/topics/family-and-community/community-organisations/types/not-for-profit-organisations).)

All applicants must:

- match the grant funding, either dollar for dollar, through in-kind support or a combination of both. An in-kind contribution is a contribution of goods or a service other than money. Some examples include staff hours or voluntary labour, donated goods (for example, sporting equipment) and donated services
- be currently operating within South Australia, and recipients of the program/service/initiative are residents of South Australia
- be currently registered with a valid and eligible Australian Business Number (ABN)
- have an Australian bank account in the name of the legal entity
- agree to the terms and conditions of the grant agreement
- ensure events and activities take place during SAYW 2026.

## Special provisions

Regional and rural/remote organisations can use part of the funding to subsidise transport of young people to SAYW events and activities. Events and activities which specifically target young people experiencing disadvantage will be considered favourably. This includes:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people
- young people with a disability or neurodivergence
- young people in out of home care
- LGBTIQA+ young people
- young carers
- culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) young people
- young people who live in remote or rural locations
- young people who have had contact with, or are at risk of involvement with the youth justice system
- young people at risk of, or experiencing homelessness.

## Not eligible

- Events and activities that are planned outside of SAYW 2026
- Events and activities that are planned to be held outside South Australia
- Requests for the purchase, maintenance or upgrading of facilities
- Requests for the purchase of alcohol as part of any SAYW 2026 event or activity
- Request for salary subsidies, or payments to volunteers
- Organisations that have not met the acquittal requirements for any previous grants issued by the Department of Human Services
- Commercial or business associated activities (to make a profit)
- Fundraising or charitable events and activities
- Organisations that are not located within South Australia, unless the event or activity is held in and benefits South Australian young people.

## Selection criteria

### What is the event?

Describe the event(s), including:

- What is the event(s)?
- Who is hosting the event(s)?
- Where will the event(s) be hosted (for example, metro / regional)?
- What involvement will young people have in the planning and delivery of the event(s), including the number of young people involved
- What is the frequency of the event (e.g., is it a one-off event or across multiple days)?
- Will any measures be in place to enable participation of all young people?
- How will the event be publicised?
- Does the contribution match the grant funding, either dollar for dollar, through in-kind support or a combination of both?
- Does the event enable collaboration with other partners in the community?
- How does the event consider the various needs of young people in specific communities, such as sensory needs for those with autism?
- To what extent have you considered and/or collaborated with various community groups, such as the Autistic and Autism Community, to encourage involvement in the planning, organising or participation of your SAYW event?

### How will it benefit young people?

Describe the desired outcomes of the event(s), including:

- How does the event celebrate young people and youth culture?
- How will the event embed youth community engagement to inform what services or opportunities are available in their community?
- How will the event provide young people with opportunities to pursue their interests, showcase their talents, express their ideas and views, raise issues of concern to them and/or act on issues that affect their lives?
- How is the event inclusive of all young people or a specific group (e.g., a specific age group, LGBTIQ+ community; young people with a disability or neurodivergence; young people at risk of homelessness; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people; CALD young people; young carers; young people in out of home care; young people in contact with youth justice)?
- How will young people be able to express their views and satisfaction with the event(s)?

## Recommendations of applications

An evaluation team will review all applications and make recommendations on funding.

The Minister for Human Service's delegate, the Assistant Director, Social Inclusion Policy & Partnerships, Department of Human Services (DHS) will be advised of the Assessment Panel's recommendations and will make the final decision on grant funding. All decisions relating to the allocation of funding will be final. The funding round will be finalised when all successful applicants have signed Grant Funding Agreements (GFA) with DHS. The GFA will contain the entire agreement between the parties.

## How to apply

Complete the SAYW grant application and submit with attachments by 3:00 pm, 7 November 2025.

[Apply via the smarty grants portal](#)

## What are my obligations if my grant application is successful?

Successful applicants will be required to:

- Enter into a Grant Funding Agreement with DHS
- Expend grant funds on approved activities during SAYW 2026 and keep receipts / evidence of expenditure of grant funds.
- Provide a financial acquittal to account for grant funding expenditure and return any unexpended funds to DHS
- Seek advice and/or approval from DHS if an event/activity needs to be varied and/or cancelled prior to taking place (e.g., due to adverse weather)
- Acknowledge the support of SAYW and the South Australian Government in any promotional materials
- Provide a final written report and financial acquittal to DHS by close of business 15 May 2026.

## Music licensing

Whenever music is played and/or performed in public, whether live OR recorded, the party authorising the music use almost always requires an APRA AMCOS public performance licence. This covers the rights of the songwriter, composer and music publisher who made and own the piece of music.

If you are playing music at your SAYW event, you will be required to source, at the event organisers' expense, the required license.

For more information on licensing, call APRA AMCOS on 1300 852 388, or email [licence@apra.com.au](mailto:licence@apra.com.au)

## Who do I contact for further information?

Department of Human Services

Phone: 7320 6829

Email: [YouthActionPlan@sa.gov.au](mailto:YouthActionPlan@sa.gov.au)

## Application checklist

When submitting your online application, please:

- submit one application per organisation;
- attach extra information (if applicable) via the upload functions; and
- lodge your application online by 3.00 pm, 7 November 2025.

No extensions will be granted.

## Key dates

- Applications open 13 October 2025 at 9:00 am
- Applications close 7 November 2025 at 3:00 pm
- Successful notification date by 31 January 2026\*
- Grant Agreement will commence 31 January 2026\*
- SAYW Report and Acquittal is due by 15 May 2026

\*Dates are approximate and may be subject to change by notification of the department.