

2018/19 General Grant guidelines

Grant aim

Helping Victorians understand civil legal issues

Through General Grants, the Foundation will support projects that improve community understanding of the justice system, particularly civil legal issues.

Guiding principles

Priority will be given to applications that can demonstrate the following:

Evidence

Evidence of legal need and a good case that this response is likely to make a difference.

Impact

Projects that have potential to reach significant audiences – this could be a broad audience or a project that responds to a current issue or need for a specific group of Victorians.

Collaboration

Partnerships and collaborations between legal agencies and/or between legal and community sector organisations.

Innovation

Projects that respond to legal need by offering new approaches or will apply proven strategies in a legal setting.

Examples

The types of projects likely to be funded include:

- one-off projects – to address a legal issue which is likely to make a difference for a specific audience, for example, a legal resource – video, factsheet
- pilot projects – offering new approaches or to trial a strategy and gain further insights, for example, the delivery of legal information in a new format that could be duplicated in other services

Submitting your application

The General Grants program is now open. Applications for grants over \$5,000 will be accepted until **Monday 27 August 2018**. Applications must be submitted through the grants portal on the Foundation's website.

You should contact the Grants Manager prior to submitting your application. The Grants Manager can provide feedback on your project proposal and indicate if it meets selection criteria, giving your application the best chance of success.

While there is no upper limit to the request for funding, we expect to make grants for projects with budgets around \$50,000.

Assessment process

The Grants Subgroup of the Foundation's Board makes funding decisions, and applicants can expect to hear the outcome in writing in November 2018.

Grant applications are assessed against the Foundation's statutory functions, grant priorities and guiding principles. The following criteria are also considered as part of the assessment process:

- grants can only be made to organisations
- the project must primarily benefit Victorians
- legal need – what is the legal need of the target audience? What is the evidence?
- project methodology – what will you do to address the need?
- format – how does the format meet the needs of the target audience?
- duplication – does the information already exist?
- capacity – does the organisation have the skills and resources to undertake the project?
- impact – what difference will this work make?
- dissemination and promotion – has a strategy been developed to ensure the information gets to the target group?
- replication – is there potential for the project to benefit a broader audience?
- budget – is the budget realistic? Does it offer value for money?
- evaluation – has a strategy been developed to assess the impact of the project?

Grant exclusions

Generally, we do not fund:

- professional development activities
- conferences – sponsorship or attendance
- government organisations with the exception of independent statutory bodies
- recurrent or core operational costs
- purchase of major items of equipment
- international travel costs
- commercial or profit-making activities
- litigation of any kind
- projects that primarily support political activity and lobbying
- costs incurred prior to grant approval
- grant applications previously deemed unsuccessful by the Foundation unless invited to reapply.

Conditions of grant

Victoria Law Foundation places conditions on the grants it makes. Some of the grant requirements include:

- successful applicants enter into an agreement with the Foundation
- a final report is to be submitted on completion of the project
- assessing the impact of the project through appropriate evaluation
- acknowledging the support of the Foundation
- having materials checked by a person with appropriate legal knowledge
- developing resources using plain language principles (where applicable)