

## **BORDER TRUST COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAMS**

### **General Information for Grant Seekers**

#### **About Border Trust**

Border Trust is the Community Foundation for the Albury Wodonga Region. We connect the generosity of donors with local community groups and not-for-profit organisations, funding life-changing initiatives now, and into the future. Our cross-border region includes the Local Government areas of Federation, Albury and Greater Hume in NSW with Indigo, Wodonga and Towong in Victoria.

#### **Our Areas of Impact**

##### **Disaster Recovery, Resilience and Readiness**

Our region's ability to prepare for, withstand, and recover from natural disasters enhances the safety, health, and economic prosperity of Border communities.

##### **Climate Resilient Communities**

Communities are equipped to anticipate, prepare for, and manage the diverse impacts of a changing climate.

##### **Community Leadership**

The development of regional leaders enhances the community's ability to tackle local challenges and opportunities.

##### **Community Connection + Wellbeing**

A welcoming, connected and inclusive community provides the foundation for a vibrant region and positively impacts individual and community well-being.

##### **Community Equity**

By helping those who help others, access to necessities like food, shelter, education, work, and healthcare enables all to participate in and contribute to a thriving region.

#### **Key Dates**

Border Trust runs several grant rounds throughout the year, being:

- Community Grant Round: annually opens February and closes early April for projects commencing from June
- Hume Bank Safer Communities Fund: annually opens February and closes early April for projects commencing from June
- Give500: annually opens July and closes August for projects commencing from December.

Please refer to Appendix A for program specific guidelines.

Projects are funded for a one-year time frame unless otherwise agreed with Border Trust.

#### **To be eligible, your organisation must**

- Be a not-for-profit community-based organisation which functions for charitable purpose
- Operate for the benefit of communities within the Border Region, being the Local Government Areas of Albury, Federation, Greater Hume, Indigo, Towong and Wodonga
- Have a registered ABN or Incorporated Association Number
- Meet any other specific eligibility requirements as noted

Please Note:

- Organisations with, and without, Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR Item 1) status are invited to apply
- Registration with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission (ACNC) is strongly preferred.

#### **What we are most likely to fund**

- Activity which has ongoing benefit to the community
- Projects that align with Border Trust's desired outcomes
- Projects which encourage partnerships and collaborations
- Projects that clearly identify community support

#### **What we do not fund**

- Recreational or commercial sporting activities
- Projects for private benefit or individuals
- Activities or events that have already taken place

Please note: The encouragement or advancement of sport, recreation and social activities is not considered a charitable activity by the Australian Taxation Office. Therefore, applications from sporting organisations need to clearly demonstrate a benefit

#### **Successful grant recipients will be required to**

- Meet the terms and conditions under the Grant Agreement
- Acknowledge the support from Border Trust and relevant granting partner in all printed material and publicity regarding the funded project
- Provide progress reports and a satisfactory acquittal as outlined in the Grant Agreement

#### **Successful grant recipients will be requested to**

- Become a Border Trust Ambassador and be available for media and website purposes as requested
- Promote and support Border Trust where possible and stay connected with our activities
- Provide a paragraph about your organisation – what you do, who benefits from your work and how

#### **What we offer you**

All Community Organisations are offered the opportunity to participate in our free online workshop series running from June, annually. Please follow us on our socials and through our website for further information. *Please note it is not a requirement that applicants attend these workshops, however, you may find them beneficial.*

#### **WORKSHOP ONE - UNPACK YOUR PROJECT**

10<sup>th</sup> July 2025: 12.30pm – 1.30pm

#### **WORKSHOP TWO – GRANT PREPARATIONS + WRITING**

31<sup>ST</sup> July 2025: 12.30pm – 1.30pm

#### **WORKSHOP THREE – PREPARE TO PITCH**

21<sup>ST</sup> August 2025: 12.30pm – 1.30pm

#### **WORKSHOP FOUR – PRACTICE YOUR PITCH**

11<sup>th</sup> September 2025: 12.30pm – 1.30pm

**Please read Appendix A for specific Give500 Grant Program information**

**Please read Appendix B for application & assessment process**

## GIVE500 2025 COLLECTIVE GIVING PROGRAM GRANT

### Information for Grant Seekers

#### Appendix A

##### About Give500

Give500 is an initiative of Border Trust. It is a starting point for like-minded individuals and groups to pool their donations and support life changing community programs across the Border Region.

Local community members, families, groups and businesses are invited to become a Give500 donor by donating \$500 to the annual campaign. One \$500 donation = One vote at the annual Pitch Night. It's a connected and collective way of giving and is about so much more than the money!

##### The Give500 Grant

The amount of the Give500 grant is determined by the number of donors who contribute each year. 60% of all funds raised are allocated to support important community initiatives with the remaining 40% held in the Give500 Named Sub Fund to build a sustainable foundation, support additional charitable granting and build a perpetual fund for community benefit.

Applications to the 2025 Give500 grant program will be shortlisted to three outstanding projects by the Give500 Committee, with the successful recipient to be voted by donors at the Pitch Night held on 13 November 2025.

The three shortlisted organisations will be offered pitch training, work with Border Trust to prepare a Pitch video and present in-person at the Pitch Night.

All previous applicants and recipients are welcome to apply for the Give500 2025 grant.

**The Give500 2025 successful organisation will receive \$20,000 for their project with \$5,000 for each runner up as a contribution to their project or organisational capacity.**

##### Areas of Impact

Applications for the Give500 2025 grant are invited from eligible community organisations wishing to address the following impact areas:

##### Community Connection + Wellbeing

A welcoming, connected and inclusive community provides the foundation for a vibrant region and positively impacts individual and community well-being.

##### Community Equity

By helping those who help others, access to necessities like food, shelter, education, work, and healthcare enables all to participate in and contribute to a thriving region.

## Give500 Ambassadors

Give500 provides a unique opportunity for donors to have a first-hand introduction to community organisations who work tirelessly to improve the lives of locals. As the number of donors grows, so too does the grant allocation: this is why it is so important for our Give500 grant recipients to become program Ambassadors.

Giving it your all in your video presentation and at the Pitch Night will help donors to better understand and connect with the work you do.

Give500 is different to our other grant programs, so please read the guidelines before applying.

### Key Dates

- Grant round opens 9am 1<sup>st</sup> July 2025 and closes 12noon 12<sup>th</sup> August 2025
- Short listed projects will be advised by 20<sup>th</sup> September 2025
- Filming of video presentations developed by Border Trust with shortlisted organisations 6<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> October
- Optional free Grant Writing & Pitching Workshops commence July 2025
- Free Pitch Practice for Shortlist early November 2025
- Pitch & Vote Night Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2025

### If your organisation is selected to the shortlist

- You will be asked to confirm your capacity to participate in the video production
- Videos will be produced by Border Trust with your nominated representative/s in October
- We'll offer all shortlisted organisations one on one support to help you prepare your Pitch
- The video will be available for your organisation to use following the Pitch Night
- You will be asked to nominate a suitable representative to present in person at the Pitch Night
- Border Trust will showcase you, your organisation and your project through the Pitch Night and through our communication channels
- We'll provide introductions to potential donors on the night and through social media
- Your organisation will be asked to become a Give500 Ambassador
- You may be asked to participate in a media call on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November

Should you require any further information or would like to discuss your project or eligibility prior to applying, please contact Glenys on 0447 684 506 or [glenysa@bordertrust.org.au](mailto:glenysa@bordertrust.org.au)

# **BORDER TRUST COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM**

## **Give500 2025 Application Process**

### **Appendix B**

#### **Application Process**

- All applications are to be submitted electronically
- Online application form is available on the Border Trust website at:  
[Give500 Grant Program – Border Trust](#)  
All questions listed on the Application must be completed
- We recommend preparing your answers in a word document, ready to copy and paste into the online application platform (*all questions are listed in Online Application Content below*)
- The online application platform enables you to save your content as you move through the document. *Note: notifications to your email address from the online platform may automatically go to your junk mail folder. If you have difficulty saving or submitting your online application, check your junk mail folder for instructions from the platform*
- The declaration must be acknowledged by the head of the Organisation, being Chief Executive Officer, or equivalent representative.

#### **How your application will be considered**

- Receipt of your application will be acknowledged via email within 7 days of closing date
- The 2025 Give500 Grant Advisory Committee will be made up of members of Border Trust and campaign donors
- You may be contacted to provide further information prior to the Grant Advisory meeting
- Please note that it is not considered appropriate to lobby members of Border Trust or the Grant Committee personally in relation to your application.

Border Trust's 2025 Give500 Grant Program will unfortunately not be able to fund every application it receives. It is important to state that an unsuccessful application does not reflect the value of the project, and that many very worthwhile projects may not receive funding. Border Trust will be pleased to discuss other options that may be available to you in this regard.

#### **Online Application Content**

*To assist you in submitting your online application, the following is a summary of the questions you will be required to complete. We recommend preparing the content in a word document ready to cut and paste into the online application platform.*

#### **SECTION ONE – ORGANISATION DETAILS**

Name of Organisation

Main Activity of Organisation

Organisation contact details, Email, Address, Mail Address, Website, Facebook, Instagram & LinkedIn (if applicable)

Head of Organisation (CEO or equivalent) Name / Title / Mobile / Email

Project Manager (if different to Head of Organisation) Name / Position / Mobile / Email

ABN certificate

Most recent Annual Financial Statement

Organisation & Beneficiary LGA Location/s

Details of any other funding received or expected for the project

## SECTION TWO – PROJECT DETAILS

Project Name

Funding Amount Requested \$18,000

Project time frame (start date and finish date)

Which Area of Impact does your application address

1. Disaster Recovery, Resilience and Readiness
2. Climate Resilient Communities
3. Community Leadership
4. Community Connection & Wellbeing
5. Community Equity

Outcomes you are seeking to achieve (a drop-down list will be provided, according to the Area of Impact selected)

What is the Issue you want to address (300 words max)

How do you know that the issue is important in your community (300 words max)

Who, within the beneficiary community have you consulted with to ensure this application responds to a community priority or meets a local need. How have you consulted? Letters of Support may be attached if you wish

What do you propose to do to address this issue (300 words max)

Specific activities that will take place, when and where they will take place

What do you want to achieve and who will benefit from your project (300 words max)

Project budget

A budget and relevant quotes to support the amount requested

If your application is selected as one of three shortlisted projects, you will be asked to 'Pitch your Project' at the Give500 Pitch Night, Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2025. Prior to the Pitch event, we will work with you to produce a short video about your organisation and project:

Will your organisation be available to attend and present at Pitch Night on 13.11.2025 Y/N

Will your organisation be available to participate in a video production during 6-17 October 2025 Y/N

Will a representative be available for media coverage, post the Pitch Night event – Friday 14.11.2025 Y/N

Declaration

Signed for and behalf of organisation head (CEO or equivalent)

### More Information & to discuss your project:

**Glenys Atkins**

Community Engagement + Impact

Border Trust, Community Foundation for Albury Wodonga Region

[glenysa@bordertrust.org.au](mailto:glenysa@bordertrust.org.au) or 0447 684 506

[www.bordertrust.org.au](http://www.bordertrust.org.au)

Border Trust

June 2025

