

# GRANT GUIDELINES



## About The Ross Trust

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The Ross Trust is a perpetual charitable Trust established in 1970 in Victoria by the will of the late Roy Everard Ross. Since its inception, the Ross Trust has distributed over \$110 million in grants for charitable purposes in Victoria. Governed by five Trustees who manage the Ross Trust's assets and distribute its income, the granting priorities of the Ross Trust are set by the Trustees who take into account the wishes of the Trust's benefactor, Roy Everard Ross, and are influenced by the changing needs of the community.

## Statement of Commitment

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The Ross Trust will direct resources towards projects and other activities that:

1. Address disadvantage and inequity
2. Encourage and promote social inclusiveness, community connectedness, mental health and wellbeing
3. Protect and preserve Australian flora and fauna

In order to fulfil this commitment, the Ross Trust directs its resources to areas of the highest priority need where there is the greatest potential for impact.

The Ross Trust currently accepts applications under four program areas.

## Program areas

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- A. Improved outcomes for the most disadvantaged, vulnerable and marginalised Victorians
- B. Improved outcomes for children and young people at risk (0–18 years)
- C. Improved access to public education, arts and culture
- D. Protection and preservation of Australian flora and fauna

The Ross Trust will consider applications for the following purposes:

- Specific activities, services, projects and programs
- Building and strengthening organisational capacity and operations

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## Eligibility

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The Ross Trust can only consider requests from organisations that:

- Operate in Victoria or who will use the grant for the benefit of Victorians; and
- Have an ABN (Australian Business Number); and
- Are incorporated or a company limited by guarantee; and
- Are registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) (unless an eligible state government entity such as a Victorian government school).

Applicants are NOT required to be a:

- Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR); or
- Tax Concession Charity (TCC).

## Grant exclusions

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The Ross Trust does NOT make grants for the following purposes:

- To or on behalf of individuals including sole traders
- To organisations or projects seeking auspicing arrangements
- Capital fundraising for major building purchase, construction and maintenance works
- General fundraising appeals
- Motor vehicles and buses
- Equipment purchases that constitute the total or majority of a grant request
- Organisations or programs which are restrictive based on their financial, religious or cultural origin or Objects (as outlined in the governing documentation)
- Organisations that receive significant and/or have a publicly advertised funding relationship with organisations that promote gambling, alcohol, tobacco or armaments
- Sport, recreation or social activities for their own sake
- One off activities such as camps and festivals
- Scholarships and bursaries
- Publications and printed materials that constitute the total of a grant request
- Projects providing services for people with disabilities and/or learning difficulties; and their carers
- Projects for the aged and aged-related issues
- Arts projects for art's or artists' sake
- Provision and delivery of health and medical services
- Research, including scientific, medical, doctoral or post-doctoral
- Protection and welfare of domestic animals
- Emergency relief and material aid programs\*

\*The Ross Trust makes a substantial commitment to Emergency Relief and Material Aid through a triennial program and therefore does not accept unsolicited applications for this purpose. Please refer to the [Ross Trust website](http://www.rosstrust.org.au) for information on this program.

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## Lodgement of applications and closing dates

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All grant seekers are required to contact the Ross Trust office by email to confirm eligibility and their intention to apply **prior to submitting an application online.**

Please [download our eligibility questions](#) and email responses to [information@rosstrust.org.au](mailto:information@rosstrust.org.au). A staff member will respond within seven working days.

## Grants available

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The Trust is only accepting applications for one-year grants for a maximum of \$40,000 until 14 February 2019. After this time, a new granting strategy and new guidelines will be introduced.

All requests must be based on and include a fully costed budget.

## Assessment process

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To determine priority when assessing applications, the Ross Trust takes into consideration:

- Evidence of need and value for money
- Project reach/scope
- Expected outcomes
- Outcomes measurement
- Staff expertise and/or volunteers
- Strong governance and leadership
- Financial position
- Adherence to regulation requirements and reporting bodies (eg. the ACNC or Consumer Affairs Victoria)
- Ability to partner and collaborate
- Sustainability

Please ensure these points are addressed in applications.

## Program areas

### **PROGRAM AREA A: Improved outcomes for the most disadvantaged, vulnerable and marginalised Victorians**

Priority is given to applications supporting:

- Aboriginal Australians
- Asylum seekers, refugees, newly arrived migrants and culturally and linguistically diverse communities
- Greater access to mental health education
- Individuals/families experiencing family violence\*, abuse or neglect
- Offenders, ex-offenders, those at risk of offending and their families
- Disadvantage in small rural communities

Applications to improve outcomes for Aboriginal Australians are only accepted from:

- Aboriginal controlled or managed organisations (or in collaboration with); or
- Organisations with Aboriginal board members, staff or advisers.

\*Applications addressing family violence must be in-line with one or more of the recommendations from the Royal Commission into Family Violence (Victoria)

### **PROGRAM AREA B: Improved outcomes for children and young people at risk (0-18 years)**

Priority is given to applications supporting:

- Prevention and early intervention
- Vulnerable families with children in their early years
- Education, employment and training for young people in their middle years
- Mental health and well-being of young people at risk
- Young people (aged 10 to 18 years) at risk of homelessness to remain or re-engage with learning and education

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## PROGRAM AREA C: Improved access to public education, the arts and culture

Priority is given to applications contributing to:

- Promoting access, engagement and preservation of Victoria's history, art and culture
- Making information accessible to newly arrived, marginalised, disadvantaged and rural and remote communities

The Trust will consider applications from organisations including:

- Public institutions (museums, galleries, libraries and archives)
- Community organisations

## PROGRAM AREA D: Protection and preservation of Australian flora and fauna

The Ross Trust prioritises applications that demonstrate conservation value with appropriate evidence.

If the proposal is to support purchasing land; the proposal must demonstrate:

- High conservation value of the land
- How the land will be managed in the future to protect those values
- How the proposed action will contribute to a broader landscape scale approach.

**Please note:** It is unlikely that applications will be successful for the following:

- Environmental education
- Environmental advocacy
- Single species focus
- Sustainable agriculture
- Climate change
- Water management

### Privacy

The Ross Trust is committed to protecting the privacy and confidentiality of those we support. The Ross Trust ensures all information provided in and arising from grant applications will be kept confidential.

The Ross Trust may on occasion forward and/or discuss your application with external reviewers and/or other trusts and foundations. The Trustees use this information to inform their decision making. The Ross Trust may also use information included in successful grant applications for promotional purposes.