

Regional Grants Round

Frequently Asked Questions

The Department of Communities (Communities) is making up to \$50 million in grant funding available under the Call for Submission (CFS) process to help increase the supply and diversity of new and refurbished social housing in regional Western Australia.

The CFS selection process is part of several initiatives the State Government is undertaking to enhance the community housing sector and strengthen and speed the delivery of social housing across the State.

The CFS process is open to Local Governments (LGAs) and community housing providers registered under the WA Community Housing Regulatory Framework. This document provides some general answers to questions that community housing providers may have regarding the Regional Grants Round. Please refer to the Guidance Notes applicable to the Regional Grants Round in addition to the answers provided below.

What are the eligibility requirements for projects seeking access to the grant funding?

Registered community housing providers and LGAs can submit well-progressed proposals to access the Regional Grants Round for social housing projects in regional WA.

The \$50 million grant funding is being made available for projects that meet requirements in the South West, Great Southern, Wheatbelt, Goldfields, Midwest/Gascoyne, Pilbara, and the Kimberley regions.

Registered community housing providers and LGAs must first contact Communities to discuss and define projects to determine whether they meet the eligibility requirements of the Regional Grants Round, prior to lodging a submission for this funding.

Registered community housing providers can visit <u>Department of Communities website</u> or email CFS-CHP@communities.wa.gov.au for more information.

Local governments can visit Department of Communities website or email <u>CFS-LG@communities.wa.gov.au</u>

We are a community housing provider in a regional area, but we are not registered. Are we eligible for grant funding?

No. Only registered community housing providers are eligible to lodge submissions under the Call for Submissions process. However, unregistered community housing providers can partner with a registered provider to respond to the Call for Submissions process.

How and when can submissions to access this funding be lodged?

Please contact Communities, prior to lodging a submission, to discuss whether your project meets the eligibility requirements.

Following this, submissions can be made any time in line with the Calls for Submissions process and the Regional Grants Round Guidance Notes available on the website. Respondents are encouraged to lodge submissions as early as practicable, as funding is limited. Submissions will be assessed sequentially based on the date of lodgement.

If I have already lodged a submission under the CFS that would meet the Regional Grants Round requirements, how will this be evaluated?

Submissions for regional social housing projects submitted prior to the launch of the Regional Grants Round, will be evaluated in line with the existing Call for Submissions Guidelines.

Eligible regional projects yet to be lodged through the Call for Submissions process should follow the Regional Grants Round Guidance Notes.

Will there be further funding available once the \$50 million is awarded to successful respondents?

Future regional funding rounds may be established at a later date subject to available funding and the demand for social housing in regional WA.

Are there any restrictions on the forms of social housing for this new funding round?

No. Communities will consider a range of dwelling types.

Are any specific cohorts and/or asset types being prioritised for this new funding round?

Yes. For new build submissions, social housing occupants must meet Band A income

eligibility limits as per the Community Housing Income and Asset Limits (CHIAL) Policy 2023. Crisis and transitional accommodation are not eligible projects for new build funding under this Regional Grants Round.

Registered community housing providers can submit proposals for the refurbishment of all types of social housing.

What support will be available to respondents to assist with the submission process?

Respondents must first contact Communities via email at CFS-CHP@communities.wa.gov.au to commence the pre-submission phase of the process. Communities can offer support to Respondents to develop a submission for lodgement and consideration.