



**The
Resilience
Canopy**

A Connected, Strengthened, Ready Australia

Activation Grants Program

Guide for Practitioners

Activation Grants of \$25,000 are available to help those most in need, ensuring no one is left behind when challenges arise.

Our mission is to support socially disadvantaged people and their communities already facing hardship, helping them build resilience for the future.

Funding can kickstart projects based on your community's priorities, determined through the Six-Step Future Ready Communities Model.

This guide outlines the application process, eligibility and benefits for your community.

Key Features



Rolling Intake:

Apply any time, with ongoing support. Funds are fully allocated, whichever comes first.



Community-Driven Initiatives:

No pre-defined resilience building initiatives needed at the time of application – focus on applying the Six-Step Model which will unearth the priorities.



Flexible Terms:

Grant monies can be expended over two years (approx), allowing communities to work at their own pace.

What We Fund

Yes	No
✓ Training and Education: Skills development to build community capacity.	✗ Pre-planned projects without evidence of community input.
✓ Social & Public Welfare: Initiatives addressing societal challenges such as mental health, housing stability, employment, youth engagement, and crime prevention.	✗ Political campaigns or advocacy.
✓ Disaster Preparedness and Response: Initiatives to improve community readiness.	✗ Recreational or social activities that don't benefit the wider community (or socially vulnerable persons).
<i>Initiatives may include physical improvements and equipment, services or programs that connect and prepare communities.</i>	✗ Direct financial aid to affluent individuals or communities.
	✗ Routine costs like ongoing salaries or operational expenses.

Funding Structure

Grants offer up to \$25,000 in two stages: • Stage 1: Up to \$5,000 to support early engagement activities (Steps 1-3).

- Stage 2: The remaining funds can be used to implement resilience-building initiatives identified during the process. (Steps 4 & 5).

Funds are released over the two stages as needed, aligned to milestone achievements and implementation readiness.

Who can apply

A Resilience Canopy Practitioner must submit the application on behalf of their community. However, the Practitioner will not be the legal entity responsible for managing the funds.

Eligibility Criteria

You are eligible to apply if:

- You represent a place-based or interest-driven community that is “ready to engage”.
- This community faces high levels of disadvantage, such as social or economic vulnerability (e.g. poverty, unemployment, mental health concerns) and exposure to significant perils.
- This community is committed to becoming a registered Canopy Community on Canopy House, applying the Six-Step Model to establish a shared vision and resilience-building priorities.
- A legal entity or auspicing arrangement is in place to enter into a funding agreement and manage grant funds, or a sub-committee can be established under the Canopy during the early engagement phase as a pathway to formalisation.

How we assess applications

Applications are assessed on a balance of the following criteria:



Community readiness,
intent + capacity



Need for the community with consideration
for who might benefit, hazards and social
disadvantage



How the process works

1

Complete training

Find a community to support. Complete the Resilience Canopy Practitioner Training. Chat with our team to confirm eligibility for grant.

2

Hold early discussions

Contact key community leaders or groups and secure their support to move forward. Start gathering core group (4+). Create Canopy Community profile on Canopy House.

3

Submit application

Complete the Grant Application Form.
Receive auto acknowledgement emails.

Assessment

4

Learn outcome of application

Outcomes will be advised within 8 weeks approx.
If you're not successful, the Canopy team will talk to you about elevating your chances of success when you are ready to reapply.

5

Formalise arrangement and access funding

Formal Groups: An Agreement is developed for signing by the chosen entity. First stage of funding released.*
Informal Groups: Establish a fixed term sub-committee operating under the Canopy structure. Expenses paid directly to suppliers by the Canopy.*

*Governance and reporting conditions apply.

Good to know

- Projects should not be fully defined at the time of application.
- Applications are reviewed by a panel, with final approval by the Canopy Board.
- Regular progress checks and additional information are required, including a progress report after Steps 1-3, expenditure plan for funds, and a final acquittal report.
- The grant term is two years - extensions negotiable.

Preparing to submit an application

Rolling Intake available until 2027 or all funds are allocated, whichever comes first.

Applications now open!

Important: The application form must be completed in one session, as it cannot be saved and resumed later. Please ensure you have all the required information ready before starting.

Estimated Time:

- Preparation -1hr
- Completion of Form - 15 minutes.

Pre-Application Checklist

What you'll need for the Application form:

- ☑ Community Overview (additional details not already covered in Canopy Community profile)
- ☑ Details about the Core Group (4+ people)
- ☑ Details about the community's intent, capacity and where it's at
- ☑ Details about who might benefit from the grant

Ensure you have spoken with our team before applying to confirm you have everything you need!

- ☑ Details about what support you might need from us
- ☑ Proposed Grantee Arrangement: Intention to enter into a formal agreement or establish an interim sub-committee operating under the Canopy.

Further guidance on these requirements can be found in the application form.

How to Apply

Applications must be submitted online via the form. Supporting documents can be uploaded with the application or emailed to info@resiliencecanopy.com.au

Step 1

Create a Canopy Community Profile

[Click here to go direct to Canopy House](#)

Step 2

Apply for a Grant



[Or click here to go direct to the form](#)

- Tip: Canopy House is desktop compatible only (no mobile app).
- New to Canopy House? Start by creating your unique Member Profile.

Further Information

For more details on The Resilience Canopy, visit our website:
resiliencecanopy.com.au

If you need assistance with your application, contact us at:

info@resiliencecanopy.com.au