



Aboriginal Languages Trust

2024-2025 Aboriginal Languages Sector Development 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 Sector Development Program is an open, competitive program offering grants from \$150,000 to \$400,000 to eligible applicants.

Aboriginal Languages Sector Development Program

The Aboriginal Languages Growth Program was established in April 2025, 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 Sector Development Program was established to support eligible Aboriginal Language Organisations based in NSW by stabilizing their operations to grow the Aboriginal Languages workforce through the creation of new sustainable job opportunities, secure employment for Aboriginal Language workers, and contribute to Target 16 of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap and the NSW International Decade of Indigenous Languages 2022-2032.

When can I apply?

Applications open at 9:00am on Tuesday, 22 April 2025.

Applications close at 11:59pm on Sunday, 18 May 2025.



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/resources/languages-grants/>

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 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 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 have been funded by the Trust previously. Can I apply?

Possibly, it will depend on what funding stream you were a recipient in. To be eligible to apply, an applicant must have successfully delivered no less than two (2) projects with funding from the **Sustainable** or **Partnership** Funding Programs. Projects from other funding streams will not be considered under this criteria.

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.