

FYI - Grants

February 2012



A key priority for Regional Development Australia Murray is to inform communities, businesses & industries within the Murray region of the latest Government, Business and Philanthropic programs available.



1. Community Energy Efficiency Program

The Community Energy Efficiency Program is a merit-based grant program established by the Commonwealth Government to provide matched funding to local councils and non-profit community organisations to undertake energy efficiency upgrades and retrofits to council and community-use buildings, facilities and lighting.

The objectives of the Community Energy Efficiency Program are to:

- support a range of local councils and community organisations to improve the energy efficiency of different types of non residential council and community use buildings, facilities and lighting
- demonstrate and encourage the adoption of improved energy management practices within councils, organisations and the broader community

Those interested in the program should contact the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency on 1800 830 922 to register for stakeholder email updates.

To find out more about the program go to <http://www.climatechange.gov.au/en/government/initiatives/ceep.aspx>. Applications close **23 March 2012**.

2. Low Income Energy Efficiency Program

The Low Income Energy Efficiency Program is a merit-based grant program established by the Commonwealth Government to provide grants to consortia of government, business and community organisations to trial approaches to improve the energy efficiency of low income households and enable them to better manage their energy use.

The objectives of the Low Income Energy Efficiency Program are to:

- trial and evaluate a number of different approaches in various locations that assist low income households to be more energy efficient
- capture and analyse data and information to inform future energy efficiency policy and program approaches.

Those interested in the program should contact the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency on 1800 609 507 to register for stakeholder email updates. This program is being run by way of Expressions of Interest (EOI).

Before preparing your EOI, please familiarise yourself with the Program Guidelines and ensure that your organisation, consortium and project are eligible.

The EOI must be submitted by the lead organisation on behalf of the consortium. If the EOI is successful, the lead organisation, on behalf of the consortium, will be invited to complete and submit an application for funding.

Expressions of Interest close **16 March 2012**. To find out more about this program and to access the program guidelines go <http://www.climatechange.gov.au/government/initiatives/lieep.aspx>.

3. Energy Efficiency Information Grants Program

Clear information from trusted sources will be vital in helping small and medium enterprises and community organisations improve their energy efficiency. The Australian Government has established a \$40 million program providing grants over four years to industry associations and non-profit organisations that work with small and medium enterprises and community organisations.

The Energy Efficiency Information Grants Program is a merit-based grants program established by the Commonwealth Government to assist industry associations and non profits provide practical, tailored energy efficiency information to small and medium enterprises and community organisations.

To keep up to date with news on the Energy Efficiency Information Grants Program, please email the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency at infogrants@climatechange.gov.au or phone the department on **1800 779 638** and ask to be added to the Energy Efficiency Information Grants Stakeholders List. The department will email registered stakeholders with updated program information as it becomes available.

4. General Grants Program (NSW only)

This Law and Justice Foundation of NSW program aims to improve access to justice, particularly for economically and socially disadvantaged people, by supporting selected projects to improve access and decrease barriers to justice, or through research, to identify needs or ways to improve access to justice.

General grants are financial grants over \$5,000 and are allocated by the Foundation's Board of Governors. The Foundation encourages proponents to discuss their project proposal with the Grants and Legal Information Manager at the early stages of planning, before preparing an application. As well as providing information about the grants program and discussing a proponent's proposal with them, the Foundation may be able to assist with identifying other organizations, resources and research in the area. **Proponents must discuss their project proposal with the Grants and Legal Information Manager at least 6 weeks before the close date of the program.**

Preference will be given to applications initiated at the community level or with substantial community input.

Individuals and organizations that do not have an ABN **can not** apply. The Foundation accepts applications from organizations with an ABN **but not** from individuals.

For more information go to <http://www.lawfoundation.net.au/grants/apply>. Applications close 31 March 2012.

5. Small Grants for Small Rural Communities

This Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR) program provides grants to benefit people in rural and remote communities.

The program will offer up to \$400,000 per round in grants up to \$5,000 for projects and activities that offer clear public benefit for communities, with populations of 10,000 or less, living in small rural and remote locations in Australia, contributing to their development in social and community welfare, economic, environmental, health, education or cultural areas.

Currently, preference will be given to projects that support:

- Activities that support education and youth
- Culture, arts, tourism and community heritage
- Communities from areas that are natural disaster declared
- Community infrastructure such as historic community halls
- Communities in the Benalla area (Victoria), Taree area (NSW) and Berrembed, Matong and Grong Grong area (NSW).

What cannot be funded?

- Operational and administration costs, travel and accommodation will not be funded
- Previous grant recipients who have not completed final report requirements will not be considered for further funding
- The encouragement or advancement of sport, recreation and social activities is not considered a charitable activity by the Australian Taxation Office. Applications from sporting organisations need to clearly demonstrate a benefit to the wider community.

Who can apply: What can be funded?

- Not-for-profit Organisations can apply for projects and activities that offer clear public benefit for communities living in small rural and remote locations in Australia, contributing to their development in social and community welfare, economic, environmental, health, education or cultural areas.
- Applications from communities with a population of 10,000 or less will receive priority.
- Grants will be made in amounts up to \$5,000.
- To be eligible, projects must be for a charitable purpose (benefit the whole community). The majority of funds are unrestricted but, as this is a collaborative program, some grants may be restricted to Tax Concession Charity (TCC) organisations or must be granted within specific geographic locations.
- Organisations should have an ABN or Incorporation Certificate.
- Organisations demonstrating community partnerships will be preferred to multiple applications from one community.

For more information, go to http://www.frrr.org.au/cb_pages/small_grants_for_small_communities.php. Applications close **30 March 2012**.

www.facebook.com/rdamurray

Become friends with RDA Murray on Facebook and keep up to date with the latest grants information that comes to hand, along with information of interest.

Latest Scam

As RDA Murray has highlighted three funding programs through the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency, it is pertinent to let readers know of a fake website pretending to be the official Australian Government Department of Climate Change.

The official government site has the following web address: www.climatechange.gov.au. The copied site appears identical to the Department's site, but has a different web address: www.fsasshoes.co.cc.

To protect yourself:

- Most Australian government websites use the '.gov.au' extension – never .org, .net or .com
- If you know what the correct internet address should be, check the address of the site you are viewing matches and ensure it hasn't changed from what you entered or expected.
- Government services are never paid via wire transfer.
- The Australian Government website www.australia.gov.au is a safe portal for finding government services.
- Be wary of misused trust marks, logos, seals of approval – they may just be copies and not the real thing.
- Never enter your personal, credit card or banking details on a website unless you have checked it is authentic—scammers can use your details to commit identity fraud or steal your money.
- Keep your computer programs updated - many programs give you the option to receive updates automatically. Install and regularly update antivirus, antispyware and firewall software.
- If you think you have provided your account details to a scammer, contact your bank or financial institution immediately

You can report scams to the ACCC via the report a scam page on SCAMwatch or by calling 1300 795 995.