



Aboriginal Languages Trust

2025-2026 Aboriginal Languages Growth 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* (AL Act).

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

The **Aboriginal Languages Growth Program** is an open, competitive program offering grants from \$30,000 to \$90,000 to eligible applicants.

Aboriginal Languages Growth Program

The Aboriginal Languages Growth Program was established in December 2024, as part of the transition from the Partnership Funding Program and Sustainable Funding Program to a more targeted, effective and efficient Grant Program across the ALT. The Grant is administered and funded by the ALT. The Aboriginal Languages Growth Program was established to support eligible Aboriginal Community Organisations, groups and sole traders to undertake practical and meaningful Language projects which involve the deep transmission of Aboriginal Languages and have a broader Community impact, to grow and sustain Languages.

When can I apply?

Applications open at 9:00am on Monday, 30 March 2026.

Applications close at 5:00pm on Friday, 1 May 2026.

What do I need to do before I apply?

You should read the Program Guidelines to make sure you are eligible for funding and can meet the specific information and evidence requirements.

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

How do I apply?

All ALT grants are administered using the electronic Management System, SmartyGrants. You will need to create a secure account with log in name and password in the [SmartyGrants Portal](#). You can then complete your online application form via the [ALT SmartyGrants Home Page](#).

Can I submit more than one application?

No, applicants are limited to one application per funding round.

Can I get support to prepare my application?

Yes, if you need support with the application process, completing the application form (due to disability, disaster (flood), or access to technology for example) or are in a remote Community with limited access to the internet, please contact the **Community Investment Team** at ALT:

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

I'm having issues in SmartyGrants, what can I do?

For general assistance with SmartyGrants, you should check out their [Help Guide for Applicants](#) and [Applicant FAQ's](#). For further support you can contact:

Technical Assistance

- Contact SmartyGrants
- Phone: 03 9320 6888
- Email: service@smartygrants.com.au
[Technical help guide for applicants](#)

If I am 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 **Community Investment Team** at ALT:

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

If I am successful, when and how will I receive funds?

The Aboriginal Language Growth Program funds will be paid directly to the applicants nominated bank account, as identified in your Funding Agreement, within four (4) weeks of the Agreement being signed and returned to the ALT.

I am part of a local Community language group. Can we apply?

Yes, an unincorporated organisation or group can apply by entering a valid and current agreement with an eligible organization to auspice the funding.

If there is in-kind support or other funding contributions for my project, do I need to include that in my application?

Yes, if your project will receive in-kind support or other funding contributions to assist in its delivery then this should be included in the budget section of your application. This helps build a more accurate picture of what it will take to deliver your project and can help inform the design of, and funding allocated to, future rounds. It can also demonstrate community support and project buy-in.

If I am successful, will the ALT pay GST on top of my grant funding amount?

In accordance with the NSW Grant Administration Guide Para 4.1.4, “a ‘grant’ is an arrangement for the provision of financial assistance by the NSW Government (or on behalf of the NSW Government) whereby money:

- is paid to a grantee other than the NSW Government
- is intended to help address one or more of the NSW Government’s policy outcomes
- is intended to assist the grantee to achieve its objectives
- *does not result in the return of goods or services by the grantee of an equivalent value to the NSW Government (i.e. it is a non-reciprocal exchange).*

As a result, ALT Grant payments are GST exclusive as there is no ‘Supply’ of goods and services to the ALT in return for the Grant payment. As such Grantees need to process the Grant payment in their financial systems as GST exclusive. If an invoice is incorrectly submitted as including GST the invoice will be rejected for rectification.

What do I do if I need to change my something related to my approved project?

When unexpected events affect your project, it may be necessary to request a change to your grant agreement. If this occurs, the first step is to contact the ALT as soon as possible and request a Variation through the grants@alt.nsw.gov.au email. If the proposed changes to your project are considered minor (e.g. extension of time request or slight change of scope) and does not substantively impact the approved purpose, timing or conditions of the grant can be reviewed and approved by the Grants Administration Team.

You must notify ALT and request a Variation where:

- There is a change to any listed key personnel of the project team,
- There is a change in the approved expected outcomes,
- There is a change in project duration or cost,
- There is a change in your financial status – such as bankruptcy,
- You can no longer deliver the project, and/or
- Or for any other reason where you identify you may not be able to deliver on the funding agreement.

Can I submit a multi-year application each new funding round?

No, if successful for multi-year funding, applicants are not eligible to apply in a new round until their current funding agreement concludes.