

NSW Sexual Violence Recovery & Healing Grant Program

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

November 2025

Acknowledgement of Country

The Department of Communities and Justice acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands where we work and live. We celebrate the diversity of Aboriginal peoples and their ongoing cultures and connections to the lands and waters of NSW.

We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people that contributed to the development of this document.

We advise this resource may contain images, or names of deceased persons in photographs or historical content.

NSW Sexual Violence Recovery & Healing Grant Program

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Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) NSW Sexual Violence Recovery & Healing Grant Program FAQs

Introduction

The NSW Sexual Violence Recovery & Healing Grant Program (the SVRH Grant Program) FAQ has been developed to assist potential applicants and is intended to accompany the SVRH Grant Program Guidelines (the Guidelines).

Overview

Q: What is the SVRH Grant Program?

A: The SVRH Grant Program is a two-year, one-off, time-limited grant funding opportunity.

It is intended to support the delivery of actions outlined in the [NSW Sexual Violence Plan 2022-2027](#), including two under the Recovery and Healing pillar and the commitment to explore the use of restorative justice in NSW.

The SVRH Grant Program is designed to fund community-based initiatives to strengthen recovery and healing support to meet the needs of victim-survivors of sexual violence from NSW priority groups. It aims to fund projects across metro, rural and regional NSW with clear alignment to the grant objectives and identified outcomes and with actionable delivery plans. Only projects that demonstrate clear adaptation to meet the needs of priority groups will be supported, including those not originally designed for these communities.

Q: What are the aims and objectives of the SVRH Grant Program?

A: The SVRH Grant Program aims to achieve the following objectives:

- Improve the capacity of communities and services across NSW to design and deliver culturally and trauma-informed recovery and healing programs for victim-survivors from priority groups across NSW.
- Improve collaboration and information sharing between communities and services delivering culturally and trauma-informed recovery and healing programs for victim-survivors from priority groups across NSW.

At the end of the two-year funding period, DCJ aims for the SVRH Grant Program to achieve:

1. **Knowledge and skills:** Communities and services demonstrate understanding of: (a) the diverse needs and long-term impacts of sexual violence on priority groups; (b) safe, inclusive culturally and trauma-informed approaches to recovery and healing, including the principles and application of restorative processes and practices; and (c) how to communicate and deliver recovery and healing supports that respond to the needs of diverse victim-survivors.

2. **Application:** Communities and services develop, adopt and apply evidence-informed capacity building activities and resources in their practices in recovery and healing including the use of restorative principles and facilitation techniques.
3. **Continuous learning:** Grant recipients, communities and services benefit from the insights that emerge from the Grant Program, supporting continuous learning and practices improvement.

Q: How much funding can we apply for?

The total funding amount available under the SVRH Grant Program is \$3 million.

There is no specific limit on the amount eligible applicants can request for their project. DCJ invites both small and large proposals, noting that in line with the published assessment criteria, value for money will be considered under the assessment process.

Eligibility Criteria

Q: What kind of organisations are eligible to apply?

A: All applicants are required to meet the following eligibility criteria:

- be an eligible legal entity located in NSW, including:
 - o Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation (ACCO) – these Applicants may be required to provide documentation to support their ACCO status
 - o Not-for-profit organisations will be considered eligible, if they are:
 - incorporated organisations that are registered and approved as not-for-profit bodies by NSW Fair Trading
 - not-for profit companies limited by guarantee, registered in NSW (must have ACNC registration and/or DGR status)
 - Indigenous Corporations (must be registered with the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations)
 - NSW Local Aboriginal Land Councils
 - religious organisations operating in NSW
 - NSW non-government organisations established under their own Act of Parliament.
- additionally, all applicants must:
 - o be able to enter into a grant funding agreement with NSW Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ)
 - o have an Australian bank account
 - o have an Australian Business Number (ABN) or Australian Company Number (ACN) or Australian Incorporation Number (AIN).
 - o have appropriate insurance; this must include but is not limited to a minimum of \$10 million Public Liability Insurance
 - o address the NSW National Redress Scheme sanctions
 - o not have outstanding acquittals with DCJ.

Q: Who isn't eligible to apply?

A: You are not eligible if you are:

- An individual.
- Federal, State and Local Government agencies and bodies.
- NSW educational facilities (public schools, private schools, TAFE).
- For-profit organisations, including Aboriginal businesses.
- Unincorporated organisations or groups.
- Organisations that have outstanding acquittals with DCJ.
- Organisations with Redress Obligations under the National Redress Scheme that have not joined the National Redress Scheme for Institutional Child Sexual Abuse.
- Organisations that do not have appropriate insurance; this must include but is not limited to a minimum of \$10 million Public Liability Insurance.

Q: Can not-for-profit groups make a joint application?

A: Yes. We recognise that some organisations may wish to collaborate to deliver projects under the SVRH Grant Program. There are two ways to work together: through subcontracting arrangements or partnerships.

Both require the appointment of a lead applicant organisation. The lead applicant is required to satisfy all the eligibility criteria. Only the lead applicant can submit the application form and enter into a grant funding agreement with DCJ. The lead applicant is accountable for the delivery of the project and intended outcomes, including all reporting.

Subcontracting involves formal financial arrangements between organisations. Please refer to the DCJ [subcontracting policy](#) if this applies to you.

Partnerships involve organisations working together collaboratively, without a formal financial arrangement between them. You will need to provide evidence of each partner's role in your application.

Q: Is subcontracting the same as auspicing?

A: Yes, please note the term "subcontracting" is used for the purposes of this grant program.

Q: What are the requirements for project proposals?

A: All project proposals must meet the following requirements:

- **Project focus:** projects must primarily support recovery and healing from sexual violence, with an emphasis on strengthening existing practices. The program will not fund activities focused on prevention, early intervention, or crisis response, nor will it support the establishment of new service delivery models.
- **Priority groups:** projects must focus on meeting the recovery and healing needs of victim-survivors of sexual violence from at least one of the identified priority groups:
 - o Aboriginal communities
 - o multicultural communities
 - o LGBTIQ+ communities
 - o people with disability
 - o children and young people

- o adult survivors of child sexual assault
- o older women
- o people experiencing homelessness
- o people in contact with the criminal justice system
- **Geographic location:** projects must be delivered within the state of NSW only.

Q: Can I apply for a project that does not focus on any of the priority groups listed above and instead targets the population in general?

A: No. The project must focus on at least one of the priority groups listed above. Although sexual violence can happen to anybody, the NSW Sexual Violence Plan 2022-2027 has identified that particular groups are at higher risk of experiencing sexual violence, and this is the focus of this Grant Program. Please refer to the [NSW Sexual Violence Plan 2022-2027](#) for more information about who experiences sexual violence.

Q: Can I apply for a project focusing on men and boys as victim-survivors?

A: Projects focusing on men and boys as victim-survivors of sexual violence are eligible to apply, provided they align with the SVRH Grant Program's focus on supporting individuals from the identified priority groups. Boys are included under the 'children and young people' priority group and are therefore eligible.

Projects focusing on men are also eligible if they are designed to meet the recovery and healing needs of individuals who belong to one or more of the following priority groups:

- o Aboriginal communities
- o multicultural communities
- o LGBTIQ+ communities
- o people with disability
- o children and young people
- o adult survivors of child sexual assault
- o older women
- o people experiencing homelessness
- o people in contact with the criminal justice system

Q: Can I apply for a project focusing only on perpetrators of sexual violence?

A: No. The SVRH Grant Program is designed for projects that focus on meeting the recovery and healing needs of victim-survivors of sexual violence from priority groups. Perpetrators of sexual violence may only be included in proposed projects if the focus remains on victim-survivors.

Q: Can I use this funding to establish a frontline service, or expand an existing service?

A: No. You cannot use the funding for these purposes as this grant program provides one-off funding for projects of no more than two years. Frontline services typically require sustained funding and infrastructure to operate effectively, which falls outside the scope of this time-limited grant program.

Q. Can you provide examples of eligible projects?

A: We are unable to provide specific examples of eligible projects. Projects must primarily focus on supporting victims-survivors of sexual violence to recover and heal, with a strong emphasis on strengthening practices through capacity building

Applicants must ensure their proposals align with the program's objectives and intended outcomes. For guidance, please refer to the section titled "What are the aims and objectives of the SVRH Grant Program" on page 1 of this FAQ document.

Q. Can you provide further information about what is meant by 'capacity building'?

A: Building the capacity of communities and services to support recovery and healing is central to creating effective, sustainable and locally relevant approaches that are responsive to the diverse needs of victim-survivors. Building capacity involves strengthening knowledge, skills, attitudes, processes and practices that underpin trauma-informed and culturally responsive support. A wide variety of strategies can be used to enhance community and service capacities, including, but not limited to, specialist training and workforce development; creation and dissemination of accessible informational and educational materials for different audiences; creation of tools, guidance and other resources; facilitation of inclusive, community-led processes, etc.

For the purpose of this grant, capacity-building refers to activities that enhance the ability of communities or existing services to provide healing and recovery supports and does not include activities that extend or expand existing frontline services or create new ones.

Q. Can you provide examples of ineligible projects?

A: The program will not fund activities focused on prevention, early intervention, or crisis response. It will not support the establishment of new frontline services or expansion, such as increasing the scale or scope of service delivery, for existing services.

It will not fund medical or therapeutic treatments delivered within clinical or health funded settings, and focused on individual diagnosis or treatment, or projects that duplicate existing services and initiatives without clear enhancement or adaptation for priority groups.

Q: Does the program include funding categories?

A: No.

Assessment Criteria

Q: What are the assessment criteria?

A: This is an open and competitive grants program. Eligible applications will be assessed and scored against the assessment criteria.

Criteria	Sub-criteria
Demonstrated need	• Demonstrated understanding of local context, priority groups and needs. • Project to be evidence-based. Clear description of the capacity building need including any data on demographics, prevalence and location, as well as the proposed project to address the need.
Outcome and impact	• Alignment to NSW Sexual Violence Recovery & Healing Grant Program expected outcomes as outlined in the draft Program Logic. • Strong link between demonstrated need and proposed project activities and outcomes. • Outcomes are clearly defined and achievable within the project period. • Project impacts and sustainability beyond the life of the funding are articulated.
Capacity to deliver	• Demonstrated experience supporting the needs of victim-survivors of gender-based violence, in particular sexual violence, and trauma-informed practice. • Demonstrated experience designing and delivering similar projects. • Clear and feasible project plan including key milestones and activities. • <i>For partnership applications: Partner roles identified and relevant to project outcomes.</i>
Value for money	• Clear, cost-effective budget based on reasonable cost estimates.
Risk management	• Demonstrated awareness of potential risks to the project and how they will be addressed.

Q: Are there any funding priorities for the grants program?

A: The assessment process may prioritise equitable distribution of grants across priority groups. Applications may also be prioritised to ensure geographic distribution across NSW including an equitable spread of funds and projects in regional, rural and remote areas, and to avoid service duplication. Preference may be given to applications by ACCOs.

Applying for the NSW Sexual Violence Recovery & Healing Grant Program

Q: How do I submit a proposal?

A: The process to submit a proposal is below:

- You can log in to SmartyGrants on the link provided.
- You are not required to complete your application in one sitting and can save and return at a later date to complete and submit.
- Once your application has been submitted you will receive an automated response from SmartyGrants. If you have not received this email, your application has not been successfully submitted, or the confirmation email has ended up in your junk mailbox.
- You can log in to the online system and click 'My Submissions' to view all submitted and unsubmitted applications. Submitted applications are identified by a green tick. Carefully check your application prior to submitting. If you realise that you have made an error once you have submitted your application please contact grantdesignandsupport@dcj.nsw.gov.au for assistance before the closing date.
- Applications that are late or incorrectly filled out or incomplete will not be accepted.

Q: Do I have to use SmartyGrants to apply?

A: Yes, applications for this program will only be accepted that are submitted via the SmartyGrants platform.

Q: Can anyone sign up for a SmartyGrants login?

A: Yes. SmartyGrants has a Smarty Files Link where you can register your organisation and list the people and positions that can have access to SmartyGrants for your organisation. This can be used for any NSW Government grant program.

Q: Can I review the application form before starting my application?

A: Yes, when you log on to SmartyGrants and view the application you can also choose to download as a PDF to review whenever you like. You can also preview the form online. Please note that PDF copies of application forms do not show which questions are conditional, so you may see questions that do or do not apply to your organisation.

Q: Can I provide letters of support or references to support my application?

A: No, only your application form and any documents requested and submitted through the form on SmartyGrants will be considered.

Q: Can we submit more than one application?

A: No. A maximum of one application may be submitted by an eligible organisation.

Q. What is the difference between an ACCO and other organisations that serve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities?

A: Please refer to DCJ's page on [Aboriginal Community-Controlled Organisations \(ACCOs\)](#), which also provides information on our commitment to building the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled sector.

Q: Should we include GST in our application?

A: Your funding request should exclude any GST that you will be charged by contractors or suppliers as part of the cost/delivery. If your application is successful and your organisation's ABN is registered for GST, you will be paid GST on top of the approved grant amount. If your organisation ABN is not registered for GST, you will only be paid the approved grant amount.

Q: Who needs to sign off on our application?

A: The Applicant Declaration must be made by two of your organisation's authorised signatories, who will also be responsible for signing the Grant Funding Agreement via DocuSign or Adobe Acrobat Sign should your application be successful. More information on DCJ authorised signatories is available on the DCJ website. Please note, you must provide the contact details (email address, phone number, name and position) of the relevant authorised signatories, or their delegates, in your application form. Please contact grantdesignandsupport@dcj.nsw.gov.au immediately if these details change.

Q: Why would we want to provide the details of a third (optional) person in our application form to view the Grant Funding Agreement?

A: DCJ administers Grant Funding Agreements to successful organisations via DocuSign or Adobe Acrobat Sign, which only allows those who receive an individualised link to access the document for viewing. Therefore, all of those who wish to either sign or view the Grant Funding Agreement must provide their contact details. You may wish to include any relevant legal or administrative staff to review a copy of the Grant Funding Agreement before it is signed.

Q: Can value-in-kind be considered as funding contributed by a not-for-profit organisation?

A: Yes. Donated materials and contributions by paid staff and volunteers of the organisation are allowed as part of the not-for-profit organisation's contribution to the cost of a project. The estimated value of these contributions should be provided in the project budget.

Q: Is it too late to apply?

A: Applications close on Friday 12 December 2025. Late submissions will not be considered or accepted unless in emergency or extreme circumstances where DCJ is satisfied that the integrity of the process has not been compromised and subject to probity advice. DCJ's decision on whether to accept requests for late submissions will be final.

Q: What can we use the grant funds for?

A: Funds can only be used for expenses and activities directly associated to the grant. Your application must clearly outline your proposed expenditure.

Eligible costs may include:

- Technical and professional staff involved in delivery of the proposed project, including on-costs of lead applicants, and partner organisations in a temporary capacity for the length of the project.
- Expenses related to design or publication of material and resources
- Advertising expenses
- Development costs such as licence fees for third party provider services used during the term of the project

- Travel, such as transport and accommodation, to deliver project components.

There are no guidelines for budgeting (i.e., specific percentage for workforce or resources).

However, projects will be assessed against value for money, which is one of the assessment criteria mentioned in the guidelines.

Q: What are we not allowed to spend grant funding on?

A: Organisations must not use the money provided for the project, nor any interest earned on the money, for any other purpose beyond what is specified in the approved project description

Items or activities that funding cannot be used for include:

- Establishing a new frontline service
- Primary prevention, early intervention and crisis response activities
- Medical or therapeutic treatments delivered within clinical or health funded settings, and focused on individual diagnosis or treatment
- Any activity of a commercial nature that is for profit
- Buying core business capital equipment such as office equipment, tables and computers
- Capital works, including building work
- Costs already approved through other funding sources
- Costs associated with attending or hosting conferences not directly related to the project
- Covering existing debts or budget deficits
- Business as usual service delivery, costs or general operating expenses.
- Paying salaries and on-costs for temporary or ongoing staff not directly involved in the project
- Programs or activities that encourage gambling such as bingo, or the consumption of alcohol
- Projects not undertaken in NSW and not benefiting NSW communities
- Projects that duplicate existing services and initiatives without clear enhancement or adaptation for priority groups
- Retrospective activities, such as work already undertaken
- Interstate or overseas travel

Applicants should not budget for expending funds on project-level evaluation, beyond time allocation of relevant personnel

Q: Can we receive funding if we've already received an insurance payment, government grant or government funding?

A: No, not for the same project or proposal.

Applicant support

Q: Is there support available to help me apply or answer questions?

A: You can contact:

- the Program team at SVRH.grants@dcj.nsw.gov.au for help understanding the SVRH Grant Program Guidelines and submitting an application in a way that is accessible to you and your organisation.
- Grant Design & Support at grantdesignandsupport@dcj.nsw.gov.au for help accessing and navigating SmartyGrants.
- If you are an ACCO, you can also contact DCJ's Aboriginal Commissioning team at aboriginalcommissioning@dcj.nsw.gov.au for general support and advice.

Please quote your Application ID in all correspondence.

If you are not familiar with the SmartyGrants management system, please refer to the [SmartyGrants Help Guide for Applicants](#) or their [Applicant FAQs](#). You can also [contact SmartyGrants directly](#).

Q: I would like to apply for a particular project idea. Could you tell me whether this would be eligible?

A: DCJ cannot discuss project ideas with applicants. Please refer to the Guidelines to make your own determination as to whether your project proposal is eligible.

Q: Will you be holding any information sessions?

A: DCJ will host an online Information Session to provide an overview of the Grant Program and to answer questions on Thursday 30 October 2025 from 11:00am – 11:45am.

If you would like to attend, please email SVRH.grants@dcj.nsw.gov.au to RVSP, and the team will provide a meeting link

Attendance at an information session is not compulsory. Slides presented at the session will be made available online, and this FAQ document will be updated with reference to questions asked during the session.

Assessment process

Q: What is the assessment process?

A: All submissions will be assessed against the eligibility and assessment criteria following the process below:

- Eligibility Team assesses each application against applicant and project eligibility criteria.
- Assessment Team conducts assessment and scoring of eligible applications against published assessment criteria.
- Expert Assessment Panel reviews assessment and scoring, prioritises funding in accordance with published prioritisation where required, and makes recommendations to the DCJ Delegated Decision-Maker.
- DCJ Delegated Decision Maker considers the recommendations and makes the final decision.

Q: Why was my application not successful?

A: If your application is not successful, it does not mean your application is without merit. Funding is limited and not all applications are successful. Due to the high volume of applications, DCJ is unable to provide individual feedback on each unsuccessful application.

Successful grant applications

Q: When will I know if my application was successful?

A: You will be notified via email in March 2026. Applicants must ensure their contact details on SmartyGrants remain up to date.

Q: If I'm successful, what happens then?

A: After you are notified, a Grant Funding Agreement will be sent via DocuSign or Adobe Acrobat Sign to the authorised signatories, and any additional reviewers, as provided in your application form. Successful applicants are required to return the signed Funding Agreement within two weeks of the grant offer being made.

Grant Funding Agreements can only be signed by authorised officers of your organisation. This may be a member of the executive/committee as deemed under the Articles of Association or Constitution if you are a not-for-profit organisation. Refer to the [DCJ website](#) for further details on authorised signatories and delegation.

Please note, you must provide the contact details (email address, phone number, name, and position) of the relevant authorised signatories, or their delegates, in your application form. Please contact grantdesignandsupport@dcj.nsw.gov.au immediately if these details change.

It is your responsibility to ensure staff availability to complete and sign documents, to carefully read the terms and conditions of the Grant Funding Agreement, and to sign the Grant Funding Agreement using the correct authorised signatories.

Once we receive your signed Funding Agreement via DocuSign or Adobe Acrobat Sign, your Grant Funding Agreement will be countersigned and sent to you by email.

Q: What happens if situations change, and we wish to change the details of our program after we receive funding?

A: Any significant variation to the proposal outlined in your original application must be formally requested and approved in writing before any related work takes place, as your application form will form part of your legally binding Grant Funding Agreement with DCJ. Failure to do so may result in you being required to return the grant monies in full. To discuss a variation, please contact the Grants team by email grantdesignandsupport@dcj.nsw.gov.au.

Q: What reporting will be required?

A: Successful applicants will need to submit six-monthly progress reports to DCJ. You are also required to submit a Final Report including financial acquittal in SmartyGrants at the end of the contract. An officeholder in your organisation will be required to certify that the grant funds have been expended as per your financial acquittal.

Under your Grant Funding Agreement, you will be required to respond to any other reasonable request for information on your project status and progress.

Evaluation

Q: Will I need to evaluate my project?

A: Yes. Successful projects will be required to be independently evaluated in order to contribute towards building the evidence base for effective sexual violence recovery and healing initiatives. DCJ will appoint an external evaluator. Grant holders will contribute to independent evaluation process via data collection and input. Grant holders should not budget for expending funds on project-level evaluation, beyond time allocation of relevant personnel.

Q: Will the evaluation process require a lot of time and information?

A: The time and information required for the evaluation process will vary depending on the scale of the project.

Applicants should factor in time to:

- develop an evaluation plan for their project
- share project data with the independent evaluator at regular intervals through the project period as part of a continuous improvement process (frequency to be determined)
- participate in the sharing of findings with other grant holders throughout the project period (process to be determined).

Q: Will there be more funding available if the project is successful, and the evaluation is positive?

A: The SVRH Grant Program provides one-off, time limited funding and will not provide further funding beyond the original grant.

Additional information

Q: What insurance is my organisation required to maintain?

A: Your organisation:

- is required to provide a valid Certificate of Currency for Public Liability Insurance with a minimum cover of \$10 million in your organisation's name, which you will upload as part of your application
- must retain any other insurance required under Commonwealth and NSW law for the performance of its activities funded by this grant, if successful
- is responsible for ensuring it has appropriate and current insurance coverage in place to cover any liability of the grant recipient that might arise in connection with the performance of its obligations under its Grant Funding Agreement, which includes activities carried out by any other individual or organisation that you may subcontract.

Q: What is the NSW National Redress Scheme?

A: The National Redress Scheme is part of the Commonwealth Government's response to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. The National Redress Scheme provides support to people who experienced institutional child sexual abuse.

The Scheme:

- Acknowledges that many children were sexually abused in Australian institutions.
- Holds institutions accountable for this abuse; and

- Helps people who have experienced institutional child sexual abuse gain access to counselling, a direct personal response, and a Redress payment.

The Scheme started on 1 July 2018 and will run for 10 years. The NSW Government will not award a grant to a non-government organisation with Redress Obligation (or to any of its Related Entities) if that non-government organisation:

- Has declined to join the Scheme, or
- At the expiry of six months after the time it is notified to join the Scheme, has failed to do so.

For further information please visit the NSW National Redress Scheme Sanctions Policy webpage.

Q: Do I need to provide banking details?

A: Yes. It is your responsibility to provide the correct banking details, including the authorised signature to verify your bank details, in your application form. Funds transferred to an incorrect bank account may not be recoverable. This applies even if you have provided your banking details to DCJ in the past or are currently receiving other payments from DCJ.

Q: Why should I keep my contact details up to date?

A: Your application, Funding Agreement and acquittal for the grants will be managed using the SmartyGrants online grants administration system and DocuSign. We will contact you and your organisation's authorised signatories using the details provided in your application on SmartyGrants.

It is the responsibility of the grant recipient to keep DCJ up to date with any change in contact information, including the contact details of authorised signatories. DCJ is not responsible for any consequences should your grant offer be withdrawn due to out-of-date contact details in SmartyGrants. Please email grantdesignandsupport@dcj.nsw.gov.au to update contact details.

Additional FAQ - Information Session and email enquiries

Added 4 November 2025

Q: Will projects covering a larger region be given more weight due to their broader reach, or is a more place-based approach focused on one to three communities preferred?

A: All eligible proposals will be assessed against the published assessment criteria. These do not include weighting toward either larger or place-based proposals.

Please note applications may be prioritised to ensure geographic distribution across NSW including an equitable spread of funds and projects in regional, rural and remote areas.

Q: The application form asks applicants to specify a dollar amount for their co-contribution. Is this a mandatory requirement?

A: Co-contributions are not mandatory under this program.

Q: Can the proposal be for a new capacity-building project, or does it need to build on an existing project or activity?

A: The proposal can be for a new capacity building project, to enhance existing practices and services aimed at supporting victim-survivors to heal and recover.

Q: Does this grant enable applications from projects that work with young people or adults with dual roles - e.g. victims of child sexual abuse and who have also caused harm, or have been convicted?

A: The SVRH Grant Program is designed for projects that focus on meeting the recovery and healing needs of victim-survivors of sexual violence from priority groups. Victim-survivors of sexual violence who have also caused harm are a not priority group under this program.

Projects focusing on young people or adult survivors of child sexual abuse are included under the 'children and young people' and 'adult survivors of child sexual assault' priority groups respectively. Projects focusing victim-survivors who are in contact with the criminal justice system are also a priority group under the program.

Q: The NSW Sexual Violence Plan refers to actions already underway to build coordination, capacity and evidence for sexual violence prevention and response. Can organisations access this training as part of their project? Would any additional training developed be considered a duplication of work already underway?

A: Organisations may propose to access existing training as part of their project. Whether proposals are duplicative will be considered as part of the assessment process on a case by case basis. Please note the SVRH Grant Program requirement that all project proposals focus on recovery and healing, rather than prevention, early intervention, or crisis response.

Q: Can you confirm that ACCO's will be the preferred applicants?

A: No. The Assessment Panel reserves the right to prioritise funding in accordance with published prioritisation where required. Preference may be given to applications by ACCOs. The assessment process may also prioritise:

- equitable distribution of grants across priority groups
- geographic distribution across NSW including an equitable spread of funds and projects in regional, rural and remote areas
- to avoid service duplication.

Q: Is funding available to enhance frontline staff capacity to support recovery and healing from sexual violence for services that do not operate directly within the domestic, family and sexual violence (DFSV) sector, or is the program limited to DFSV-specific services?

A: This program is open to organisations that meet the eligibility criteria. It is not one of the eligibility criteria that applicant organisations must be funded to work in the domestic, family and sexual violence sector.

In line with the published project requirements, projects must primarily focus on recovery and healing from sexual violence, with an emphasis on strengthening existing practices. These existing practices are not required to be DFSV specific.

Q: Is funding available for delivery of direct services to community members (e.g. cultural art sessions to support healing from trauma), as long as these are not primary prevention or crisis response? Or is it for organisational capacity building (e.g. create a community of practice, train staff, etc)?

A: In line with the project requirements, projects must primarily focus on capacity building to enhance existing practices and services aimed at supporting victim-survivors to heal and recover. The grant is not available for the delivery of direct services to community members.

Q: Can projects include the provision of therapy services (such as psychological services) if it can be shown that they are an integral part of a holistic program where mainstream funded equivalent services would not be appropriate?

A: In line with the project requirements, projects must primarily focus on capacity building to enhance existing practices and services aimed at supporting victim-survivors to heal and recover. The grant is not available for the delivery of therapy or psychosocial services.

Added 12 November 2025

Q: Can an eligible organisation submit its own application, and also support another organisation to submit an application for a different project under a subcontracting arrangement?

A: Yes. Eligible organisations may submit a maximum of one application for a project they will deliver independently or in partnership. They may also submit a proposal on behalf of another organisation through a subcontracting arrangement, where the project is fully led and delivered by the subcontractor, and is an entirely different project to the one the eligible organisation is submitting on its own behalf.

Communities and Justice

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Office hours:
Monday to Friday
9.00am — 5.00pm

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