



INNOVATION GRANT GUIDELINES

Background

For 99 years, Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation has been supporting new ideas and approaches that address the key issues and challenges facing the communities of Greater Melbourne.

Social innovation is defined as “a novel proposal or solution to a social problem that is more effective, efficient, sustainable, or just than present solutions and for which the value created accrues primarily to society as a whole rather than private individuals.” (Centre for Social Innovation, Graduate School of Business, Stanford University). Innovation can include incremental testing of new processes, products and services, which can result in a small, modest or ultimately transformational change.

Whether it is piloting or scaling a new program, service delivery model, social enterprise or developing forward looking policy & research for systems change, Innovation Grants are designed to test, develop and demonstrate new solutions, big or small.

Impact areas

Innovation projects must align with one or more of our Impact Area Outcomes.



Homelessness & Affordable Housing

Supporting people into well located, sustainable, good quality, safe and affordable housing in a sustainable city.

OUTCOMES

- Homelessness or entrenchment of homelessness is prevented
- The supply of affordable, sustainable and healthy housing is increased.
- Increased energy efficient and climate resilient homes for vulnerable low income households



Inclusive, Sustainable Economy & Jobs

Creating quality jobs in clean industries and ensuring a liveable income for people facing disadvantage in a sustainable economy.

OUTCOMES

- Relevant skills and capability, including social entrepreneurship, are increased.
- Quality jobs in clean, digital and caring industries are created for job seekers.
- Enable our transition to an inclusive and sustainable economy that serves people and planet.



Healthy & Climate Resilient Communities

Communities actively shape equitable health, transitions, and resilience to climate change and disasters, including pandemics.

OUTCOMES

- Communities shape regenerative and just climate change resilience
- Greater Melbourne's food systems are equitable, healthy, sustainable, and resilient.
- The health and community sectors can support community resilience to climate change and disasters, including pandemics and other shocks.

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1. Grant types

THERE ARE TWO GRANT TYPES SUPPORTED BY THE 2022/23 INNOVATION GRANT ROUND.

Seed Innovation Grant

- Up to \$50,000 grant

These grants support the researching, testing or piloting of a new idea or approach. This includes funding to:

- Test a new concept or idea that will lead to a service improvement or an advance in a major community issue
- Research and build understanding of an area or issue
- Inform program design or policy development, philanthropic investment or identify best practice
- Funding to support the initial development phase of a social enterprise

Note Seed Innovation grants that demonstrate high impact may be considered for Scaling-Up Innovation grants in future years.

Scaling-up Innovation Grant

- Up to \$300,000 for two years (maximum of \$150,000 per year)

These grants support the expansion or replication of a proven innovation with the potential to be transformative on a broader community or systems level. This work can include:

- Piloting or scaling up a new service model or developing social enterprise
- Applying a new approach to improving service effectiveness and/or service quality
- Increasing impact and/or service effectiveness through sharing space or back office support, or other forms of partnership, merger or collaboration
- Building an understanding of an emerging issue or area through applied research (ie research that has application in practice)

2. Eligibility

Eligible organisations applying under the Healthy & Climate Resilient Communities and Homelessness & Affordable Housing Impact Areas are:

- Organisations that are endorsed as a Tax Concession Charity (TCC) and as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) as covered by Item 1 of the table in section 30-15 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997
- Australian charities registered and operating in Victoria, particularly Greater Melbourne

Eligible organisations applying under the Inclusive, Sustainable Economy & Jobs Impact Area:

- Must be endorsed as a Tax Concession Charity (TCC)
- Australian charities, particularly those operating in Victoria, NSW and ACT.

3. Assessment Criteria

The following criteria will apply:

- The project alignment with the Foundation's **Granting Principles**
- The project alignment with one or more of the Foundation's **Impact Area Outcomes**
- Well thought through project design, outcomes and targets
- The likelihood that the project will succeed when considering the risks and explanation of how risks will be managed.
- Demonstrated capacity and skills of the project team to undertake the project
- Budget is fully justified and represents value for money, and any leverage of other funding or in-kind support is explained
- The extent to which the proposed innovative solutions support community resilience in response to the current COVID-19 environment as well as climate change; and/or
- Due to the economic impact of COVID-19, the extent to which the innovative solutions test, scale or include employment opportunities, especially for vulnerable groups, young people and/or women.

4. Timeline

ENQUIRIES OPEN

5 September – 26 September 2022

Innovation Grants enquiries can be submitted by completing our **ONLINE ENQUIRY FORM**

FULL APPLICATIONS INVITED

12 September – 29 September 2022

OUTCOME NOTIFICATIONS

Mid December 2022