Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the Regional Economic Development (RED) Grant Program?

The Regional Economic Development (RED) grant program invests in locally driven projects that contribute to economic growth and development in regional Western Australia.

2. What can RED grant funding be used for?

The RED grant program provides funding to support locally driven projects that will contribute to economic growth in regional communities. The guidelines released for each grant round outline what funds can be used towards.

3. How can I apply?

When the 2024 RED grant round opens, the RED grant guidelines and a link to begin your application (online via SmartyGrants) can be found on the Great Southern Development Commission (GSDC) website www.gsdc.wa.gov.au.

Further information on the RED grant program can be sought from Karen Petty (Regional Development Officer) at the GSDC on (08) 9842 4815 or by email at GDO@gsdc.wa.gov.au.

Please speak to the GSDC on project eligibility and advice on how to develop a strong RED grant application prior to completing the online application form.

4. What is the closing date?

Once announced, the 2024 RED grant round will be open for applications for approximately eight weeks.

5. How much funding can I apply for?

Applicants can request funding of up to $250,000 per project under the RED grant program.

6. What if am not registered for GST?

Applicants can still apply for grants if they are not registered for GST concessions. Unregistered grant applications must provide the GSDC with a budget for the amount of the grant inclusive of all project costs including GST.

If you are not registered for GST concessions and need further clarification, please contact the GSDC prior to submitting your application.

7. Does my organisation have to be regionally based to apply?

The RED grants are targeted at providing financial assistance to regionally based organisations.

Organisations outside the region may apply, but will need to demonstrate significant, sustainable regional benefits and a commitment to local decision-making, planning and delivery.

8. Can my organisation submit more than one application per RED grant round?

Yes, if your organisation has more than one project that strongly aligns with the RED grant objectives and GSDC regional priorities. Please speak to the GSDC prior to completing the online application form.

9. How are applications assessed and how soon after applying will I know if I am successful or not?

The Commission undertakes a rigorous assessment process of all applications. Applicants should allow up to six months for the RED grants approval process which should be considered by applicants in developing your project planning and commencement timeframes.

The assessment criteria and decision-making process used to assess and consider applications are provided in the RED grant guidelines. Assessors are required to declare any potential conflicts of interest they may have in relation to individual projects.

10. How many applications are funded per round?

There is no limit on the number of applications funded per round however, there are limited funds available in each region.

11. Can I submit an application for funding in more than one region?

Where funding is sought for projects across multiple regions, applicants will be required to submit separate applications to each Regional Development Commission (RDC) as they will be assessed independently by each RDC.

Applicants must seek advice on their project proposal from each relevant RDC within which funding is sought. Each region has differing regional priorities, assessment panels and grant funding available. The GSDC can facilitate an inter-agency meeting with other RDCs if required, to discuss cross regional projects.

12. If I am unsuccessful this round, can I still apply when the next round opens?

Upon notification of being unsuccessful, applicants can contact the GSDC to discuss the outcome of the assessment and how the application/project might be amended for consideration in any future rounds.

13. When is the next round?

Future rounds for the RED grant program have not yet been announced. Prospective applicants are encouraged to email the GSDC on GDO@gsdc.wa.gov.au to be added to the RED grant mailing list and notified when the next round opens.