

## 2021 Impact Grants – Funding Principles, Eligibility and Selection Criteria, and Frequently Asked Questions

### Program overview

Now in its second year, our Impact Grants support organisations that are helping to protect and create safer communities for children in Australia, with a focus on helping prevent the sexual exploitation and abuse of children, including online sexual exploitation of children.

We are looking for a range of new and innovative ideas as well as evidence-based innovative models.

### Types of Impact Grants

| Seed Grants   | Scale Grants   |
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| 10 <b>seed</b> grants valued at \$50,000 each for small to medium organisations working on new ideas or one-off initiatives | 6 multi-year grants valued at \$200,000 each per year over three years for existing evidence-based innovative programs looking to <b>scale</b> |

### Target areas

| Technology   | Targeted education and prevention   | Response and Recovery   |
|--|---|---|
| Investing in technology or other means of collaboration to help detect, monitor, report and prevent harm to children | Investing in the delivery of effective educational, e-safety and child sexual exploitation and abuse prevention programs and initiatives particularly to at-risk and vulnerable youth, children, their families, or those at risk of perpetration | Investing in the provision of trauma-informed services including response, recovery, and remedy to survivors in a way which complements and/or enhances existing services and puts children's needs first |

### Funding principles

| Outcome focused and measurable  | Expansion  | Long-term impact   | Engage and empower children   | Collaboration  |
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| We invest in programs and initiatives that create meaningful and measurable change and specifically align with the outcomes we have prioritised for Safer Children, | We seek to deepen and scale the efforts, reach and effectiveness of programs, initiatives and organisations safeguarding and protecting children | We prioritise programs and initiatives that endeavour to create positive impact for children and their families beyond the period of our funding | We support organisations that prevent harm to children by engaging them in the design of programs and initiatives using a child safe approach which empowers children and | We look for programs and initiatives run by organisations that will share learnings, research and insights and collaborate with other child-focused stakeholders |

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| Safer Communities |  |  | young people of their rights | working to safeguard, protect and care for children |
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## **Eligibility criteria**

All applicants for the Impact Grants program must meet the following criteria:

1. Your organisation must be registered in Australia as a not-for-profit and endorsed by the ATO as holding Deductible Gift Recipient Item 1 status
2. Your organisation has a child safeguarding or child protection policy in place (and associated procedures, including data privacy), or is willing to develop a policy
3. Your organisation and program or initiative must be aligned with the funding principles and seeking to create impact across one or more of the target areas we are looking to fund
4. Your proposed program or initiative responds to a clear need or gap, and ideally builds upon or interacts with existing solutions
5. Your organisation must not be applying for funding under any of the other 2021 Safer Children, Safer Communities grants
6. Your organisation's annual revenue was less than \$5 million in the last financial year (for Seed Grant only)

## **Exclusions**

Projects that fall into any of the following categories will not be considered for funding:

- Programs or initiatives that require retrospective funding
- Programs or initiatives where the main benefits will be delivered outside of Australia
- Auspicing arrangements, which are not permitted. Auspicing refers to the practice of an ineligible organisation (one that does not have Deductible Gift Recipient status) applying via an eligible organisation. The organisation applying for the grant must be the organisation that will run the initiative for which a grant is being sought
- Capital grants for the construction or refurbishment of buildings
- Academic research projects not linked to advocacy or service delivery programs

## **Selection criteria**

Applications will be assessed by a panel comprising experts from industry and the child protection sector. The panel may also seek additional expert opinion on applications, as required.

Applications will be assessed against the following criteria:

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| <b>Alignment to the Safer Children, Safer Communities Impact Grants target areas (20% weighting)</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How well aligned is the proposed initiative or program to one or more of our target areas?</li> <li>• How strong is the evidence that this program will lead to real impact in this area/s?</li> </ul> |
| <b>Alignment to our funding principles (25%)</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outcome focused and measurable – How will the initiative or program demonstrate its effectiveness in creating meaningful change?</li> </ul>  |

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|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expansion – How will the initiative or program expand the scale or reach of activities safeguarding, protecting or caring for children?</li> <li>• Long-term impact – How will the initiative or program continue to have a lasting impact on children beyond the period of the grant?</li> <li>• Engage and empower children – How will the initiative or program engage and consult children and young people in its design?</li> <li>• Collaboration – How will the organisation share learnings and collaborate with other child-focused stakeholders to better safeguard, protect and care for children?</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Impacted groups and program reach (15%)</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the initiative or program focus on one or more stakeholder groups at-risk (for example Indigenous children, children with disabilities, those in out-of-home care, children living in poverty, parents or carers, staff of child-serving organisations like schools, sporting facilities, not-for-profits, LGBTIQ+ children, refugee/migrant/CALD children, perpetrators/potential perpetrators)?</li> <li>• How many children, young people, parents, carers or others will be helped through this program?</li> <li>• Does the project either a) Develop innovative technology/solutions; or b) Expand existing evidence-based solutions and services into a new area?</li> <li>• Is the project unique and does it complement rather than duplicate the other projects funded within the Safer Children Safer Communities portfolio?</li> </ul> |
| <b>Organisational alignment (15%)</b>                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is the organisation delivering the project well governed and financially sound?</li> <li>• Do they operate using appropriate policies and checks to safeguard children and other vulnerable people – for example by following the <a href="#">National Principles for Child Safe Organisations</a>?</li> <li>• Are they committed to measuring and reporting the social impact of the funding?</li> <li>• Is the organisation willing to openly share learnings and progress, and make information accessible to others?</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Additional criteria for Scale Grant only (25%)</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What impacts is this program already delivering? Is there strong evidence/evaluation to support this?</li> <li>• Is there a clear need for the program to expand?</li> <li>• Are we confident that providing funding will increase the impact and/or reach of this program?</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Additional criteria for Seed Grant only (25%)</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What evidence is there to show that this initiative is needed, and is not duplicating something that already exists?</li> </ul>   |

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How well planned is the project to ensure impact will be achieved?</li> </ul> |
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## Frequently Asked Questions

### General questions

#### **Does my organisation need to be a Westpac customer to apply?**

No, all organisations that meet the eligibility criteria can apply for a grant.

#### **My organisation applied for an Impact Grant in 2020. Can we apply again in 2021?**

If you applied in 2020 and were unsuccessful, you may reapply.

If you received a Strengthen or Scale grant in 2020, you cannot apply for additional funding in 2021 for the same project, as that funding is still ongoing. Your organisation may apply for funding for a different project, if applicable.

If you received a Seed grant in 2020, you may apply for additional funding.

Applications from previously funded organisations will be carefully evaluated to ensure diversity of recipients.

#### **My organisation operates in more than one State or Territory, can I submit multiple applications?**

Only one application per organisation will be considered nationally, so please select only one state in which to apply, based on where your head office is located.

#### **Can my organisation submit applications for more than one grant under the 2021 Safer Children, Safer Communities grants program?**

Only one application per organisation will be considered so we ask that you decide which type of grant is best aligned and apply for one only. This includes our Impact Grants (Seed and Scale) and our Strategic Partnerships Programs. Organisations can only submit one seed or scale application for the impact grants, please determine which you are most suitable for (multiple applications will not be accepted).

The only exception is our Research grants, where the same organisation (e.g.: different lead researchers but submitting from the same university) may submit applications for multiple research projects, however they will be carefully evaluated to ensure diversity of recipients. Applicants for the Research grants may not apply for other types of grants.

#### **My organisation supports communities overseas. Am I eligible to apply for an Impact Grant?**

No, for this program we are seeking to support organisations strengthening Australian communities and helping prevent child sexual exploitation and abuse, including online child sexual exploitation in Australia. This follows having already established two significant partnerships with organisations operating offshore.

#### **What other funding opportunities does Westpac Group offer?**

If your organisation is seeking funding for programs and initiatives not covered through the Impact Grants program, you may wish to check your eligibility with other funding opportunities in the Safer Children, Safer Communities portfolio, or with Westpac Group's other philanthropic foundations.

- [2021 Safer Children, Safer Communities Grants](#)
- [Westpac Scholars Trust](#)
- [Westpac Foundation](#)
- [St.George Foundation](#)
- [Bank of Melbourne Foundation](#)
- [BankSA Foundation](#)

## **Application process**

### **How does my organisation apply for a grant?**

Your application must be submitted online through our grant portal for [Seed Grants](#) and [Scale Grants](#) to be considered eligible. Before submitting your application please ensure you have prepared and reviewed your answers and supporting documents as applications cannot be amended once submitted. Applications close on **Tuesday 15 June, 5pm AEST**.

### **What are the application questions?**

Please refer to the Impact Grants Seed and Scale application forms available on our [website](#).

### **How do I know if Westpac has received my application?**

Upon submitting your application, you will receive an automated email confirming that your application has been received.

### **Do you have deadlines for applications?**

Yes. For 2021, our key dates are as below:

- Applications open: 17 May 2021
- Applications close: 15 June 2021, **5pm AEST**
- Notification of outcome: end of September 2021

## **Assessment of applications**

### **On what basis will you select an organisation?**

When assessing grant applications, we apply our selection criteria, outlined above. Please note that the selection of an organisation is at Westpac's sole discretion.

### **Do you provide feedback if an application is unsuccessful?**

Yes, a member of our team will contact you to offer feedback. Given we are a small team, this may take a several weeks after outcomes are announced.

### **Can we see some examples of the types of programs you have funded previously?**

Yes, a summary of our 2020 Impact Grant recipients and their programs can be found [here](#).

## **Grant acquittal, and reporting**

### **Are there any obligations if a grant is awarded?**

If successful, organisations will need to enter into a funding agreement with Westpac and/or make an online declaration prior to the grant being paid.

### **Are grant recipients required to provide a grant acquittal and reporting?**

Yes, all grant recipients will be required to provide an acquittal outlining how the grant funds were used and reporting on the community impact that was achieved.

## **Help**

### **Unable to find our emails?**

Once you have accessed the SmartyGrants portal to commence the application, you will be receiving emails from Safer Children, Safer Communities regarding your application and logon details. If our emails are redirected to your SPAM or JUNK folder, please follow these instructions (for GMAIL/OUTLOOK) to ensure future emails are received by your inbox.

**I am having technical problems with the Application Form, who can I contact?**

Please email [service@smartygrants.com.au](mailto:service@smartygrants.com.au) for assistance.

**I need more help with my application, who can I contact?**

Please register to attend one of our [three information sessions](#), where you will be able to ask questions about any of our 2021 Safer Children, Safer Communities Grants. Outside of these sessions, we will respond to questions via email where possible.