## **Grants Programs**

# Veteran and Community Grants Program

### Overview

This Factsheet outlines the Department of Veterans' Affairs *Veteran and Community Grants* (V&CG) program. V&CG supports a healthy, quality lifestyle, assists veterans to remain living independently in their own homes, reduces social isolation, supports carers and improves access to community care services. V&CG are available to eligible ex-service organisations (ESOs), veteran representative groups, community-based organisations or private organisations that can demonstrate the ability to contribute to the welfare of members of the veteran community through the proposed project. There are three funding rounds in the 2011-12 financial year.

## What are Veteran and Community Grants?

V&CG provide seeding funds for projects that support a healthy, quality lifestyle for members of the veteran community and assist them to remain living independently in their own homes. Grants also fund initiatives that reduce social isolation, support carers and improve access to community care services.

V&CG are for all veterans, their spouses, partners, widows/widowers, carers, dependants and other members of the ex-service community. Projects may also benefit the wider community.

## What is eligible?

Grants assist projects that will become sustainable and financially viable, or one-off projects that have an ongoing health benefit for the veteran community.

## What is not eligible?

V&CG are not provided for recurrent or ongoing financial assistance. Funding exclusions and limits are outlined in the *Veteran and Community Grants Guidelines.* 

## Who can apply?

To be eligible for a Veteran and Community grant, an applicant must be an ESO, veteran representative group, community-based organisation or private organisation that can demonstrate the ability to contribute to the welfare of members of the veteran community through the proposed project.

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## How to apply

Application forms (form no. D1098) are available on the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) website: http://www.dva.gov.au/health and wellbeing/veterans community grants/Pages/index.aspx

#### When is funding available?

There are three funding rounds each year and applications must be sent to:

Grants and Bursaries Team Department of Veterans' Affairs GPO Box 9998 ADELAIDE SA 5001

Applicants should read the *Veteran and Community Grants Guidelines* and contact their local VAN office to discuss any project proposal before completing an application for V&C grants. DVA staff members are available to assist with the development of applications.

#### How are applications assessed?

Applications are assessed by DVA staff who make recommendations to the Minister for Veterans' Affairs. Applicants are notified in writing of the Minister's decision.

## What happens if a grant is approved?

The applicant is required to sign documentation accepting the grant and associated conditions. The signed documentation must be received by DVA before the grant can be paid.

The preferred method of payment to a grantee is by direct credit to the applicant's bank account.

Applicants are required to acquit the grant once the project is completed. This is expected within a specified timeframe of 12 months.

### **Other Factsheets**

All DVA Factsheets are available on request from DVA or on the DVA website at http://factsheets.dva.gov.au/factsheets/

#### Disclaimer

The information contained in this Factsheet is general in nature and does not take into account individual circumstances. You should not make important decisions, such as those

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that affect your financial or lifestyle position on the basis of information contained in this Factsheet. Where you are required to lodge a written claim for a benefit, you must take full responsibility for your decisions prior to the written claim being determined. You should seek confirmation in writing of any oral advice you receive from DVA relating to complex or important matters.

## More information

For further information, the application form and guidelines, contact DVA:

133 254 – metropolitan callers1800 555 254 - non-metropolitan callers.

*Note:* If callers use a mobile phone, calls may be more costly. Callers are advised to use a normal phone (i.e. a landline phone) when ringing these numbers.

#### Website

http://www.dva.gov.au/health\_and\_wellbeing/veterans\_community\_grants/Pages/index.aspx