Aboriginal Languages Trust

NSW Aboriginal Languages Trust 2026 NSW Aboriginal Languages Week Program

Frequently Asked Questions

Context

The Aboriginal Languages Trust (**ALT**) administers grant programs, referred collectively as the Aboriginal Languages Community Investment Program, to support the growth and nurturing of Aboriginal Languages in NSW, consistent with the *Aboriginal Languages Act 2017*.

The Aboriginal Languages Community Investment Program has several funding streams, one of which is:

The **NSW Aboriginal Languages Week Grant Program** which is an open program to all eligible applicants and offers grants between $1,000 to $6,000.

Aboriginal Languages Week Grants Program

The NSW Aboriginal Languages Week Program (**Program**) provides one-off funding to eligible Aboriginal Community organisations and groups in NSW to support them to host events and activities to celebrate and promote Aboriginal Languages, delivered during Languages Week between 18 October and 25 October 2026, consistent with the objectives of the *Aboriginal Languages Act 2017*.

How does it work?

This is an open non-competitive grants program, available to eligible Aboriginal organisations and groups in NSW.

Applicants can apply for grants from $1,000 up to $6,000.

The ALT has allocated $200,000 for the Aboriginal Languages Week Grant Program in 2026 for projects delivered by recipients between 18 October and 25 October 2026.

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Applications open at 3:00pm on Friday, 24 July 2026.

Applications close at 5:00pm on Friday, 21 August 2026.

Applications are to be completed online at https://alt.smartygrants.com.au/

What do I need to do before I apply?

You should read the Program Guidelines to make sure your organisation or group and Language project is eligible for funding.

The Guidelines are available on the ALT's website: https://www.alt.nsw.gov.au/

Can I submit more than one application?

No, the Program provides one-off funding, and applicants are limited to one application per funding year.

When can I submit my application?

Applications open 3:00pm on Friday, 24 July 2026.

Applications close 5:00pm on Friday, 21 August 2026.

Application will be assessed and applicants will be notified of the outcome by 4 September 2026.

Applications can be submitted online through SmartyGrants https://alt.smartygrants.com.au/

Can I get support to prepare my application?

If you need support with the application process or are in a remote Community with limited access to theinternet to apply, please contact the ALT:

- Phone: 1300 036 406
- Email: grants@alt.nsw.gov.au

We are an unincorporated Aboriginal Community Group – can we apply?

Yes, if you are an unincorporated Aboriginal Community Group without an ABN, you can apply using an 'auspice'.

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An auspice is a formal arrangement where an eligible, incorporated organisation supports a project, group or initiative that is not incorporated or does not have its own legal or financial structure.

The auspicing organisation takes legal and financial responsibility for the project on behalf of the group or individuals by:

- managing grant funds
- providing insurance coverage
- ensuring compliance with legal and reporting requirements

In most cases, an 'auspice fee' is paid to the auspicing organisation to cover the costs of administering your project. The ALT requires that the auspice fee does not exceed 10% of the total project cost.

For more detailed information on auspice arrangements, please contact the Community Investment team at grants@alt.nsw.gov.au

The auspicing organisation must:

- Be a separate entity, unrelated to the applicant organisation
- Provide evidence of meeting eligibility criteria 1-4 as outlined in the Guidelines.

Note: *Applicants who are not eligible for funding cannot apply through an eligible organisation under an auspice arrangement. For example, an Aboriginal for-profit business cannot apply for program funding through an auspice arrangement with an Aboriginal Community Not-for-Profit organisation.*

We are a school – can we apply?

Unfortunately, schools are not eligible to apply for funding. Projects may be delivered within schools if the applicant meets all eligibility criteria as per the Program Guidelines. This could include:

- Local Aboriginal Community Controlled organisations
- Local Aboriginal Land Councils
- Local Aboriginal Education Consultative Groups

My organisation has a great project idea – can we submit?

The Program awards grants to eligible Aboriginal organisations and groups – the ALT encourages all eligible organisations to apply.

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You should read the Program Guidelines to make sure your organisation or group, and Language project is eligible for funding. The Guidelines are available on the ALT's website: https://www.alt.nsw.gov.au/

What types of activities can be funded?

The following are examples of the types of activities that may be funded. Projects do not need to be limited to these examples:

- Community gatherings, festivals and fundays that celebrate and promote Aboriginal Languages within NSW
- Public exhibitions
- Language workshops
- Language classes
- Language themed sporting and arts activities or competitions

What happens during the assessment phase?

The ALT Community Investment team will be reviewing all applications as they are received against the eligibility criteria in the Program Guidelines. They will seek to:

- Confirm the organisation's / group's eligibility.
- Seek verification of evidence from the organisation / group (if necessary)
- Seek further information from the organisation / group (if necessary)

Note: *Applicants must be located in NSW and/or delivering a service to communities within NSW.*

If my project is ineligible, will I be told?

All applications will be screened for project eligibility. Ineligible applicants will be notified in writing.

For any questions regarding the Program, please contact the staff of Aboriginal Languages Trust:

- Phone: 1300 036 406
- Website: www.alt.nsw.gov.au
- Email: grants@alt.nsw.gov.au

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How do I provide feedback on the Program or process?

If an applicant wishes to provide feedback or make a complaint about the Program, they should contact the Community Investment team at grants@alt.nsw.gov.au

If successful, how much time do I have to complete the project?

Projects must be delivered by the recipients between 18 October and 25 October 2026. Project completion reports will be due by 28 November 2026.

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