

Community and Business Support Package

Terms and Conditions

COVID-19 restrictions have had a significant impact on local businesses, community groups and sporting organisations across the Municipality. The City of Ballarat seeks to support its local businesses and communities by providing grants to eligible applicants - up to \$500 for businesses and up to \$250 to community groups and sporting organisations. Eligible applicants may apply online at the City of Ballarat Website.

The grant pool is capped at \$1,000,000 and applications will be assessed on a first come basis until such time as the grant funding is exhausted or 5pm Friday 29 October 2021, whichever is earlier.

Applicants will need to attest and provide evidence of a decrease in turnover of 30% or greater over a 4 week period (can be non-consecutive weeks) from 27 May 2021.

Businesses, community groups and sporting organisations may apply for grants from The City of Ballarat based on the criteria listed.

Eligibility Criteria – Business grant

- The business must operate within the City of Ballarat municipal boundary.
- The business must maintain an ABN registered within the municipality.
- The applicant must demonstrate¹ a turnover reduction of 30%* or greater for a period of 4 weeks (can be non-consecutive weeks) since 27 May 2021.
- The business must not have already received a City of Ballarat business support package grant Any business with an annual payroll not exceeding \$1 million is eligible for a grant under this Policy.

Any business which is or has received notice of external administration is not eligible for a grant under this Policy.

¹Evidence of a reduction in turnover will vary for applicants. Ideally a business will be able to provide historical BAS statements or a letter from an Accountant on letter head. However in circumstances where this is not possible, Council will consider a statutory declaration from the business operator / owner outlining their reduction in turnover.

*Based on an average operating week when restrictions were not in force.

Eligibility Criteria – Community and sporting organisations

- The organisation must operate within the City of Ballarat municipal boundary.
- The organisation must be registered or incorporated.
- The applicant must demonstrate¹ a negative financial impact during the restriction period which commenced on 27 May 2021.
- Have not already received a City of Ballarat community support package grant

¹Evidence of a negative financial impact will vary for applicants. Ideally a community or sporting organisation will be able to provide historical BAS statements however in circumstances where

this is not possible, Council will consider a letter from an Accountant on letter head or a letter from a senior office bearer of the organisation (eg Treasurer, Secretary etc.)

*Based on an average operating week when restrictions were not in force.

How to Apply

Applicants may apply for a grant through The City of Ballarat Website:

- Applicants must complete all sections of the application and provide evidence of eligibility.
- Applicants must attest that they meet the eligibility criteria at the time of application and intend to remain trading at the end of the COVID-19 restrictions.
- Applicants must provide 100 points of identification.
- If the current proof of identity is unable to be confirmed, Applicants will receive a follow-up email with instructions to amend their proof of identity details. Until proof of identity is confirmed, the application will not be considered or assessed. If the applicant does not then rectify proof of identity details before the close date, the application will not be considered by The City of Ballarat.
- Only final applications that are lodged will be considered and assessed, and applications in draft stage will not be considered.
- Grants to successful applicants will be paid into the bank account nominated on the application form.
- The nominated bank account must be in the business / organisation name.
- Council will endeavour to notify all applicants of the outcome of their application within 10 business days. Notification will be via email.
- Council reserves the right to amend these Terms and Conditions and the relevant criteria at any time.
- Council will use its discretion in determining eligibility to ensure community interests are given priority.
- If any information in the application is found to be incomplete, inaccurate, false or misleading, the grant will be repayable on demand.
- Applicants may apply for a review of any Council decision under these Terms and Conditions to the Director Corporate Services and no further review may be requested.

Any information provided in an application will be handled in accordance with the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014* and Council's Privacy Policy.

Limitation of Liability

- To the extent permitted by law, the City of Ballarat (and their respective officers, contractors, employees, agents and representatives) will not be liable for any personal injury, loss (including loss of opportunity), damage (including, but not limited to, direct, indirect or consequential loss), cost, expense or claim arising from or in relation to the Community and Business Support Package.