

COMMUNITY BUILDERS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q) What is the focus of the new program?

A) Community Builders has a community building purpose and focuses on developing strength and capacity in the regions in which it operates. Applicants will have to identify a clear community building outcome that is to be achieved by a project rather than a gap in service provision, with all applicants required to identify disadvantaged groups within their community who will be given opportunities to participate in the project.

Q) Who will be able to apply?

A) Incorporated not for profit non government organisations, councils and state government agencies (where there is no alternative) will be eligible to apply. For profit agencies that have a legally constituted not for profit arm of their business can also apply.

Q) Can unincorporated organisations apply for funding?

A) No, not in their own right, they must have an incorporated organisation or a council, or as a last resort a government agency apply on their behalf

Q) How will I know if my project is eligible for funding?

A) You should go to the website www.communitybuilders.nsw.gov.au and refer to the relevant section in the Program Guidelines Section 4.2 'Eligibility Criteria for Community Builders projects.'

Q) When can an application form be completed?

A) Not until the funding round opens on Monday 2 November, though a draft form is available on the website in the Program Guidelines for viewing.

Q) Can I apply for an infrastructure project or just to build something?

A) No, all project applications must have a community strengthening and capacity building focus but within an application you can seek infrastructure funding because it is necessary in order to achieve your community building outcomes.

Q) What is social infrastructure?

A) It is the sum of the services and processes within communities that are provided in response to community needs, and are designed to increase the capacity of communities. Social infrastructure can be broadly split into two categories 'hard' and 'soft.' Hard infrastructure is items such as buildings, roads and utilities. 'Soft' infrastructure is the provision of human services such as information and resources, local networks, and support groups, and has the intention of increasing a community's capacity to respond to current and future needs.

Q) Are partnerships allowed between organisations?

A) Yes, partnerships are allowed but within them there can only be one organisation that acts as auspice/sponsor and signs the contract with Community Services and receives the funds.

Q) Can I provide other evidence supporting my application?

A) No, you are only required to complete and submit the on-line application form, though Community Services reserves the right to seek advice regarding any application if required.

Q) Once the round opens can I immediately complete my application and submit it?

A) No, you will be able to complete and save your application but you will not be able to print yourself a copy or submit it until Monday 9 November.

Q) Where do I go if I have a question or need help with my application?

A) If your question is about IT then you should firstly look at the 'Help' document in the application form for IT Tips and if this doesn't solve the problem ring the Community Builders IT Hotline on 9716 2693. If you want to ask a question about making an application after you have read the Community Builders Guidelines then you should ring either your local Communities & Early Years Division of Community Service and speak to the Senior Regional Strategies Officer, or your local Council and speak to the relevant Community Program Officer. Details can be found on the communitybuilders website.