

PURPOSE

The Community Organisation Hardship Grants funding program is a temporary community grants program that aims to provide financial assistance to eligible community organisations that provide support services to vulnerable residents impacted by COVID-19 that are either experiencing financial hardship as a result of COVID-19; or seeking to establish alternate service delivery models for business continuity.

Program Requirements	
Eligible applicants	<p>Applicants must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be an incorporated community organisation providing essential services to vulnerable residents; • operate within the Gold Coast; • have \$20 million public liability insurance (where appropriate); and • have no outstanding acquittals or debts owing to Council. <p>The following are ineligible organisation types:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government departments and agencies • Political groups <p>Individuals are not eligible to apply for funding under this grant.</p>
Project Requirements	<p>Applicants must be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate a public interest benefit. • demonstrate a benefit for residents of the Gold Coast local government area. • expend funds within six months of the date of remittance of funds.
Eligible projects	<p>Projects that may be supported under this program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct financial assistance to community organisations experiencing hardship due to the impacts of COVID-19. • Operational projects that support community organisations to continue the delivery of services via alternative service delivery models. • Projects that support the delivery of services to vulnerable residents impacted by COVID-19. <p>Where contractors and suppliers are to be engaged, local contractors and/or suppliers within the Gold Coast local government area are to be utilised (where practical).</p>
Ineligible projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects that do not meet the requirements of Council's Community Grants Policy. • Projects with sufficient funding support from Council or other levels of government. • Projects that have a commercial purpose. • Projects that are for the sole purpose of fundraising for transfer to a third party. • Projects that do not benefit the Gold Coast community.
Ineligible expenses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchase of alcohol. • Capital expenditure. • Personal expenses. • Purchase of equipment unless directly related to the hardship claim. • expenses incurred prior to 11 March 2020 and after 30 September 2020.
Minimum Grant Amount	\$500 per project

COVID-19 Community Organisation
Hardship Grants Guidelines

Maximum Grant Amount	\$5,000 per project
Acquittal Threshold	\$500 per project
Acquittal requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project to be acquitted within eight weeks of project completion or six months from the date of remittance of funds (whichever is earlier). Any unspent or unacquitted funds must be returned to Council along with the acquittal report. • Written permission must be obtained from Council (or its delegate) prior to any variation to the project.
Supporting information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of a Certificate of Incorporation. • Provision of a Certificate of Currency for public liability insurance. • Documents may also be required upon request from Council: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Constitution or Articles of Association - Documents demonstrating hardship resulting from COVID-19 impacts.
Submitting an application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applications must be submitted via the online application form. • Only one grant application per community organisation can be submitted.
Opening and closing dates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applications open 22 June 2020 and close 31 July 2020. • Applications will be assessed as they are submitted, and the program will close if the available approved funding is expended prior to this date.
Application assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eligible applications will be assessed in order of receipt by the City. • Applications will be assessed based on the eligibility criteria, demonstrated community need and benefit of the project to the Gold Coast community.
Program Manager	Manager Safe and Liveable Communities
Enquiries	<p>For further information contact Safe and Liveable Communities Branch on (07) 5581 6642 or email liveable@goldcoast.qld.gov.au</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS): 131 450 • TTY – National Relay Service A 24-hour national relay service offers over the phone solution for people who are deaf or have a hearing or speech impediment. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TTY and Voice: 133 677 - Speak and Listen (SSR): 1300 555 727 - Internet relay users: connect to the NRS (https://internet-relay.nrscall.gov.au/) • City of Gold Coast: 1300 GOLDCOAST (1300 465 326)