

Seed 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 Seed Grant Program supports immediate, practical, short-term activities that strengthen capability, access, participation, or confidence.

Seed grants are designed to address immediate needs, remove specific barriers, and enable early momentum. The program focuses on enabling something new to happen, rather than supporting long-term or large-scale outcomes.

Available Funding

A total of \$5,000 are available per successful applicant.

Key Dates

Applications open	13 February 2026
Applications close	20 March 2026
Assessment & Notification	Early April 2026

ELIGIBILITY

Applications must meet the eligibility criteria and seek funding for an eligible purpose outlined in these guidelines.

Who Can Apply

- Based in Australia
- Funds to be used for the benefit of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in Australia and the Torres Strait Islands.
- Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander-owned and operated business (new or established), or
- Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander-owned community organisation or not-for-profit that supports Aboriginal economic participation, or
- Non-Indigenous organisation working in active partnership with Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people or organisations, where the project demonstrably builds Indigenous economic participation or supports self-determination.

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 Fund

You can apply for funding for:

- Small operating or start-up costs
- Equipment, tools or technology
- Training, workshops, or courses - including costs like travel, accommodation, or course materials
- School or learning resources - only if they are part of a program or group activity that builds skills or participation

Please upload quotes, invoices, or pricing evidence for any item or service that requires payment.

What We Don't Fund

Applications for the following grant purposes are not eligible for grant funding:

- Purposes that do not directly contribute to the outcome/s of the project (i.e. payment of fees, fines or loans).
- Money to be set aside for contingencies or costs not yet incurred
- Personal expenses or vehicles
- Long-term projects or initiatives outside the Seed Grant timeframe or purpose
- Retrospective costs incurred before grant approval
- Costs or activities that have been, or will be, funded by another grant or funding source
- Costs for the preparation of the grant application or costs incurred before an application is approved.
- Activities with a high risk of physical, psychological, or cultural harm

APPLICATION

Applications may be submitted online via mibilla.org.au or by downloading the Expression of Interest 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 Seed Grant Program
- Clarity of the immediate need or barrier being addressed
- Practicality and feasibility of the proposed activity
- The extent to which the grant enables short-term outcomes

Decision-makers

Funding decisions are made by the Mibilla Foundation or its delegated 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

Commencement and Payments

Funding will commence once a funding agreement has been signed by both parties. Payments may be made in full or in installments, as outlined in the agreement. No retrospective funding will be provided.

Conditions

Funding may be subject to conditions, including evidence of relevant approvals, permits, or insurances. Any changes to the approved activity must be approved in writing.

Acknowledgement of the Foundation

Recipients must acknowledge the Mibilla Foundation in any materials related to the funded activity.

Reporting and Acquittal Requirements

Recipients will be required to complete a short acquittal outlining:

- What the grant enabled that could not be done previously
- Skills, knowledge, access, or confidence gained
- Participation or engagement achieved
- Early signs of momentum or increased capability

Outcomes may be reported qualitatively and do not need to be measured quantitatively where this is not appropriate.

Monitoring

The Foundation may monitor funded activities through reporting, evidence of expenditure, or community engagement.

Record Keeping

Recipients must keep accurate records for a minimum of seven years.

Compliance

Where non-compliance occurs, the Foundation will work with recipients to address issues, which may include varying the funding agreement.

You should let us know if anything is likely to affect your grant project or organisation by contacting the Mibilla Foundation as soon as possible.

Termination & Recovery of Funds

The Foundation may terminate the agreement and recover funds where funding is misused, reporting obligations are not met, or the recipient becomes unable to deliver the activity.

Dispute Resolution

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

MIBILLA MOB POLICY

Purpose

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.

Principles

Choice: Contributions align with recipient skills and capacity

Community Benefit: Contributions uplift others

Sustainability: No financial or personal hardship

Connection: Encourages shared learning and networking

Required Community Contribution

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

Contribution Menu (Choose One)

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

EVALUATION

The Mibilla Foundation may evaluate funded activities and the overall Seed 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 Foundation's Privacy Policy, handled sensitively, and disclosed only where required by law or to relevant regulatory bodies.