

# Dads on Track

## National Grant Round

### Contents

<b>Overview</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>What to expect</b>	<b>1</b>
Grant amount	1
Individual organisations or collaborations can apply	1
<b>Grant criteria</b>	<b>2</b>
Organisation eligibility – if applying as an individual organisation	2
Organisation eligibility – if applying as a collaboration	2
Program eligibility	3
Priorities	3
Exclusions	4
Use of funds	5
<b>Application process</b>	<b>6</b>
Indicative timeline	6
<b>Preparing for the application</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Reporting</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Learning and evaluation</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Questions and more information</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>How to apply</b>	<b>8</b>

## Overview

Paul Ramsay Foundation (PRF) works to create a future where people and places have what they need to thrive. With organisations and communities, we invest in, build, and influence the conditions needed to stop disadvantage in Australia.

In our collective work to reduce the intergenerational impacts of domestic and family violence (DFV), we invest in organisations working to help families thrive. We know that for families experiencing DFV to heal and recover, the service system needs to provide effective interventions for all family members, including those who use violence.

The Dads on Track National Grant Round (Grant Round) will support eligible organisations and/or collaborations already working with fathers who are either using or at risk of using DFV, to improve the safety of victim survivors ([see 'Grant Criteria' on page 2](#)).

Successful grant recipients will receive up to \$350,000 per annum in funding over five (5) years, up to a total of \$1.75 million.

We encourage you to read these Grant Guidelines and the Frequently Asked Questions on our website in full before applying.

## What to expect

### Grant amount

From 2 February 2026 to 2 March 2026, applications are open for grants of up to \$350,000 per annum over a period of five years.

If successful in your application, you will receive the funds in approximately August – September 2026. This grant is limited to a term of five years, with no expectation of renewal.

Please note that at least \$50,000 from the total grant should be budgeted for the time needed to take part in Grant Round learning, evaluation and reporting requirements (see below for more detail).

### Individual organisations or collaborations can apply

The Grant Round is open to:

- individual ACNC registered organisations; and
- collaborations of 2 or more ACNC registered organisations.

If you are applying as a collaboration, please nominate an Applicant Organisation in your collaboration to complete the Expression of Interest (EOI) and receive/administer the funds on behalf of the collaboration (see below for more detail).

Previous and current recipients of PRF funding are welcome to apply.

## Grant criteria

You must meet both organisation and program requirements to be eligible for funding.

### Organisation eligibility – if applying as an individual organisation

Your organisation must meet ALL the below requirements to be eligible to apply for funding:

- ✓ Be an entity based in **Australia**.
- ✓ Be an entity **registered with ACNC**.
- ✓ Currently provide **specialist domestic and family violence** services to men.
- ✓ Currently work with **fathers using, or at risk of using**, domestic and family violence.
- ✓ If your program mainly benefits **First Nations clients**, be a First Nations-led organisation.
- ✓ If your program mainly benefits **CALD clients**, be a CALD-led organisation OR demonstrate CALD capability and leadership.

### Organisation eligibility – if applying as a collaboration

Your collaboration must meet ALL the below requirements to be eligible to apply for funding:

- ✓ Be an **existing collaboration** that has worked together for **six months or more**. Proof of working together on a project, event, or issue is required.
- ✓ Include **two or more organisations**.
- ✓ All organisations in your collaboration must be entities based in **Australia**.
- ✓ All organisations in your collaboration must be entities **registered with ACNC**.
- ✓ At least 1 organisation in your collaboration must currently provide **specialist domestic and family violence** services to men.
- ✓ At least 1 organisation in your collaboration must currently work with **fathers using or at risk of using** domestic and family violence.
- ✓ If your program mainly benefits **First Nations clients**, include one or more First Nations-led organisations.\*
- ✓ If your program mainly benefits **CALD clients**, include one or more CALD-led organisations.\*

\*Please note that if your program mainly benefits First Nations or CALD clients and the Applicant Organisation in your collaboration is not First Nations-led or CALD-led (as relevant), we may require additional supporting paperwork.

## Program eligibility

Your program must meet **ALL** of the below requirements to be eligible to apply for funding:

- ✓ Focus on **fathers\*/male caregivers who:**
  - are using, or are at risk of using, domestic and family violence; and
  - have children or dependents aged 21 or under.
- ✓ Be an **existing program** (requests for refinements of, adaptations to and augmentation of existing programs are encouraged, but new program development is out of scope for this Grant Round).
- ✓ Include **individualised support** for program participants.
- ✓ Demonstrate a clear and **robust approach to victim-survivor safety**, including appropriate risk assessment, safety planning, and coordination with specialist victim-survivor services.

\*While programs for fathers and other male caregivers—including biological and non-biological fathers, grandfathers, and fathers according to kin—are the primary focus of this Grant Round, programs that also include some work with other non-male caregivers, including women and gender diverse people, may be considered where this supports child safety and wellbeing.

## Priorities

Requests that meet **one or more** of the priorities will be assessed favourably. Your request is **not** expected to meet all of the below priorities.

- ✓ **Programs that include one or more of the following individualised approaches:**
  - Case management
  - Parenting supports
  - Support to address violence co-morbidities or at-risk behaviours (e.g. alcohol and other drug use, gambling, trauma)
  - Therapeutic 1:1 counselling
  - Victim-survivor safety support
  - Whole of family support
- ✓ **Programs that mainly benefit the following priority cohorts:**
  - CALD communities
  - First Nations communities
- ✓ **Programs that work with fathers in one or more of the following circumstances:**
  - Fathers leaving prison
  - Fathers with addiction and/or at-risk behaviours (e.g. gambling, alcohol and other drug use)
  - Fathers who are long-term unemployed
  - Veteran fathers or fathers who are currently serving in the Australian Defence Forces
  - Young fathers (under 25)
- ✓ Program approaches that have been **informed by evaluations, expert guidance or research**.

### Exclusions

The following are out of scope for this Grant Round:

- ✖ Adolescent Users of Violence
- ✖ Digital responses (e.g. apps)
- ✖ Men's Behaviour Change Programs of less than 20 weeks duration
- ✖ Online and/or social media campaigns on behaviour change/or bystander development
- ✖ Primary prevention initiatives/population-level initiatives that are not specifically directed to fathers or male caregivers that are actually using or at risk of using violence (e.g. community awareness campaigns, gender equality campaigns, relationships education in schools etc)
- ✖ Programs that solely involve group work
- ✖ Programs that mainly work with Serial High-Risk Offenders, including, for example, offenders with post-sentence orders in place

## Use of funds

### Examples of activities funding **CAN** be used for:

- Augmentation of existing program (e.g. adding individualised program elements or specific fathering supports to an existing behaviour change program)
- Brokerage to strengthen outcomes (e.g. rent, transport)
- Capability supports
- Data infrastructure
- Development of tools/resources
- Facilitation of collaboration or partnerships to strengthen outcomes
- Inclusion of lived experience
- Linker roles which manage and connect different parts of the system
- Measurement and evaluation activities
- Program adaptation (e.g. tailoring existing program to a particular priority cohort)
- Program refinement (e.g. development of tools and frameworks, implementation of new program elements or recommendations from evaluations)
- Supports that address violence co-morbidities and/ or at-risk behaviours (e.g. alcohol and other drug use, gambling)
- Telling stories to strengthen outcomes
- Victim survivor safety supports (e.g. family safety worker roles)

### Examples of activities funding **CANNOT** be used for:

- Capital expenditure (e.g. buildings, cars)
- Core service delivery, covered under other funding agreements
- New pilot programs (however, adaptation, augmentation or refinement of existing pilot programs can be considered)
- New program development
- Non-charitable activities or political lobbying
- Operational expenses, covered under other funding agreements
- Private benefit
- Programs that support or oppose political parties or candidates
- Research
- Retrospective activities

## Application process

This Grant Round has a 2-step application process:

1. Stage 1: Interested Applicant Organisations can submit an **EOI** up until 11:59pm (AEDT) on **2 March 2026**.
2. Stage 2: PRF will assess the EOIs and selected applicants will be invited to interview (see 'Grant Criteria' on page 2 and FAQs for further details about assessment criteria). If selected, some additional paperwork will be required prior to the interview.

### Indicative timeline

<b>Stage 1:</b> <b>Expressions of Interest (EOIs)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>2 February 2026:</b> EOIs open.</li><li>• <b>16 February 2026:</b> Online information session (will be recorded) - <a href="#">Register here</a>.</li><li>• <b>2 March 2026:</b> EOIs close at 11:59pm (AEDT).</li><li>• <b>Early April 2026:</b> Applicants informed of EOI Stage 1 outcome; shortlisted applicants asked to provide additional information for Stage 2 interview.</li></ul>
<b>Stage 2:</b> <b>Panel interview by invitation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>24 April 2026:</b> Deadline for shortlisted applicants to submit additional information form prior to interview.</li><li>• <b>28 April – 8 May 2026:</b> Interviews conducted (online).</li></ul>
<b>Finalising and announcement of grant recipients</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>June 2026:</b> Shortlisted applicants notified of outcome.</li><li>• <b>July – August 2026:</b> PRF will prepare the grant agreements and other paperwork for successful grant recipients. Funds disbursed once grant agreement is signed (together with MOU if applying as a collaboration).</li><li>• <b>September - October 2026:</b> Announcement of successful grant recipients.</li></ul>

**Note:** All the above dates are an indication only and may change, subject to the number of applications PRF receives.

## Preparing for the application

### Stage 1

The EOI is designed to take less than five hours. As a guideline, and to encourage you to minimise the time spent on the application, we spend approximately 30 minutes reviewing each application.

You can preview the EOI questions on our [website](#).

### Stage 2

If selected for Stage 2, we estimate that it will take an additional hour to complete the Stage 2 Additional Information Form that is to be submitted prior to interview. Among other things, the Stage 2 Form will request:

- Information about key organisational policies, including:
  - Child Safety policy;
  - Modern Slavery policy (where applicable);
- Details on whether the organisation or collaboration works with anyone under 18 years old;
- Confirmation of the intended grant purpose and outcomes for the request; and
- Contact details of at least 2 references.

We estimate that it will take a further hour to prepare for, and one hour to attend, the interview. The interview will provide us an opportunity to get to know each other better, as well as for you to raise any questions or concerns.

Interview questions will be provided ahead of time. Questions will be tailored to your application and we may ask for additional information. For example, we may inquire about activities, governance, inclusion, theory of change/measures of success, budget, or request references.

If you are applying as a collaboration, we would like to meet with representatives from as many organisations in your collaboration as possible during the interview.

If you are applying as a collaboration and your application is successful, please also note that the collaboration must put in place a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between members of the collaboration before receiving funding (template will be provided by PRF, please see the FAQs for more information).

## Reporting

We will work with you to create a reporting plan. Typically, this will include:

- annual written progress reports and progress meetings throughout the grant period; and
- a final report and financial acquittal due at the end of the grant period.

## Learning and evaluation

Learning and evaluation will be an important component of this Grant Round. As noted above, at least \$50,000 from the total grant should be budgeted for the time needed to take part in learning, evaluation and reporting requirements.

PRF's specific approach to learning and evaluation for this Grant Round will be developed once the grant recipients are selected, so that it is appropriately informed by the mix of organisations funded.

## Questions and more information

- **Information Session:** Our information session is at 14:00 to 15:00 (AEDT) on 16 February 2026. This session will be recorded and available on the PRF website - [Register here](#).
- **FAQs:** We recommend you read in detail the FAQs on our [website](#).
- **Further questions:** Please email us at [families@paulramsayfoundation.org.au](mailto:families@paulramsayfoundation.org.au). A PRF team member will be in touch within 2 business days.

## How to apply

[Apply online >](#)

**Deadline:** 11:59pm AEDT on 2 March 2026.