



# Mental Health and Wellbeing Grants

## Q&A for website

The following Q&A was collated from the 10 September online briefing session and enquiries via emails and phone calls. The Queensland Mental Health Commission will take questions up to Thursday, 26 September 2024.

This Q&A section will be updated on 13<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup> September.

### Q&A

*13 September 2024 update*

- 1. Does the application have to be service delivery? The non-recurrent rule makes it difficult.**

No, it doesn't have to be service delivery. The Grants seek to identify community-based initiatives that build on their inherent strengths, abilities and knowledge to enhance mental health and wellbeing across communities and population groups. The Commission is particularly interested in applications that meet a community identified need and improve individual and/or community mental health and wellbeing. The Guidelines provide some initiative examples; however, these are a guide only and not an exhaustive list. Please refer to section 3 of the Guidelines for more information.
- 2. Can Queensland State Schools apply for this grant at all, or alternatively School P&C Associations, with the local, state and federal government restriction?**

Local, state and commonwealth government agencies/statutory entities are not eligible to apply. Therefore, Queensland State Schools are not eligible. P&C Associations that meet the eligibility requirements outlined in section 5.2 of the Guidelines are eligible to apply. Please refer to 5 of the Guidelines for more information.
- 3. Can a national charity, registered in NSW, apply for the funding for their Queensland programs?**

To be eligible an organisation needs to be Queensland based with established staff and service operating from Queensland, and initiatives must be delivered in Queensland. Partnership approaches are encouraged and included in grant assessment criteria. Please refer to section 5.1 and 6 of the Guidelines.
- 4. Can you please confirm if the following expenses can be covered by the grant?**

  - a. Petrol for regional visits**
  - b. Accommodation for overnight stays when at regional visits**



- c. **The purchase of a laptop (dedicated to this role), and**
- d. **Superannuation payments on top of the dedicated salary for the Social Linker role.**

In line with section 6 of the Guidelines, these items are not excluded. The panel will consider overall value for money, when evaluating applications.

**5. Can a Queensland service sub-contract a non-Queensland based organisation?**

Initiatives must be delivered within Queensland and cannot be delivered solely by a sub-contractor operating outside Queensland. Please refer to dot point 2 section 6 of the Guidelines.

**6. Does 'Not for profit objectives' mean you must be a charity or a not for profit (NFP), or can you be a business that is focused on providing community programs for the benefit of the community however you are not a charity or NFP.**

No, You do not have to be a charity or a not for profit; however, the initiative must be not-for-profit. The panel will assess the project purpose, intent, budget, and value for money to determine. Please refer to section 3 and 6 of the Guidelines.

**7. Is the plan for the same panel to serve over the 3 years? Or will there be new panels with new representatives convened each grant round?**

The Grants program will be reviewed after the completion of each round, and new panels could be formed at every round.

**8. Is there a reason why sole traders are excluded for applying for this funding?**

This rule under 5.2 of the Guidelines is established to ensure applicants have the appropriate governance to fulfil conditions set out by the Commission's Funding Agreement. Sole traders can consider partnering with an eligible organisation to apply for the funding. Partnership approaches are encouraged and included in grant assessment criteria.

**9. If you are a national Non-Government-Organisation (NGO) are you ineligible? Would we need to partner with a Queensland based organisation instead?**

To be eligible an organisation needs to be Queensland based with established staff and service operating from Queensland, and initiatives must be delivered in Queensland. Partnership approaches are encouraged and included in grant assessment criteria. Please refer to section 5.1 and 6 of the Guidelines.

**10. In regard to being "Queensland based" - if the NGO is national, virtually based, but the CEO is Queensland based, would these fit criteria? (The initiative will be Queensland based with Queensland partner)**

To be eligible an organisation needs to be Queensland based with established staff and service operating from Queensland, and initiatives must be delivered in Queensland. Partnership approaches are encouraged and included in grant assessment criteria. Please refer to section 5.1 and 6 of the Guidelines.

**11. I don't understand the "only one funding" aspect. If we are applying for the DESBT social enterprise grants for example does that mean we can't accept both?**

As long as the funding is not supporting the same item and/or the same activities. Please refer to dot point 4, section 6 of the Guidelines.

**12. Can you please provide a little more context around 'paid participation'?**

You can find the Queensland Mental Health Commission's Paid Participation Policy [here](#).

**13. Can we get a copy of the PowerPoint presentation?**

You can find the 10 September online Briefing Session PowerPoint presentation [here](#) and the recording [here](#).

### **23 September update**

**14. Can we add Central Queensland as a location choice in page 6 of the application?**

Apologies for the oversight; it has now been added.

**15. We have an ABN but our Organisation's Legal Status is "Other Partnership", which doesn't appear in the drop down menu on the Smartygrants form. Does this mean that "Other Partnerships" are not eligible to apply?**

'Other Partnership' has now been added as one of the choices.

**16. We are keen to engage with Key Stakeholders and regional community organisations – if we don't hear back from the organisations we have already contacted, is this something we could ask the Commission for help with in our application?**

To ensure a fair process, the Commission will not provide additional support that may give any application an advantage. However, the Commission can offer support and assistance where possible for successful applications.

**17. Are you able to advise when the next grant round for this initiative will be available after the current one closes on 10th October?**

The Commission will decide based on the outcomes of this round. At this stage, it is anticipated the next round will be announced in the second half of 2025.

**18. We provide mental health and wellbeing programs to school and want to apply for the funding to offer them for free. Our company is not a not-for-profit service, does this exclude us from being able to apply for this funding?**

A company does not need to be a registered not-for-profit organisation; however, Grant funding cannot be used for 'for-profit activities'. Please refer to sections 5 and 6 of the Guidelines.

- 19. Our submission is offering an early intervention mental health wellbeing program on Sunshine Coast, Noosa, Gympie LGA's. We are based on the Sunshine Coast, which is MM1, but will be outreaching (via telehealth) to Gympie (MM3). The question is given the workforce location and 2 out of the 3 LGAs are MM1, does this exclude or reduce our chances? If so, is there any particular pointers that can assist with creating a stronger base?**

In this case, the panel will consider initiative location as described in sections 3.2 and 3.7 of the Guidelines; as well as the organisation's location outlined in section 3.9 of the Guidelines. The panel will assess your application when it is submitted.

- 20. In the online session, it was mentioned about having 'a supplier that has a social impact', are you able to explain this a little more?**

Please refer to section 3.8 of the Guidelines, which provides more information on social procurement.

- 21. In the grant guidelines it states that the funding cannot be used for 'Clinical mental health and AOD services'. Just wanted to double check whether this would exclude any and all work to be conducted within residential rehabilitation centres for people with AOD issues? (ie development and/or implementation of new programs etc to support recovery during live-in rehabilitation). If so, what about with youth with AOD issues who are in transitional accommodation (so no longer within the residential program)?**

Please refer to the Glossary of terms, section 14 of the Guidelines, which includes a definition of clinical mental health and AOD services to determine if what you are describing meets this definition.

- 22. Regarding your priority cohorts, can you please clarify with 'carers & supporters of people with lived experience' cohort - does that include people with lived experience of mental health issues themselves? Or just the carers and supporters.**

'Cares and supporters of people with lived experience' are included to reinforce their importance as a priority group. However, people with direct lived experience are also included. Please refer to section 3.4 of the Guidelines, which includes the definition of Lived Experience.

- 23. On your table 'funding exclusions', can you please clarify what would be considered;**  
**a. Duplication of existing programs/initiatives/products or services (For example, a Mental Health First Aid course is an existing product - can this be delivered as part of a program/initiative?)**

'Activities that duplicate existing programs, initiatives, products, or services in the same location' refers to a product/program that already exists and operates within the same region or one that has been supported by another funding source. Please refer to section 6 of the Guidelines.

- b. For Profit Activities (I.E., my company is an emerging social enterprise, we deliver countless free programs/courses/services to the community, but we need to generate income/profit so that we can run these activities - would we be eligible to apply for the grant?)**

'For profit activities' are excluded. You can outline your company's social enterprise objectives and explain how the initiatives support the Grant objectives and meet the assessment criteria. Please refer to section 3 of the Guidelines.

**24. Our company is an Australian company but we have a strong presence in QLD through an office and team of staff in QLD, as well as an active state-based volunteer Committee we would work closely with if successful on this grant. However, we are one national incorporation with an ABN, are ACNC registered. Are we eligible to apply?**

To be eligible an organisation needs to be Queensland based with established staff and service operating from Queensland, and initiatives must be delivered in Queensland. Therefore, national organisations can apply if their Queensland service meets this criterion. Please refer to section 5.1 of the Guidelines.

**25. Our university is a statutory entity established under Government legislation and when determining eligibility, we are normally considered a Corporate State or Territory Entity. However, despite being established under Government legislation we are a statutory body who operates with autonomy – we are not a government agency or statutory authority (these are the terms usually seen regarding eligibility). Are we eligible to apply?**

State Government entities are not eligible to apply. Eligibility will be assessed against the ABN status of the ABN you provide when filling out the application form. If your organisation is not listed as 'State Government Entity' you will be eligible to apply.

## **27 September update**

**26. We offered training national and internationally. We're based in Victoria but have a Queensland facilitator to deliver our training to a local Queensland school, can we apply?**

To be eligible an organisation needs to be Queensland based with established staff and service operating from Queensland, and initiatives must be delivered in Queensland. Therefore, national organisations can apply if their Queensland service/program/product meets this criterion. Please refer to section 5.1 of the Guidelines.

**27. If the organisation delivering the service is not in MMM2-7, and the recipient of the initiative is not;**

**a. Are we automatically precluded from applying?**

This does not make your application ineligible. Provided all mandatory eligibility criteria are met, your application will still be considered.

**b. Do we just miss out on the 10% in that section?**

An eligible application will be assessed against all criteria. If an application does not meet criterion 6 (located in a rural, regional, or remote area – MMM2-7), the application will not receive the 10% allocated for that criterion.

**28. Your eligibility guidance states that ‘clinical mental health and AOD services’ are not eligible – could I please ask whether this would include local mental health centres, which provide other services outside of clinical mental health?**

Please refer to the Glossary of terms in section 14 of the Guidelines, which includes a definition of clinical mental health and AOD services. This will help determine whether your initiative fits within this definition. Please note that this exclusion applies to the specific initiative you are applying for, rather than the organisation as a whole.

**29. We’re a national organisation with staff and programs physically based in Queensland delivering services, are we eligible?**

To be eligible an organisation needs to be Queensland based with established staff and service operating from Queensland, and initiatives must be delivered in Queensland. Please refer to section 5.1 of the Guidelines.

**30. Can the initiative be delivered on a statewide basis?**

Yes, the initiative can be delivered on a statewide basis. However, you may find 3.7 of the Guidelines about Place-based approach helpful to consider.

**31. Can the initiative be delivered online for rural, regional, and remote communities (where there is internet access)?**

There is nothing in the Guidelines that would exclude an initiative being delivered online. However, it is difficult to determine without knowing the specific details of your initiative’s format, evidence, and model. The panel will assess your application based on the established criteria. Please refer to section 3 and 7 of the Guidelines.

**32. Can the initiative be offered to multiple priority cohorts at once?**

Yes, you can apply for an initiative that targets multiple priority groups. The panel will assess whether the proposed initiative demonstrates sufficient evidence to support its approach.

**33. Is the initiative only for the priority cohorts? Or can the initiative be offered to the general community, including access for priority cohorts?**

A proposed initiative MUST address the needs of one or more of the priority cohorts. Please refer to section 3.2 of the Guidelines.

**34. Our organisation has its head office in another state, however we run programs nationally, including previous programs in Queensland. We don’t have an office in QLD, but work closely with schools and communities through our evidence-based model. Would we be eligible to apply?**

To be eligible an organisation needs to be Queensland based with established staff and service operating from Queensland, and initiatives must be delivered in Queensland. Please refer to section 5.1 of the Guidelines.

**35. Why people with disability were not listed as a priority group?**

The Commission acknowledges that people with disability are at a higher risk of experiencing challenges with mental health, alcohol and other drugs, and suicidality. While people with disability were not specifically listed, this does not mean they are excluded or not considered a priority in applications. Please refer to section 3 and 7 of the Guidelines to determine if your initiative aligns with the objectives and criteria of this opportunity.

**36. The Budget phasing in the template is two and a half years from the contract's signature, with a maximum duration of up to three years, which is different from the grants' information.**

Apologies for the oversight. The budget should not exceed one and a half years (18 months) from the contract's signature date. The template has now been updated accordingly.

**37. Will we be able to purchase required equipment (e.g. phone, computer, IT etc.) for a new role designated to the initiative? Will a financial report or an audit at the end of the grant needed?**

In line with section 6 of the Guidelines, these items are not excluded. The panel will consider overall value for money, when evaluating applications. Please refer to section 13.3 of the Guidelines regarding reporting requirement for successful applicants.

**38. What organisational running costs can be included? Are any operating expenses able to be included?**

It is difficult to provide a definitive answer without details regarding the application and budget. Please refer to section 6 of the Guidelines, which outlines items and activities that are excluded.

**39. Are we able to obtain a Service Agreement?**

Apologies, we are unable to provide a Service Agreement template as each one is tailored to the successful organisation's submission. However, you may refer to the Queensland Government's General Contract Conditions for guidance, as our Service Agreement aligns with it:

[https://www.hpw.qld.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0010/3223/generalcontractconditionsv2.pdf](https://www.hpw.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/3223/generalcontractconditionsv2.pdf).

**40. Our head office is in NSW, but we have Queensland staff and an NSW based State Manager, and we work closely with QLD schools. We'll also include our operation and project cost related to this application into the budget. Are we eligible to apply?**

To be eligible, an organisation must be Queensland-based, with established staff and services operating from Queensland. Additionally, initiatives must be delivered in Queensland. Please refer to section 5.1 of the Guidelines. Costs related to operation and project of the initiative are not excluded under section 6 of the Guidelines. The panel will consider overall value for money when evaluating applications.

We hope you're able to refer to the Q&A section to find your answer if you missed the question submission deadline, which was 26 September. However, if you are experiencing difficulties in the application submission process, please feel free to contact us at [contracts@qmhc.qld.gov.au](mailto:contracts@qmhc.qld.gov.au).

Please note that the next round will be available in 2025.