

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's Community Grant Round is 'always open' with online EoI's reviewed following 2 annual closing dates, being 30th August and 28th February.
- Give500 Collective Giving Grant Round: opens annually 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 and booking links. *Please note it is not a requirement that applicants attend these workshops, however, you may find them beneficial.*

WORKSHOP ONE – GRANT PREPARATIONS + WRITING

30th July 2026: 12.30pm – 1.30pm

WORKSHOP TWO – PREPARE TO PITCH

27th August 2026: 12.30pm – 1.30pm

WORKSHOP THREE – PRACTICE YOUR PITCH

17th September 2026: 12.30pm – 1.30pm

Please read Appendix A for specific Give500 Grant Program information
Please read Appendix B for application & assessment process



Border Trust's Give500 Collective Giving Program is proudly supported by Albury Business Connect

GIVE500 2026 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 Give500 2026 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 19th November 2026.

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 2026 grant.

The Give500 2026 grant pool will be announced shortly and will be split across the winner with a contribution to the two runners-up for their project or organisational capacity.

Areas of Impact

Applications for the Give500 2026 grant are invited from eligible community organisations wishing to address the following impact areas:

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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 1st July 2026 and closes 12noon 11th August 2026
- Short listed projects will be advised by 15th September 2026
- Filming of video presentations developed by Border Trust with shortlisted organisations 28th September – 9th October 2026
- Optional free Grant Writing & Pitching Workshops commence July 2026
- Free Pitch Practice for Shortlist early November 2026
- Pitch & Vote Night Thursday 19th November 2026

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 late September/early 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 20th November 2026

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

BORDER TRUST COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM

Give500 2026 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 Give500 2026 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 Give500 2026 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 **\$TBC**

Project time frame (start date and finish date)

Which Area of Impact does your application address

1. Community Connection & Wellbeing
2. Community Equity

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

What is the issue you want to address and how do you know the issue is important in the community

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)

Please note: if successful, we will ask you to tell us about the achievements and benefits of your project and specific information relating to the following:

How many people directly benefited

Age

Gender

Cultural diversity if relevant

Number of hours volunteered on this project, if relevant

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 19th November 2026. *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 12.11.2026 Y/N

Will your organisation be available to participate in a video production between 28.9.2026 – 9.10.2026?

Will a representative be available for media coverage, post the Pitch Night event – Friday 20.11.2026 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 or 0447 684 506

www.bordertrust.org.au

Border Trust

June 2026