



Australian Government

Department of Health, Disability and Ageing

Disability and Carers Program Supporting Participation Program – 2026-27 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) GO8604

**Commonwealth
policy entity:**

Department of Health, Disability and Ageing (department)

Enquiries:

If you have any questions, contact the Australian Human Rights Commission (AHRC) via email: disability@humanrights.gov.au

[UPDATED] Questions should be sent no later than 5:00pm (AEDT, Canberra local time) Friday 30 October 2026.

**Reference
documents:**

Grant Opportunity Guidelines (GOGs)
Expression of Interest Guide
Application Form and Privacy Collection Notice
Roles and Responsibilities
Common Questions – Easy Read part 1
Common Questions – Easy Read part 2
Common Questions – Easy Read part 3
Common Questions – Easy Read part 4
Expression of Interest Guide – Easy Read part 1
Expression of Interest Guide – Easy Read part 2
Application Form – Easy Read
Privacy Collection Notice – Easy Read
Australian Human Rights Commission Roles and Responsibilities – Easy Read
Australian Government Roles and Responsibilities – Easy Read
Disability Organisations Roles and Responsibilities – Easy Read

Version:**Version 3**

Amendments (identified by the prefix below, and shaded yellow):

- UPDATED: Question closing time
- NEW: FAQ 5.6 Can two organisations work together to support an application?

Version 2

Amendments (identified by the prefix below, and shaded yellow):

- UPDATED: direct link to GrantConnect opportunity
 - NEW: FAQ 5.5 APMCDRR registration
-

Contents

1. General Questions	4
1.1 [UPDATED] How do I access the grant documents?	4
1.2 What type of process is this grant opportunity?	4
1.3 How do I submit an application?	4
1.4 Can I submit multiple applications?	4
1.5 Will late applications be accepted?	4
1.6 How can I withdraw an application I have already submitted?	5
2. Funding Questions	5
2.1 How much funding can I apply for?	5
2.2 What happens if I don't spend all the funding?	5
2.3 What can the grant funding be used for?	5
2.4 What can't I use the grant funding for?	5
2.5 If successful, when will I receive a grant payment?	5
2.6 Are there any GST or income tax-related issues involved in receiving funding?	6
2.7 How will the funding be split for the forums?	6
3. Application Questions	6
3.1 What documents do I need for bank verification and proof of entity? Am I required to submit it again if it has already been provided previously?	6
3.2 Can I get assistance to complete my application?	6
4. Assessment Process	7
4.1 What is being assessed?	7
4.2 How will organisations be advised of the outcome?	7
5. Eligibility Questions	7
5.1 Who is eligible to apply?	7
5.2 Is there additional eligibility criteria?	7
5.3 Can individuals apply without a supporting organisation?	8
5.4 Do applicants have to attend the full forum applied to?	8
5.5 [NEW] What are the registration requirements for the Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction?	8
5.6 [NEW] Can two organisations work together to support an application?	8
6. Technical Submission Questions	9
6.1 When should I aim to submit my application?	9
6.2 What can I do if I have submitted my application but not received an email confirmation?	9
6.3 Can I change my application after I have submitted?	9

1. General Questions

1.1 [UPDATED] How do I access the grant documents?

You can access the grant documents on two websites:

GrantConnect – You need to register on [Current Grant Opportunity View - GO8604: GrantConnect](#) to download the documents.

If you have registered but cannot access GrantConnect, contact the GrantConnect Help Desk:

- Phone: 1300 484 145
- Email: GrantConnect@finance.gov.au

AHRC website – The same documents will also be available on the [Supporting Participation Program | AHRC website](#).

1.2 What type of process is this grant opportunity?

This is an open competitive selection process. This means any organisations or individuals can apply if they meet the eligibility criteria in Section 4 of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines (GOGs):

Applications for people with disability can only come from organisations that:

- have UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Consultative Status; or
- are accredited to the specific forum they are applying for, such as COSP Accreditation.

People applying must be over 18 years old. For the Emerging Young Leader Delegation people must be 18 to 35 years old when they apply.

The grant opportunity will follow the [Commonwealth Grant Rules and Principles 2024 \(CGRPs\)](#).

1.3 How do I submit an application?

Email your application to the AHRC at disability@humanrights.gov.au.

Read Section 7: *How to Apply* in the GOGs before you apply. It explains what you must include in your application. Submit the application form by the closing date and time.

If you need technical help to submit your application email disability@humanrights.gov.au

1.4 Can I submit multiple applications?

No. An organisation can only submit one application. The application must include a separate section 2 for each person applying, including information about the forums being applied to.

If an organisation submits more than one application, only the latest application received before the closing date and time will be assessed.

1.5 Will late applications be accepted?

Not usually. A late application may be accepted if there were exceptional circumstances. Exceptional circumstances may include situations that are:

- hard to predict
- outside the applicant's control; and/or
- unable to be fixed before applications closed.

Exceptional circumstances will be considered fairly. The probity principles will also be considered.

To ask to submit a late application, email disability@humanrights.gov.au with "Late Application Request" in the subject line. You must send this request no later than 3 days after applications close.

The request should explain why you could not apply on time. If you can, include evidence to support your request.

The Decision Maker or their appointed representative will decide if the late application will be accepted. The AHRC will tell you the result.

1.6 How can I withdraw an application I have already submitted?

To withdraw an application, email disability@humanrights.gov.au and include:

- Name of your organisation
- Name of the grant opportunity
- Brief reason for the withdrawal

The email must come from the authorised contact listed on the application form.

2. Funding Questions

2.1 How much funding can I apply for?

Section 3 of the GOGs explains how much funding is available.

The funding for each person will depend on the scope and complexity of their application.

Organisations may receive funding for more than one individual.

2.2 What happens if I don't spend all the funding?

The department identifies why the money was not spent and may ask for the money to be paid back.

2.3 What can the grant funding be used for?

Section 5 of the GOGs outlines what the funding can be used for.

Organisations must give all funding to the funded individuals. Organisations must not take money out of the funding or charge individuals for administration or in-kind support.

2.4 What can't I use the grant funding for?

Section 5.3 of the GOGs outlines what funding cannot be used for.

Organisations are not to keep any funding for supports provided for the individual.

2.5 If successful, when will I receive a grant payment?

A grant agreement must be signed by the organisation and department before the payment can be made.

Payments are expected to be made in February 2027 to organisations.

Individuals should understand how and when their organisation will provide their funding before they submit their application. Individuals should ask their organisation how payments will be made to them.

2.6 Are there any GST or income tax-related issues involved in receiving funding?

This grant does not include GST.

The department cannot give taxation advice to you or your organisation.

2.7 How will the funding be split for the forums?

The department will decide which applicants will receive funding. This decision will consider the AHRC's recommendation report.

COSP20 is expected to receive most of the funding. Funding for CSW71 and APMCDRR is expected to be lower. All funding decisions will depend on the quality of applications for each forum.

Refer to section 8 of the GOGs for more information.

3. Application Questions

3.1 What documents do I need for bank verification and proof of entity? Am I required to submit it again if it has already been provided previously?

The department needs to make sure the details for successful organisations are up to date and correct.

After the AHRC has confirmed successful outcomes, the department will email successful organisations to request:

- **Bank verification:** a recent bank statement from the last 6 months is best. A pdf file type is preferred. The bank account must be in the name of the organisation applying for funding. The BSB, Account Number and Account Name must be shown. The transaction details and balances can be hidden.
- **Proof of entity:** Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) registration documents are best. Your organisation's Australian Business Number (ABN) details and company information must be shown. A pdf file type is preferred.

These documents help the department to get organisation details correct when setting up the agreement documents.

The Community Grants Hub may contact you to ask for more information to check your bank account details.

3.2 Can I get assistance to complete my application?

No. To keep the process fair for everyone, the department and the AHRC cannot help you complete your application. We also cannot comment on your answers or tell you if you meet the eligibility criteria.

Applicants should use the GOGs and other grant package documents to help complete the application.

4. Assessment Process

4.1 What is being assessed?

Applications will be assessed using the GOGs. The following sections are about the EOI assessment:

- Section 6: *The assessment criteria*
- Section 7: *How to apply*
- Section 8: *The grant selection process.*

4.2 How will organisations be advised of the outcome?

The AHRC will email outcomes to the organisation primary contact listed in the application form. Section 9 in the GOGs has further information, including about timeframes.

If your application is successful and a grant agreement is signed, the grant will be listed on GrantConnect. This will happen in 21 calendar days from when the grant agreement is signed by the organisation and department. This is required by Section 5.4 of the CGRPs.

If your application is not successful, you can apply again for the same or a similar grant in the future. You should include new or more information to improve your application.

5. Eligibility Questions

5.1 Who is eligible to apply?

Section 4 of the GOGs explains who can apply.

To keep the process fair, the department and the AHRC cannot give individual advice. This includes advice you or your organisation whether you are eligible to apply for grant funding.

Applicants must refer to the GOGs and other published documents to decide if you can apply.

All applications will be checked for compliance and eligibility. If your application does not meet the eligibility criteria it will not move to the next assessment stage.

5.2 Is there additional eligibility criteria?

Yes. People applying must be aged 18 years or older. People applying for the Emerging Young Leader Delegation must be aged 18 to 35 years old when they apply.

Applications for people with disability can only come from organisations that have:

- **ECOSOC Special Consultative Status** - ECOSOC status lets organisations take part in UN international conferences, such as the Conference of States Parties. There are 3 ECOSOC status categories. Most organisations have the Special Consultative Status.

It takes about 2 years for an organisation to get ECOSOC status, if approved.

More information is available at [Introduction to ECOSOC Consultative Status | Economic and Social Council](#).

- **COSP Accreditation** - Accreditation to COSP is a one-time process for NGOs. Applications are due 4 weeks before each COSP. Approved applications are accredited during the opening session of the next COSP.

More information is available at [COSP Application for new NGO Accreditation | United Nations Enable](#).

5.3 Can individuals apply without a supporting organisation?

No. Individuals must be supported by an eligible organisation. This is so the organisation can register the successful applicants for the forums.

Individuals can contact Australian disability representative and disability advocacy organisations to ask if they are willing to support an application. The following lists may help identify organisations:

- ECOSOC Consultative Status list can be searched at: [United Nations Civil Society Participation – Consultative status](#)
- COSP Accreditation list can be viewed at: [List of Non-Governmental Organization Accredited to the Conference of States Parties | Division for Inclusive Social Development \(DISD\)](#)

5.4 Do applicants have to attend the full forum applied to?

No. Applicants do not need to attend in-person to the whole forum they have applied to. Attendees should go to 60% of the forum in person. This is to accommodate:

- reasonable adjustments for people with disability, including rest breaks and online opportunities.
- long forums such as those that run for 2 weeks, so that you don't have to be there for the whole forum.

5.5 [NEW] What are the registration requirements for the Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction?

The Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR) was confirmed in September 2026. Registration and consultation process will be published on the APMCDRR website as it becomes available.

Other recent APMCDRR events (Brisbane 2022 and Manila 2024) have not required organisations to have ECOSOC Consultative Status or accreditation to register attendees. The decision on registration requirements is expected to be made by host nation Japan in the coming months.

EOIs for APMCDRR will be assessed using the GOGs, and funding decisions will be determined based on assessment of the strength of applications for each forum.

Further information is available at [APMCDRR Homepage | APMCDRR](#).

5.6 [NEW] Can two organisations work together to support an application?

Yes. Two organisations can collaborate to support EOIs. The arrangement should be clearly outlined in the application form. It should detail the responsibilities of each organisation. This may be outlined such as:

- The lead organisation is responsible for the grant agreement, funding, and delegate supports. This includes delegate wellbeing, administrative, and logistical needs, and point of contact for the department's engagement with the delegate.
- The secondary organisation is responsible for conference registration only.

6. Technical Submission Questions

6.1 When should I aim to submit my application?

Try to submit your application at least 3 hours before the closing date and time. This should give you time to address mistakes in your application before the deadline.

Submitting early also gives you time to deal with technical problems, such as internet issues or error notifications). If you need help email disability@humanrights.gov.au before the closing time.

6.2 What can I do if I have submitted my application but not received an email confirmation?

The confirmation email from the AHRC will be issued between 9.00am to 5.00pm. If you have not received it after 48 hours, please email disability@humanrights.gov.au.

If your application was not received before the closing date and time you may ask to submit a late application. Please go to question 1.5 in this document for the process.

6.3 Can I change my application after I have submitted?

6.3.1 Before close date and time

If you want to change your application after you have submitted it, you must resubmit the application in full to disability@humanrights.gov.au. You should also confirm that you withdraw the previous application sent.

6.3.2 After close date and time

Section 7 of the GOGs explains how to apply.

If you find an error in your application after submitting it, you should contact the AHRC immediately on disability@humanrights.gov.au.

If there is an error or information that is missing, the AHRC or department may ask you for more information. If we ask for more information after the grant closing time, we may not be able to accept it, if it will change your submission.