



# Major Grants Program Guidelines for Grantseekers

## About the Major Grants Program

The Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation was formed in 1923 by the Lord Mayor of Melbourne Sir John Swanson, to support Melbourne's hospitals and charities. The Foundation's vision is for "A caring and giving society enhanced by the initiatives of the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation".

The Foundation provides financial support to a large number of charities each year. The Foundation's priority areas are homelessness, youth and ageing. It also funds projects in the areas of environment, sport, arts and education.

## Grant-making Principles

The following grant-making principles have been developed as a guide to applicant organisations in addressing the Foundation's key criteria for granting:

**Increase life opportunities** – We will support programs which work to increase life opportunities and overcome barriers for participation.

**Promote social inclusion** – We will support projects, programs or organisations which actively promote social inclusion.

**Engage beyond grants** – We will leverage our grant-making, when appropriate, with other tools for change.

**Knowledge creation and dissemination** – We will promote and encourage knowledge creation and dissemination through our work, both as an organisation and as a partner.

**Transparency and Accountability** – We will work transparently and responsibly across all of our operations and will encourage our partners to do the same.

**Sustainability** – Sustainability of the activity following the conclusion of the grant will be taken into consideration for general and major grants.

**Balanced Giving** – We will work to achieve a balance in our granting between addressing immediate needs and investing in projects and organisations that support long term social change.

## Eligibility

To be eligible to apply for a Grant, an organisation must be endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient as covered by Item 1 of the table in section 30-15 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 and be endorsed as a Tax Concession Charity. With your application please provide:

1. A copy of the applicant organisation's endorsement as a Deductible Gift Recipient issued by the ATO;

### AND

2. A copy of the applicant organisation's 'Notice of endorsement for Charity Tax Concessions (TCC) issued by the ATO on or after 1 July, 2005.

## **Application Process**

Major Grants may be valued at up to **\$150,000 over one year or up to \$300,000** over two years. Expressions of Interest are invited by **Friday 17 February 2012** from eligible organisations that meet new or emerging needs in the following fields:

### **Homelessness**

- Early intervention
- Employment and training opportunities

### **Youth**

- Youth mental wellbeing
- Young people in out-of-home care
- Multicultural youth

### **Ageing**

- Ageing with a lifelong disability
- Cultural diversity in ageing

## **Application Form**

An Expression of Interest form is available on the Foundation's website.

- Expressions of Interest should be forwarded electronically to [grants@lmcf.org.au](mailto:grants@lmcf.org.au)
- Receipts of Expressions of Interest are acknowledged by email.
- Expressions of Interest will be shortlisted and those organisations will be invited to provide a detailed submission by mid March.
- Interviews will be held in April.
- All applicants will be advised, in writing, of the outcome of their submission by the end of June.
- Successful applicants will be contacted to arrange a follow-up visit to review the impact of their grant during the following year.

## **Criteria**

- Major Grants are provided for projects delivered in the Melbourne Metropolitan area, however applications for projects to be delivered in Regional Victoria will be considered.
- Major Grants may be provided for projects and programs which include salaries or operating costs.
- Organisations should submit only one project for consideration as part of the Major Grants Program. Application can be made for a General Grant or Direct Aid & Equipment Grant in the same year.
- Organisations who have previously received a Major Grant in the last three years are ineligible to apply.

Regrettably, not all Grant requests can be successful. If an eligible organisation does not receive a Grant in this funding round, it should not be dissuaded from applying again the following year.

## **Exclusions**

Major Grants are not provided for:

- Clinical or medical research;
- Capital or endowment funds;
- Conferences, events or fundraising;
- Retrospective funding;
- Recurrent expenditure where there is no plan in place for the long term sustainability of the project or program;
- Auspicing – the organisation applying must be the organisation undertaking the project or program.