

Resource Community Infrastructure Fund

Frequently asked questions

1. What is a Resource Community?

The Applicant Guidelines for Round 1 define Resource Communities as, communities in Queensland which host significant coal and minerals production or have significant coal and mineral operations in close proximity.

A Resource Community may be near a mine, have a significant number of resource workers living there or a coal or mineral operation may have a significant impact in the community. A Resource Community could also be a community that provides significant resources or services to a coal or mineral operation.

Whether the community where the proposed project will be located is a Resource Community is for the Applicant to demonstrate through the Application and be assessed as part of the overall application. In the application form Applicants have the opportunity to demonstrate how the community where the project will be located satisfies the definition of a Resource Community.

If you require further clarification you should contact your DSDILGP regional office. Contact details can be found at <https://www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au/about-us/contact-us>.

2. Can for-profit businesses or organisations apply to the fund?

No, it is only open to not-for-profit organisations and local governments, including Weipa Town Authority. Business organisations including chambers of commerce, regional economic development organisations and remote area boards are not able to apply, however they may collaborate with Eligible Organisations on Projects. See section 3.1.2 of the Applicant Guidelines.

3. Who can an Applicant Partner with?

Not-for-profit organisations and local governments can Partner with for-profit businesses and other organisations to submit a joint application, but the not-for-profit organisation or local government must be lead Partner. See section 3.1.1 of the Applicant Guidelines.

4. Can an Applicant submit more than one Project?

Yes, but each Project must have a separate Application. See section 3.2 of the Applicant Guidelines.

5. Is a co-contribution required?

No, there is no mandatory co-contribution, unless a Project includes ineligible expenditure or the Estimated Total Project Cost exceeds the RCIF funding being sought. Any contributions will be well regarded in assessing Applications.

6. What is Community Infrastructure?

The Applicant Guidelines for Round 1 define Community Infrastructure as physical economic and social infrastructure which allows a Resource Community to access services to meet that community's needs, maximises its potential or enhances community wellbeing.

Projects submitted for funding must be for the construction of Community Infrastructure in a Resource Community. Projects may be to build new infrastructure or upgrade, extend or replace existing infrastructure. Projects that only involve the repair or routine or ongoing maintenance of existing infrastructure are not eligible. See sections 3.2.1 and 3.2.2 of the Applicant Guidelines.

7. Are staff wages an eligible Project cost?

All construction related labour and project management costs are Eligible Project Costs. Only time directly related to the construction or management of the Project can be included, excluding overhead charges and executive duties. See section 3.3 of the Applicant Guidelines.

8. Are Project design costs Eligible Costs?

Concept design costs are not eligible, however the cost of detailed designs (e.g. 'for construction' drawings) are eligible if they are completed after the Commencement of the Project. See section 3.3 of the Applicant Guidelines.

9. Are the costs of furniture or computers eligible costs?

No. Only fixed plant and equipment required to fully commission the infrastructure are eligible costs. See section 3.3.1 of the Applicant Guidelines.

10. When does construction of the Infrastructure need to start?

It is expected that construction will commence within six months of signing a Funding Agreement. See section 3.2 of the Applicant Guidelines. This is not expected to be before 1 November 2021.

11. When will successful Projects be notified?

It is anticipated that successful Projects will be announced by the Deputy Premier from November 2021. Project construction cannot start until successful Projects have been announced.

12. What evidence do I need to provide?

Evidence provided should be commensurate with the size of the project. Where possible all statements made in the Application should be supported by documentary evidence. Please see the separate Fact Sheet on evidence.

13. My organisation is not registered for GST. Can it still apply for a grant?

In order for a not-for-profit organisation to be eligible it would need to be registered for GST, and satisfy all other eligibility requirements, by the time the application is submitted. This will be verified during assessment to ensure equity for all applicants. Intending applicants could consider registering the organisation while working on the application and only submit once the GST registration has been completed.

Alternatively, not-for-profit organisations that are not registered for GST could approach their local council or another eligible organisation to see if it would be willing to work with the organisation on the project and submit an application for the proposed community infrastructure.

14. Is my local government eligible to apply for a RCIF grant? What if there isn't a mine in the local government area.

As set out in the RCIF Applicant Guidelines for Round 1, all local governments in Queensland are eligible to apply for funding.

Local government eligibility is not restricted to only those that accommodate coal or mineral mines. Please refer to the answer to Question 1 above for information about what may constitute a Resource Communities.

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