



Memorandum

To:	All NSW Clubs and Branches
From:	SLSNSW
Date:	7 August 2018
Pages:	2 & Attachment (2 pages)
Subject:	Grant Opportunity – Australian Government Dept of Social Services Volunteer Grants 2018 (Closing 18 September 2018)

The Australian Government Department of Social Services **Volunteer Grants 2018** is now open.

The aim of the program is to support the efforts of Australia's volunteers by:

- Providing small amounts of money that organisations and community groups can use to help their volunteers
- Forming part of the Government's work to support the volunteers who help disadvantaged Australian communities and encourage inclusion of vulnerable people in community life

Eligible not-for-profit community organisations can apply for grants **between \$1,000 and \$5,000** to:

- **Eligible small equipment** - portable, tangible, small equipment purchased to benefit volunteers, e.g. computer equipment and software, iPads, AV equipment, public address system, first aid and safety items, air conditioners, indoor furniture and appliances, storage, whitegoods and major appliances, office equipment, outdoor furniture, trailers (up to 2.5 x 1.6m).
- **Transport costs of volunteers with disability** – volunteers with disability who cannot drive can be reimbursed for the cost of transport or provided with pre-paid travel cards for use while undertaking their volunteering work.
- **Fuel costs incurred by volunteers** – eligible fuel costs are those costs associated with volunteers using their own cars for volunteering work, who can be reimbursed for the cost of the petrol or provided with pre-paid petrol cards but only if the car is being used for volunteering work.
- **Training for volunteers** – costs of training to help volunteers learn new skills or get qualifications for their volunteering work, e.g. mental health, first aid, leadership, communication, governance and/or working with vulnerable people. Courses which are recognised and lead to a Statement of Attainment, Certificate or Diploma are preferred.

Please refer to **Attachment A – Item Categories** included with this Memo for a comprehensive list of eligible items; this can be used as a guide when deciding what your Club would like to apply for.

Applications will be assessed on how strongly they meet one or more of the following priorities:

- Organisations that work with disadvantaged communities (according to the Social Economic Indexes for Areas [SEIFA])
- Organisations that support individuals and communities experiencing disadvantage. This includes organisations which engage volunteers from disadvantaged backgrounds. Organisations which help more than one disadvantaged group will be assessed more highly.
- Organisations that have more volunteers than paid staff
- How many people in the community benefit from the volunteering activity
- A higher number of volunteers who will directly use the items being bought
- Organisations with high numbers of volunteers
- Organisations with smaller operating budgets
- A lower total cost for the requested items

Key points to note:

- Only one application from each organisation is accepted.
- Outcomes will be announced and applicants notified from March 2019, with funding agreements and payments issued by June 2019.
- If your organisation was successful under Volunteer Grants 2016 you can still apply for Volunteers Grants 2018



The following are examples of some of the commonly requested items that are **not eligible**:

- Items that do not directly benefit the organisation's volunteers
- Items already purchased, funded from another source
- advertising, logos, banners, display boards, uniforms, badging, or other things that advertise your organisation
- administration costs such as leasing, rental, hiring, labour, utilities, insurance and travel
- fees, charges, and subscriptions
- service charges, extended warranties and other labour costs
- conferences and functions
- vehicles and powered boats
- buildings, renovations and permanent fixtures - plumbing, kitchens, hot water systems, fencing, etc.
- window coverings (such as curtains and awnings) and floor coverings
- consumable supplies – food, books, stationary (such as paper and folders), cleaning products, ink, toners, soil, sunscreen, maps, refilling of gas bottles, etc.
- gym equipment, heart rate monitors

The closing date for applications is **2pm AEST 18 September 2018**. The application and guidelines can be accessed from the following website: <https://www.communitygrants.gov.au/grants/volunteer-grants-2018>

Please note – if you would like the Surf Life Saving Foundation's Grant Seeking Unit to assist with drafting and submitting a grant application on the club's behalf, please contact:

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