

Grant writing tips, tools and tricks

Presented by

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Law and Justice Foundation of NSW

- Not-for-profit, statutory body
- Statutory functions
- Guidelines
- Strategic priorities



Victoria Law Foundation

- The Foundation is a not-for-profit, independent statutory body that helps Victorians understand their legal system and the law
- The Foundation awards \$500,000 in grants each year for law-related projects that benefit the people of Victoria
- Three main programs:
 - Grants
 - Publications
 - Education
- Grants are assessed based on:
 - Statutory functions
 - Guidelines
 - Strategic priorities

Have a clear and achievable aim

Example:

‘The provision of six CLE sessions for community workers in the Bankstown area on responding to domestic violence.’

rather than

‘Making society safer for women by ending domestic violence.’

Demonstrate a need

- First-hand experience
- Discuss what resources currently exist
- Discuss which organisations exist
- Use reports from others who have expertise in this area
- Compare different jurisdictions
- Remember that it's a competitive process



Match the aim, the budget and the timeline

- Demonstrate that you have planned this.
- Think through each step that is required to achieve your aim.
- How much time, realistically, do you need to spend on each step?
- Cost each step and obtain quotes for the various components in your project.

Write for your audience

- Minimise jargon, acronyms
- Include a narrative and numbers
- Use the application form
- Take care; avoid typos
- Make it enjoyable to read
- Plain language



Demonstrate a practical outcome

- What will you have to provide to your audience at the end of your project?
- Is it
 - A plain language product?
 - Community legal education?
 - A report?
- How is your project useful to your intended audience?

Demonstrate your expertise and credibility

- First-hand experience
- Knowledge about topic
 - Statistics
 - Law
- Include your involvement in debate
 - Reforms
- Partnerships and your role
- Address limitations
- Long-term strategies
- Include quotes



Ensure you ask for items that falls within the guidelines

- Read the guidelines.
- Check the list of exclusions.
- If you are not sure, call and ask.



Leave enough time to write your application

- Consider funding for smaller/scoping project
- Consider splitting your project into phases
- Acknowledge the unknown/variables in your project
- Utilise resources of funder
- Meet with Grants Manager



Law and Justice Foundation of NSW

- The **General Grants Program** is for projects between \$5001 and \$50,000. There are two grant rounds a year, closing 31 March and 30 September.
- The **Small Grants Program** is for projects with budgets up to \$5,000 and are determined throughout the year. You can apply any time.



Victoria Law Foundation

- The **General Grants Program** is for projects over \$5000
 - the average request is \$35,000
 - Awarded twice a year: March and September
- The **Small Grants Program** is for projects with budgets up to \$5,000 and are determined throughout the year, quickly and without set deadlines



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