

DVA Grants for Ex-Service Organisations (ESOs)

An overview of what grants are available for ESOs and tips to help organisations write a strong grant application

In 2022-23 there are 18 Grants funded by DVA

The total grant funding for 2022-23 is \$68.020 million







Wellbeing is a central element of DVA's purpose





DVA Grant Programs for ESOs

Building Excellence in Support & Training (BEST)

Supports the role of ex-service organisation (ESO) compensation and wellbeing practitioners and advocates, who provide advice and assistance to the veteran and Defence communities. Grants-In-Aid (GIA)

Supporting Younger Veterans (SYV)

To develop capability in the community to service the unique needs of younger veterans (post 1999 service).

Veteran Wellbeing Grant (VWG)

The VWG program supports veteran community programs and projects that build social connections, resilience and confidence, and improve mental health.

Veteran & Community Grants (V&CG)

To improve independence and quality of life for veterans and fund projects that enhance health and wellbeing.

communication between the ex-service community, ESOs and the Australian Government and also aims to encourage the advancement of the objectives of national ESOs. Applications sought by invitation.

Australian Government Department of Veterans' Affairs \$4.551 million excluding GST for the 2023-24 financial year.

BEST

The grant amount available for each organisation will be determined on the basis of the total funds available and the workload information provided in your application 145,000 excluding GST for the 2023-24 financial year.

GIA

The maximum grant amount is \$10,000. Grants are limited to one per organisation. 3.552 million excluding GST for the 2022-23 financial year.

VWG

Stream A Small Grants (up to a maximum of \$50,000 per grant) and Stream B Large Grants (from \$50,001 to a maximum of \$150,000 per grant).

Veteran Wellbeing Grants

The new Veteran Wellbeing Grants (VWG) is currently open for applications and closes on 8 December 2022.

VWG is for projects that deliver wellbeing support services and activities of broad-scale benefit to the veteran community.

These programs have traditionally funded activities such as;

- camping
- equine therapy
- hiking and other activities to increase opportunities for members of the veteran community to engage in social and community activities.

Grants are expected to be available in two streams.

Small grants up to \$50,000 Large grants from \$50,001 up to \$150,000



When can I apply for a grant?

You can only apply when a grant round is open on the GrantConnect website. www.grants.gov.au

Grants are advertised on Community Grants Hub. www.communitygrants.gov.au

Categorisation of Grants by Grant Opportunity Types	
Category	Description
Competitive	Funding allocated through an openly advertised DVA grant opportunity and through which applicants are independently assessed against published assessment criteria, e.g., VWG program.
Demand Driven (Closed Non- Competitive)	Funding is determined through a demand driven grant process. The grant amount offered to each eligible applicant will be calculated using a formula, which has been determined in conjunction with the Ex- Service Organisation community, through the Ex-Service Organisation Round Table (ESORT), e.g., BEST program.
Closed pre- qualified	Funding allocated to a specific organisation following its selection in a closed application process, assessed by members of ESORT, e.g., GIA program.

Application tips





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BEST Tips

Tip 3

Provide

accurate

data

When recording compensation advocate workloads, ensure each claim is counted as a single claim regardless of the number of conditions.

All identified workload is undertaken by practitioners with up-to-date ATDP Training.

Eligibility

- Eligibility is different for each grant opportunity
- For BEST, GIA and VWG applicants must be Incorporated
- Check your eligibility. Alternative options are:
 - A Consortium Arrangement (VWG)
 - Sponsored org (BEST)

In a sponsoring arrangement, the applicant MUST complete the application form on behalf of the organisation they are sponsoring



Supporting Evidence

Strong evidence helps to:

- demonstrate your capabilities
- demonstrate your linkages within the Veteran community
- emphasise the scale or importance of an issue
- strengthen an argument for a service by demonstrating its past performance, and
- illustrate how the service is accepted or received by veterans and their families.



Expenses

- Check guidelines to ensure proposed expenses are eligible
- Some ineligible expenses:
 - business as usual expenses
 - purchase of land or property
 - capital works for new or replacement buildings
 - the provision of meals, food, gifts and prizes
 - projects that are strongly focused on delivering primarily research, medical or clinical services and treatments.



Incomplete applications or missing information

Check application is complete and all information provided

Use the word limit to your advantage

Upload current attachments

DVA may ask for clarification of information

Any additional information provided cannot change the nature of the application.





Feedback

The strengths of highly rated applications How applicants used evidence to demonstrate their capability against selection criteria

How applications could be strengthened



Remember to:

Register on GrantConnect for notifications of grant opening dates.

If you have any questions, contact the Community Grants Hub on 1800 020 283 (option 1) or <u>support@communitygrants.gov.au</u>



