

Grow Grant Guidelines

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For the latest fund information and to view any updates to the guidelines please go to mibilla.org.au to download the latest version of these guidelines.

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ABOUT THE GRANT PROGRAM

Purpose

The Grow Grant Program supports organisations, businesses, and community groups to strengthen and expand initiatives that are already delivering positive outcomes in their communities.

Grants are designed to build capability, increase impact, and support sustainable growth by providing funding for program expansion, operational improvements, and skills development. The program aims to help organisations move from early success to long-term stability and greater community impact.

Available Funding

up to \$15,000 - The amount awarded will depend on the scope of the proposed project.

Key Dates

Applications open	1 May 2026
Applications close	12 June 2026
Assessment & Notification	15 June – 10 July 2026

ELIGIBILITY

Who Can Apply

Applicants must:

- Be based in Australia
- Use funds for the benefit of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in Australia

And be one of the following:

- Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander owned and operated business
- Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander owned and operated community organisation or not-for-profit
- Non-Indigenous organisation working in genuine partnership with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities or organisations

Who Can't Apply

Applications from the following are ineligible for grant funding:

- Applicants with outstanding acquittals or debts relating to previous Mibilla Foundation grants
- Applicants who are insolvent or have declared bankruptcy.
- Applicants (including their organisation, business, or key personnel) who are not compliant with their incorporating legislation, or who have breached other applicable laws or regulations.
- Applicants found to have deliberately provided false or misleading information in any previous or current application to the Mibilla Foundation.
- Commonwealth, State/Territory, or local government bodies or agencies.

What We Do Fund

The Grow Grant supports the expansion of an existing business, organisation, or program meaning you are already operating and the funding will help you grow, increase capacity, or reach more people. It does not include maintaining your current operations without change.

We fund practical, clearly defined costs that directly contribute to growth. You can apply for:

Equipment and Tools

Funding for items that help you deliver more work or increase capacity.

- Equipment needed to expand your business or program (e.g. tools, machinery, cameras)
- Technology (e.g. laptops, software, or systems)
- Materials for programs, workshops, or training

Example:

Purchasing equipment to take on more clients or deliver more work in-house.

Staffing and Contractors (Short-term)

Funding for people who help you grow your services or delivery.

- Wages for a staff member or payment for a contractor to deliver or expand your services
- Additional facilitators to support more participants
- Short-term admin or project support

Example:

Hiring an additional facilitator to increase participant numbers or run more sessions.

Program or Service Expansion

Funding to help you deliver more of what you already do, or reach new locations or people.

- Additional facilitator or staff costs
- Equipment
- Travel costs (fuel, flights, accommodation if required)
- Venue hire
- Program materials or resources including equipment
- Co-ordination support

Example:

Delivering workshops in a new community, including travel, facilitator fees, and materials or increase current program sessions from monthly to weekly sessions by funding additional facilitators and materials.

Adding a New Service (Expansion Only)

Funding to help you expand your existing business or program by introducing a new service that builds on what you already do.

The new service must:

- Be closely related to your current activities, and
- Help you increase income, reach more people, or deliver more value

You can apply for:

- Equipment required for the new service
- Training to deliver the new service
- Setup costs (tools, materials)
- Short-term support to establish delivery

Example:

A photography business purchasing equipment and completing training to offer video services.

Systems and Operations

Funding for systems that help you manage growth and increased demand.

- Booking or client management systems
- Financial management software
- Business or program planning support

Example:

Setting up a booking system to manage more clients efficiently.

Marketing and Promotion (linked to growth)

Funding to help you attract more customers or participants.

- Website setup or improvements
- Marketing materials or campaigns
- Branding or digital presence

Example:

Developing a website to increase enquiries and support business growth.

Training and Capability Building

Funding to strengthen your ability to grow and deliver your services

- Business, leadership, or governance training
- Skills training to expand services
- Accredited courses linked to growth

Example:

Completing training required to deliver a new service or expand operations.

Evaluation and Improvement

Funding to help you understand what's working and improve your program or business so you can grow effectively.

- Systems to track participants, clients, or sales
- Tools or support to collect feedback (e.g. surveys, interviews)
- Paying a contractor or advisor to review your program or business

Example:

Engaging a consultant to review program delivery and set up a system to track participants and outcomes.

What We Don't Fund

Applications for the following are not eligible:

- Starting a brand new idea that hasn't been tested
- Ongoing operational costs with no clear growth (e.g. general wages, rent, utilities)
- Contingency funds or unspecified "miscellaneous" costs
- Daily travel allowances, per diems, or meal allowances
- Personal living expenses
- Vehicle purchases or private vehicle expenses
- Debt repayment, fines, or penalties
- Items not clearly linked to expansion or increased capacity
- Projects without a clear plan or outcomes
- Partial funding for items that require full purchase to be useful
- Retrospective costs incurred before approval
- Costs already funded by another source
- Costs for the preparation of the grant application
- Activities that present a high risk of physical, psychological, or cultural harm

APPLICATION

Applications may be submitted online via mibilla.org.au or by downloading the Application Form and email to connect@mibilla.org.

Support

The Mibilla Foundation can provide support to applicants, including answering questions and providing guidance on the application process. Support does not guarantee funding approval.

ASSESSMENT

Assessment Criteria

Applications will be assessed based on:

- Alignment with the purpose of the Grow Grant
- Demonstrated track record, existing activity, or clear foundations to support growth.
- The degree to which the proposed activity will create meaningful long-term impact beyond the grant period.
- Clarity of the proposed approach, timeline, and budget.
- The extent to which the activity strengthens economic participation, self-determination, or benefit to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.
- Clarity of the immediate need or barrier being addressed.
- Practicality and feasibility of the proposed activity.

Decision-makers

Funding decisions are made by the Mibilla Foundation board or its assessment panel. All decisions are final.

AFTER YOU APPLY

Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application via email. Where possible, feedback will be provided to unsuccessful applicants.

FUNDING AGREEMENT

Funding & Payments

Funding will commence once the agreement is signed by both parties. Payments may be made in full or in instalments as outlined in the agreement. No retrospective funding will be provided.

GST

Applicants should include GST in their project budget where applicable.

Grant amounts are GST inclusive. If a recipient is registered for GST and GST is payable on the grant, the approved funding amount includes any GST payable. If a recipient is not registered for GST, no additional amount will be paid.

Recipients are responsible for managing their own tax obligations and obtaining independent financial or taxation advice if required.

Use of Funds & Changes

Funding may be subject to conditions such as permits, approvals, licences, or insurance requirements relevant to the funded activity.

Recipients are responsible for obtaining and maintaining any permits, licences, approvals, or insurance required to undertake the funded activity.

Any changes to the approved activity must be approved in writing.

Acknowledgement of the Foundation

Recipients must acknowledge the Mibilla Foundation in materials related to the funded activity where appropriate and in accordance with any branding guidelines provided.

Reporting & Monitoring

Recipients must complete a short acquittal outlining how the grant was used and the outcomes achieved.

Unless otherwise agreed in writing, acquittals must be submitted within thirty (30) days of completing the funded activity.

The Mibilla Foundation may monitor funded activities through acquittal reports, progress updates, discussions with recipients, or evidence of expenditure where required.

All acquittal amounts must be reported GST inclusive and supported by receipts, invoices, or other approved evidence of expenditure.

Project activities should be completed within twelve (12) months of receiving funding unless otherwise approved by the Mibilla Foundation.

Record Keeping

Recipients must keep accurate records for seven (7) years.

Compliance & Termination

Recipients must notify the Mibilla Foundation of any issues that may affect delivery of the activity. Where non-compliance occurs, the Mibilla Foundation will work with recipients to resolve issues, which may include varying the agreement.

The Mibilla Foundation may terminate the agreement and recover funds where funding is misused or reporting obligations are not met.

Dispute Resolution

Both parties agree to attempt to resolve disputes in good faith before pursuing mediation or legal action.

MIBILLA MOB CONTRIBUTION

The Mibilla Mob is a network of grant recipients who contribute to community uplift through collaboration, connection, and small acts of reciprocity. It reflects values of shared responsibility and collective success.

All recipients must complete one community contribution within six (6) months of receiving funding. Contributions are not linked to the value of the grant.

Contribution Menu (Choose One)

- Provide a case study for Mibilla Foundation's publications (e.g. Website, social media, etc)
- Deliver a small workshop, demonstration, or talk
- Donation of a product to a community partner
- Provide one mentoring session to an emerging business
- Produce a short social media asset for the Foundation
- Support a local community activity aligned with the recipient's skills

EVALUATION

The Mibilla Foundation may evaluate funded activities and the overall Grow Grant Program to ensure alignment with strategic objectives.

ETHICS & PRIVACY

All parties must declare and manage any actual, potential, or perceived conflicts of interest.

Personal and confidential information will be collected and used to assess and administer grants in accordance with the Mibilla Foundation's Privacy Policy, handled sensitively, and disclosed only where required by law or to relevant regulatory bodies.

DISCLAIMER

The Mibilla Foundation reserves the right to amend, suspend, or cancel this grant program, vary these guidelines, and request additional information from applicants at any time.

Submission of an application does not guarantee funding. Funding decisions are final and at the sole discretion of the Mibilla Foundation.

Applicants are responsible for their own application costs. Successful applicants must enter into a funding agreement before funds are released.