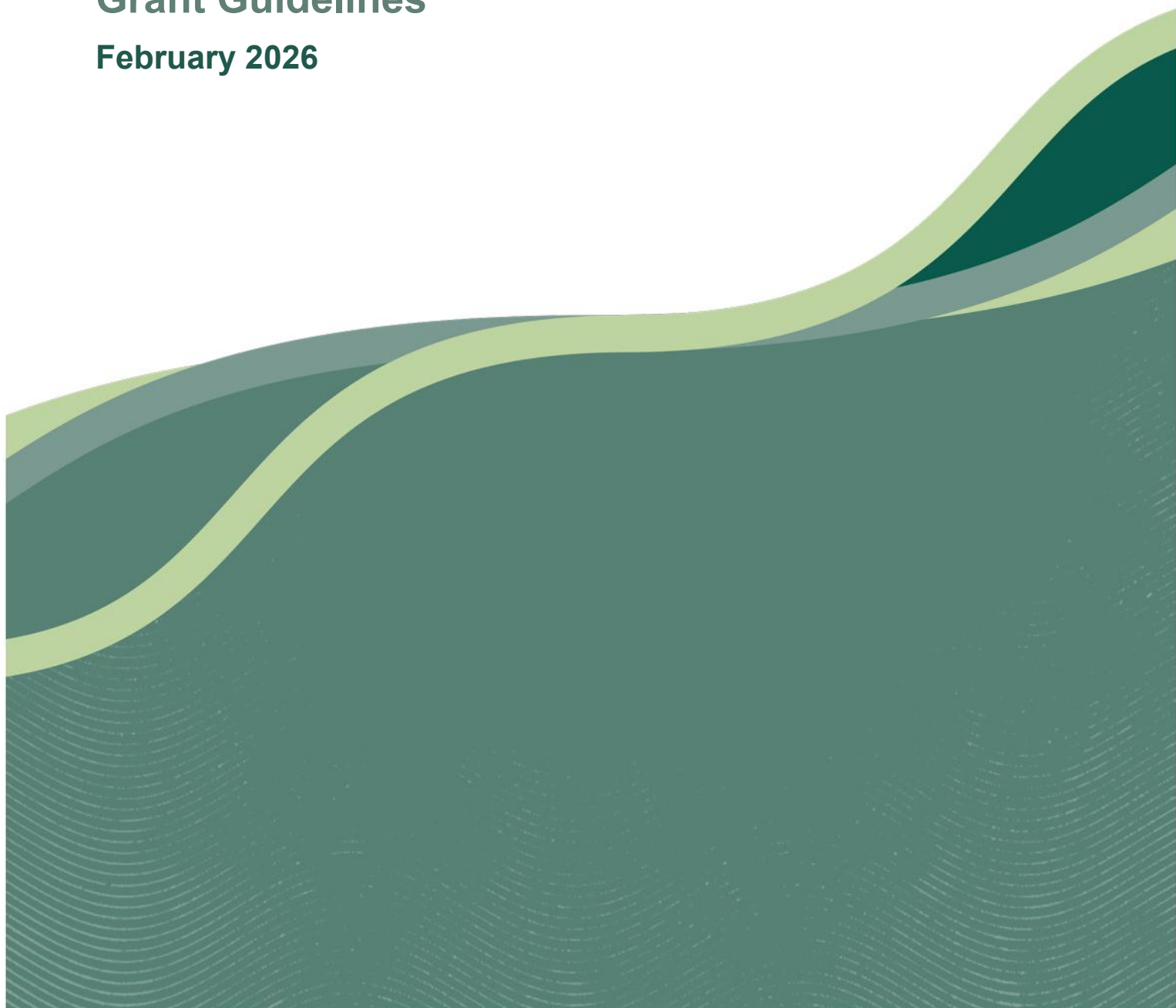




Noongar Regional Corporations Economic Foundations Grants (NRCEFG) - Round 2

Grant Guidelines

February 2026



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Noongar Regional Corporations Economic Foundations Grants (NRCEFG) Round 2

Overview

The Aboriginal Governance and Leadership Development Program (AGLDP) is a multi-dimensional initiative that provides opportunities for Aboriginal people in corporate governance, procurement and business leadership. The AGLDP increases Aboriginal economic participation across local, regional and the Western Australian state economies and aligns closely with the National Agreement on Closing the Gap, the WA state government Aboriginal Empowerment Strategy 2021-2029 and the Closing the Gap Implementation Plan 2023-2025. More information on the AGLDP can be found [here](#).

Building Better Aboriginal Business (BBAB), one of the AGDLP's key streams, offers competitive foundation grants to assist eligible Aboriginal businesses in regional and remote communities to grow and strengthen their operations and expand economic opportunities.

The Noongar Regional Corporations Economic Foundations Grants (NRCEFG) are designed to support the six Noongar Regional Corporations in developing robust economic and business strategies and empowering them to identify and capitalise on economic opportunities in their regions. Delivered by the DPIRD Aboriginal Economic Development Team, the grants aim to facilitate diversification and drive sustainable economic development.

Key Dates

	Date
Applications open	16 February 2026
Applications closed	30 June 2026
Earliest start date for activities	16 February 2026
Last day funding may be claimed	28 February 2027
Date activities must be completed	31 March 2027
Acquittals due on or before	31 July 2027

Who can apply for funding?

To be eligible to apply for NRCEFG funding applicants must:

- be one of the six Noongar Regional Corporations (NRCs) as identified by the South West Native Title Settlement Indigenous Land Use Agreements:
 - Ballardong Aboriginal Corporation
 - Gnaala Karla Booja Aboriginal Corporation
 - Karri Karrak Aboriginal Corporation
 - Wagyl Kaip Southern Noongar Aboriginal Corporation
 - Whadjuk Aboriginal Corporation
 - Yued Aboriginal Corporation
- be registered on Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC)
- have a current Australian Business Number (ABN)
- be registered for GST
- have an account with an Australian financial institution.

Funding

A maximum of \$30,000 is available to each NRC for eligible projects and activities.

All projects and activities must start after 16 February 2026 and be completed before 31 March 2027.

Funding must be claimed by 28 February 2027.

Activities that can be funded

NRCEFG can be used for building capacity and development of Aboriginal businesses with a focus on:

Economic development planning

- Identification of opportunities
- Identification of aspiration of PBC members for economic development

Business Development

- Pre-feasibility and feasibility studies
- Strategic and business planning
- Market research and analysis
- Economic modelling

Partnership Development

- Tender and grant writing training and support
- Legal advice on procurement, governance and contracting regarding emerging development and/or JV opportunities.
- Development of template contracts

Each activity is to be delivered by a professional service provider.

Activities that cannot be funded

Funding cannot be used for:

- Administration and start-up costs
- Staffing salaries and wages
- Capital expenditure (including equipment, tools and vehicles)
- Domestic travel that is not linked to industry forums or approved activities
- International travel
- Administration costs greater than 10% of the total grant allocation.

How to apply for funding

Applications for Round 2 of NRCEFG can be submitted through SmartyGrants at

<https://dpird.smartygrants.com.au/NRCEFG2>

Applications close 30 June 2026.

Details to have ready for your application

- **Organisation details**
 - Name, address and contact details
 - Australian Business Number (ABN)
 - Description of the proposed activities
 - The gap or opportunity that the activities are seeking to address.
- A **detailed written quotation (quote)** from your proposed professional service provider, including:
 - Business name, address, contact details and ABN of the supplier
 - Description of services or activities being delivered

Assessment criteria

All applications and quotes will be assessed against the following assessment criteria.

Criteria	Weighting (%)
The proposed activities meet an organisational, business and/or community need and the potential benefits on productivity and business growth are outlined.	50%
The professional service provider has the relevant experience and track record and the activities represent 'value for money.'	50%

Assessment and decision

Assessment is conducted by senior officers in the DPIRD Aboriginal Economic Development team. Assessors declare and manage any perceived or actual Conflict of Interest (Col) with NRCs as part of the assessment. The final decision on NRCEFG funding is made by the DPIRD Deputy Director General of Industry and Economic Development based on assessment recommendations. There is no appeal process for NRCEFG.

Notification of outcome

Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application within four weeks of submitting a complete application and providing all requested information.

Agreement

NRCs who are awarded an NRCEFG will discuss and develop the Grant Agreement with DPIRD, detailing milestones, how and when payment is to be made and reporting requirements.

Payment

NRCEFG payments are made by DPIRD electronically to a nominated Australian bank account according the terms of the Grant Agreement.

Tax information

Funding provided under NRCEFG is regarded as payment for a supply; therefore the grant amount will be paid with GST added. NRCs are liable for GST in connection with the grant and are encouraged to seek tax advice on the potential implications of obtaining funding.

For payment, recipients are to provide a tax invoice to DPIRD that:

- States the document is a 'Tax Invoice'
- Includes an invoice number, date, entity name, ABN and address
- Is addressed to:
 - Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development*
 - 1 Nash St, Perth WA 6000*
- Includes 'Noongar Regional Corporations Economic Foundations Grants' as the description
- Lists the approved grant amount and GST (10%) separately.

Reporting

Successful applicants are to complete a Final Report on the benefits of NRCEFG to the organisation, business, local jobs and/or community online through SmartyGrants, and as set out in the Grant Agreement.

Personal Information and disclosure of information

Applicants are informed that DPIRD is subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1992* (WA), which provides a general right of access to records held by the State Government agencies and local governments.

Aboriginal Heritage Compliance

Laws are in place in Western Australia to protect and manage Aboriginal heritage. This could include rock art, ancient caves or burial sites, waterways, ceremonial sites or scar trees etc.

Applicants are to ensure they comply with all legal obligations regarding the Aboriginal Heritage Act (WA) 1972.

Intellectual Property

Any intellectual property rights that may exist in an application will remain the property of the applicant or the rightful owner of those intellectual property rights.

Contact Information

For further information on Round 2 of NRCEFG please contact Andrew Moore 0428 773 970 or Andrew.Moore@dpird.wa.gov.au

Important Disclaimer

The Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development and the State of Western Australia accept no liability whatsoever by reason of negligence or otherwise arising from the use or release of this information or any part of it.

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