

# FYI - Grants

November 2010



A key priority for Regional Development Australia Murray is to inform communities within the Murray region of the latest Government, Business and Philanthropic programs that may be of assistance.

## 1. Indigenous arts, culture, language, broadcasting & heritage 2011/12

1. The **National Arts & Crafts Industry Support program** provides direct funding support to Indigenous art centres and industry support and advocacy organisations. The program's overall objectives are to assist art centres to become stronger and to build a more sustainable Indigenous visual arts industry. To achieve these objectives, the program funding assists organisations to:
  - Strengthen governance & business management practices in the industry
  - Provide opportunities for artists to maintain, develop and extend their professional art practice
  - Provide opportunities for arts workers to develop professional skills and experience
2. Indigenous culture is a dynamic part of Australian culture and identify. The **Indigenous Culture Support program** supports the maintenance and continued development of Indigenous culture at the community level. The program funds activities that encourage culturally vibrant Indigenous communities and contribute to the cultural wellbeing of Indigenous individuals and communities, such as maintain Indigenous culture through community involvement; support new forms of Indigenous cultural expression; increase public awareness of Indigenous culture, including through the presentation and exchange of culture; and support the sustainable development of community organisations involved in cultural activities.
3. The maintenance of **Indigenous Languages & Records program** addresses the steady erosion and loss of Australia's estimated 250 original Indigenous languages by providing support for the maintenance and revival of these languages. The program supports a broad range of projects, including documentation and recording of Indigenous languages and the development of language databases to assist with the development and deliver of programs through language centres. It also supports greater coordination between language organisations, activities that promote Indigenous languages in the wider community and innovative projects using multimedia and new technologies.
4. The **Indigenous Broadcasting program** supports Indigenous community radio broadcasting and provides funding support to address the broadcasting needs of Indigenous people living in remote, regional and urban areas of Australia.
5. The **Indigenous Heritage Program** is an Australian Government initiative that supports the identification, conservation and promotion (where appropriate) of Indigenous heritage. Individual project funding for organisations will in general be available up to a maximum of \$100,000 (GST exclusive). Individual applicants will generally be eligible for funding up to \$5,000. The program may also help identify places likely to have outstanding Indigenous heritage value to Australia suitable for inclusion on the National Heritage list.

**For further information** on the first four grants, please access the following website [www.arts.gov.au/indigenous](http://www.arts.gov.au/indigenous). For information on the Indigenous Heritage Program, please access [www.environment.gov.au/heritage/programs](http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/programs). Please note that all applications for funding must be submitted by **5pm 21 January 2011**.

## 2. Rural Australia Medical Undergraduate Scholarship (RAMUS)

Applications are now open for the Rural Australia Medical Undergraduate Scholarship Scheme funded by the Australian Government and designed to encourage medical students with a rural background to pursue a medical career in rural, regional or remote Australia. Successful applicants will receive un-bonded scholarships worth \$10,000 a year while completing a standard medical degree at their chosen university.

Subject to availability, 120 – 140 scholarships will be awarded in 2011 through a competitive application process. Successful applicants will be selected on the basis of demonstrated financial need, their background of having lived in rural Australia, and commitment to work in rural, regional or remote Australia in the future. Both currently enrolled medical students and those who have applied to study medicine but do not yet have a confirmed university place can apply.

**For further information** and to access the application form, go to RAMUS website <http://ramus.ruralhealth.org.au>. Applications close **5pm 17 January 2011**.

## 3. Intervention Support Program – Community Grants Programs (NSW only)

The aim of the Intervention Support Program is to improve the education opportunities, learning outcomes and personal development of children with disabilities. The Program consists of four components:

- Young Children with Disabilities (YCWD) to support learning and educational development opportunities for children with disabilities who are below school age to prepare them for integration into regular preschools or schools.
- Children in Residential Care (CIRC) to assist children/students with disabilities in residential care access to out of school hours education programs.
- Non-School Organisations (NSO) to assist in the provision of services which assist students with severe disabilities to access appropriate education programs in government and Catholic schools, e.g. itinerant programs, specialist support staff.
- Capital – to provide grants for capital projects (e.g. erection, alteration or extension of buildings or the purchase of specialised equipment) that are integral to programs designed to improve educational outcomes for children and students with disabilities.

Types of services funded include community based pre-schools, long day care centres, early intervention services, residential care facilities and other specialist organisations.

**Who can apply?** Organisations must be not-for-profit, community-based, incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 1984, or as a co-operative registered under the Cooperatives Act, or as a company under Corporations (NSW) Act 1990, or established under a Special Act of Parliament or a local council. Non-government schools – a pre-school which operates as part of a non-government school, but is not established as a separate entity.

**What will be funded?** Children with disabilities who receive services provided at or in connection with incorporated, non government organisations. Funding is targeted to:

- Support learning and education development opportunities for children with disabilities who are below school age to prepare them for integration into regular early childhood settings and schools;
- Assist school-aged children with severe disabilities by improving their access to education programs; or
- Assist children with disabilities in residential care.

**For further information**, please contact the Senior Coordinator, Intervention Support Program, Department of Education & Training (NSW). Phone: 1800 064 767, email: [interventionsupport@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:interventionsupport@det.nsw.edu.au) or website [www.det.nsw.edu.au/eas/isp/index.htm](http://www.det.nsw.edu.au/eas/isp/index.htm)

## 4. Cooperatives Development Grants Program (NSW only)

The overall objective of the program is to provide funding for feasibility studies and education and research projects that assist the NSW cooperatives sector to grow and remain a viable form of delivery for the government's economic and social justice policy objectives. The underlying principles of the Co-operatives Act 1992 are recognised through projects that promote cooperation as an alternate vehicle for economic development, social empowerment, equity and social justice in a competitive environment.

Grants are available on a dollar for dollar basis up to 50% of the project cost to potential and existing cooperatives to assist in assessing feasibility and developing opportunities for enhancing viability. The grant restriction of 50% of the project cost may not apply to research and education grants, where it can be demonstrated that the project would be of benefit to the cooperative sector. In addition, the project must aim to achieve one or more of the following objectives of the Co-operatives Act 1992:

- Enable the formation, registration and operation of cooperatives, associations of cooperatives and federations of cooperatives;
- Promote cooperative philosophy, principles, practices and objectives;
- Protect the interests of cooperatives, their members and the public in the operations and activities of cooperatives;
- Encourage and facilitate self management by cooperatives at all levels; and
- Encourage the development, integration and strengthening of the cooperative sector.

**Who can apply?** Applications can be made by:

- Cooperatives incorporated under the Co-operatives Act 1992 or enterprises/groups wishing to determine the benefits or appropriateness of registering as a cooperative under the Act.
- Registered trade unions.
- Universities, TAFE and other academic institutions and research bodies; and
- Government agencies, councils and other agencies if the application relates to the core business of those agencies.

**For further information** – access the Office of Fair Trading's website

[http://www.fairtrading.nsw.gov.au/About\\_us/Grants/Cooperative\\_development\\_grants\\_program.html](http://www.fairtrading.nsw.gov.au/About_us/Grants/Cooperative_development_grants_program.html) or call the Registry of Co-operatives & Associations on freecall 1800 502 042.

## 5. Irrigation Modernisation Planning Assistance

Irrigation Modernisation Planning Assistance helps irrigation water providers to:

- Develop modernisation plans for their districts
- Upgrade irrigation infrastructure; and
- Assess options to adapt to a future with less water.

The scope and detail of a modernisation plan will vary with the particular characteristics of the irrigation district to which it applies. It is expected however, that a modernisation plan will consider the issues affecting the irrigation district in a strategic, integrated manner and include consideration of:

- The structure and governance arrangements of the irrigation water provider.
- Planned investment in existing irrigation assets in the irrigation district including supply infrastructure through upgrading, replacement or reconfiguration of the assets.
- Customer base and relationships with other water users from the same water supply.
- The opportunities to improve knowledge of water use in the system through improvements to metering.
- Existing irrigation infrastructure, efficiency of the water delivery system, and opportunities for efficiency improvements, including a quantification of estimated water savings from the options explored.

- The future strategy for the irrigation water provider and the irrigation district in the short term (to 2012) and long term (2030).

**The Assistance program will remain open to receive and assess applications until 29 October 2012, unless all available funds are committed earlier.**

**Who can apply?** An applicant must:

- Own or operate infrastructure within the Murray Darling Basin for the purpose of delivering water to other persons for the primary purpose of agricultural irrigation;
- Be a legal entity capable of entering a Funding Agreement with the Commonwealth of Australia (*unincorporated associations are not eligible*);
- Be registered with the Australian Taxation Office for GST purposes with a valid Australian Business Number (ABN); and
- Provide a 20 per cent cash co-contribution to the total cost of the modernisation planning exercise (funding from state or other Commonwealth funding sources will not be considered as eligible co-contributions).

**For further information:** access the website <http://www.environment.gov.au/water/programs/off-farm/index.html>, email [WaterPlanEnquiries@environment.gov.au](mailto:WaterPlanEnquiries@environment.gov.au) or freecall 1800 218 478.

## **Information about grant availability for tax-exempted not for profit organisations.**

Regional Development Australia Sydney have put together a great document outlining all the Foundations that provide grants for not for profit organisations that have deductible gift recipient status with the Australian Taxation Office on the Community Builder's website ([www.communitybuilders.nsw.gov.au/foundations.pdf](http://www.communitybuilders.nsw.gov.au/foundations.pdf)). Please note that some of the Foundations have closing dates for applications whereas others are ongoing. It's a handy reference tool to have on hand when trying for funding.

Until next edition.