

Julia Farr Disability Inclusion Grants

September 2026



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Acknowledgement

We would like to acknowledge this land that we meet on today is the traditional lands for the Kurna people and we respect their spiritual relationship with their country.

We also acknowledge the Kurna people as the custodians of the greater Adelaide region and that their cultural and heritage beliefs are still as important to the living Kurna people today.



About the Julia Farr Disability Inclusion Grants

DHS is offering funding to eligible organisations for projects that foster **Inclusive Environments and Communities**. This initiative supports the vision of South Australia where all people with disability can participate as equal citizens and feel connected to their communities.

The Julia Farr Disability Inclusion Grant funding aligns to the Department of Human Services State Disability Inclusion Plan 2025-29.

Our funding is derived from the HFI Trust (proceeds from the sale of Highgate Park).

This round offers two tiers of funding:

- Tier 1 – up to \$20,000
- Tier 2 – up to \$100,000.



Round 2, 2025-26 progress

The assessment of round 2 applications has taken place and is currently in approval stage, with a pending outcome and announcement due in October 2026.

The opening of this current round was timed to transition the program to a regular schedule, with grant rounds opening in February and August each year going forward and is therefore earlier than it would be otherwise.



Key Dates

The round opened **3 September 2026** and will close at **1pm, 16 October 2026**.

Notification of the outcome is anticipated to be through January/February 2026.

Grant agreement period will likely start February 2026 and end as follows:

- Tier 1 projects – February 2027 (12 months)
- Tier 2 projects – February 2028 (24 months).

Submissions received after the deadline will not be accepted



Key themes

Projects should align with one or more priority areas:

- Active participation
- Inclusive communities and attitudes
- Universal design – accessible environments
- Accessible facilities
- Communications and information.



Funding Focus

Funding will be prioritised for projects that:

- Develop programs, activities, events or other support services that respond to community need, promote participation, accessibility and inclusion; and
- Build, develop or strengthen partnerships or collaboration with other community organisations to deliver these initiatives.

Applications that demonstrate how they fill a service gap, particularly in regional and remote areas, will be viewed favourably.

Projects that previously have, or currently receive, disability related funding from Local, State or Federal Governments that relate to, or are part of, the proposed application are ineligible.



Priority Groups

- Aboriginal people with disability
- people from new and emerging culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities with disability
- children with disability
- women with disability
- LGBTQIA+ people with disability
- people with significant intellectual disability or who have high levels of vulnerability due to disability
- people with disability who live in regional communities, including places where persistent and/or relative location-based disadvantage exists.



Eligible applicants

To be eligible for the Julia Farr Disability Inclusion Grant, your organisation must:

- be based in South Australia and have a South Australian address
- be one of the following:
 - a non-profit, community, or faith-based organisation
 - an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation
 - a local government entity
 - a community centre or neighbourhood house (with appropriate membership)
- be legally incorporated or registered with the ACNC
- have an Australian bank account
- have been operating for at least 12 months
- agree to the grant terms and conditions.



Ineligible applicants

- Have outstanding obligations to DHS (e.g. reports, invoices)
- Hold gaming machine licenses
- Are schools or universities
- Are individuals, sole traders, or family trusts
- Are for-profit companies (unless certified as a Social Enterprise)
- *Sponsorship of ineligible applicants is not accepted*

Organisations that operate both a for-profit entity and a not-for-profit (NFP) or charitable entity:

There must be a clearly identifiable and transparent separation between the two entities. To be eligible for funding, organisations with mixed structures must demonstrate a distinct separation between the NFP / charity operations and for-profit business activities (e.g. governance, decision-making, financial reporting).



What can't be funded

- Services that are the responsibility of government departments
- Core operating costs (e.g. rent, utilities, staff wages)
- Buying or leasing buildings, land, or IT equipment
- Items already paid for
- Activities covered by other government departments
- Religious, political, or animal welfare outcomes
- Prizes, gifts, sponsorships, food vouchers, or individual payments
- Projects that only benefit NDIS participants or require use of NDIS plans
- Projects expanding, subsidising or replacing existing NDIS service offering
- Disability Action and Inclusion Plans (DAIPs) and disability/access audits.



Changes for local councils

- Councils cannot use grant funding to develop Disability Access and Inclusion Plans (DAIPs).
- Council core business responsibilities such as roads and footpaths are ineligible.
- Previously council-funded community programs are not eligible for replacement funding.
- Council staffing positions cannot be funded unless they are new project-specific roles.

Councils should focus on new disability inclusion initiatives that deliver community outcomes.



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Key changes from previous round

- Maximum of one Tier 1 and one Tier 2 application per organisation per round.
- SEIFA is specifically referenced to inform funding distribution.
- Formal current quotes mandatory.
- Late attachments not accepted.
- Social Enterprises certified by Social Traders now explicitly eligible.



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Funding opportunities – Tier 1

Please note: any examples provided within this presentation are designed to help applicants in understanding the range of projects that may align with the objectives of this grant program, however they are provided for illustrative purposes only. Inclusion in this presentation does not imply eligibility or guarantee funding.

Tier 1 grants offer funding of up to **\$20,000** to be delivered over **12 months**. Examples could include:

- mental health and wellbeing workshops
- digital literacy programs for people with cognitive or sensory impairments
- inclusive recreation programs.



Funding opportunities – Tier 2

Tier 2 grants offer funding of up to **\$100,000** to be delivered over **24 months**.

Examples could include:

- Disability-Led Community Innovation Hub
- Digital Inclusion and Assistive Tech Co-Design Lab
- Peer-Led Mental Health and Wellbeing Network



Round 1, 2025-26 funded projects

Successful projects that were funded in round 1 can be viewed on our website:

<https://dhs.sa.gov.au/how-we-help/grants/grant-recipients/2025-26/Julia-Farr-Disability-Inclusion-Grant-Round-1>

Tier 1: Up to \$20,000 for 12-month projects

Organisation	Project description	Location	Grant amount
Guide Dogs SA/NT Inc.	Navigating the future with confidence – supporting teens with vision loss to thrive into adulthood	Adelaide, Regional South Australia	\$18,461
Regional Galleries Association of SA	Seeing through sounds: Building audio describing capacity in regional galleries	Regional and Remote South Australia	\$18,900



Application process

Applicants are strongly encouraged to use eligibility and project self-assessment checklists (Appendices 1 & 2).

To apply:

- Familiarise yourself with the requirements in the guidelines and review the eligibility criteria
- Submit your application through SmartyGrants, the link is on our website.
- Don't forget to press save as you progress through answering the questions.
- Upload required documentation, there are mandatory fields in the application which prevent you from submitting the application without answering all the key questions.

Hint: Review the SmartyGrants application process to familiarise yourself with the requirements.



Application process

How applications are assessed:

Stage One:

- Applications are screened by DHS Disability Policy and Reform staff for Organisation and Project eligibility.

Stage Two:

- Eligible applications are assessed by an Evaluation Assessment Panel that comprises lived experience members and DHS staff.
- Applications are assessed against the application criteria referred to on pages 17-19 of the Guidelines.
- The Panel makes recommendations to the Minister for funding.



Assessment criteria

Tier 1 and 2 applications are assessed differently.
Refer to pages 17–19 of the guidelines (appendices 3 & 4).

Criteria	Tier 1	Tier 2
Linkage to the published Guidelines	na	20%
Needs Assessment	40%	20%
Project Justification	<i>na</i>	20%
Impact or Benefit	40%	20%
Value for Money	20%	20%



Application inclusions

In addition to the assessment criteria, applications should cover:

Tier 1	Mandatory	Recommended
Project Summary	✓	
Budget with quotes	✓	
Support letters		
Community consultation evidence		✓
Data to support application		✓
Tier 2		
Project Plan	✓	
Budget with quotes	✓	
Community consultation evidence		✓
Data to support application		✓
Risk assessment		✓
Evaluation framework		✓
Details of organisational capacity & any partnerships		✓
Evidence of co-design		✓



SmartyGrants – application budget

SmartyGrants process contains a budget table to be completed.

- + and – symbols allow the addition and removal of rows.
- Each item to be purchased with the funding should appear on its own row.
- If the quote includes GST, calculate the GST exclusive amount by dividing the total by 1.1 and the GST by multiplying the exclusive amount by 0.1.
- This budget will form the basis of the funding contract if successful.
- GST is added into your awarded grant when paid.



Application budget (continued)

Financial contributions table:

- Include financial and non-financial contributions (in-kind support) i.e. volunteer time, donated goods, facility hire (income).
- Status column will indicate whether contribution is pending or confirmed. (Include applied funding from other sources, co-contributions etc).

Financial Contribution (including source)	Amount \$	Status
Our Organisation	\$1,000	Confirmed
XYZ Grant	\$1,000	Requested

- Total contribution in above example is **\$2,000** (auto-calculated).



Outcome notifications

All applicants will be notified in writing via email.

- Ineligible applicants will be notified with the reason their application was ineligible.
- Unsuccessful applicants are encouraged to contact the Disability Policy and Reform team via email for feedback on their application.



Successful applicants

- Will receive written notification via an email to your nominated First Office Bearer from the Minister of Human Services.
- A grant funding agreement will be sent after the notification. The agreement will be signed electronically using DocuSign.
- Read the agreement prior to authorising. Grants are not paid until the agreements are electronically signed by your two authorised delegates.



Your grant agreement

The Funding Agreement outlines:

- project, amount and items to be funded
- contracting period: Tier 1, 12 months; Tier 2, 24 months
- awarded monies cannot be spent outside of the contract dates
- requirement to have public liability insurance
- reports required during and at the completion of the project.
- other documents to be completed along with your Funding Agreement
 - Recipient Created Tax Invoice (RCTI) Agreement
 - EFT Form – including bank account details.



Other funding opportunities:

- Department of Human Services, Social Impact Grants: www.dhs.sa.gov.au/how-we-help/grants
- Office for Autism: www.officeforautism.sa.gov.au
- Multicultural Affairs: www.dpc.sa.gov.au
- Office for Aging Well: <https://dhs.sa.gov.au/how-we-help/ageing-well/ageing-well-grants>
- Community Grants Hub (Aust Govt): www.communitygrants.gov.au
- The Funding Centre www.fundingcentre.com.au
- Office for Recreation and Sport: www.orsr.sa.gov.au



More information:

Disability Policy & Reform

Phone: 1300 990 256

Email: JuliaFarrDisabilityInclusionGrants@sa.gov.au

Website: www.dhs.sa.gov.au/how-we-help/grants

