**Strong Spirit Strong Mind Youth Project Community Grants**

BEFORE YOU START

### What is the objective of the Strong Spirit Strong Mind Youth Project Community Grant Project?

The Strong Spirit Strong Mind Youth Project (SSSMYP) Community Grants supports culturally secure initiatives, events and/ or programs. The SSSMYP team is offering these grants to help support Aboriginal people aged 12- 25 years by:

**Applications close 9 May 2025**

* Improving their social and emotional wellbeing (SEWB).
* Increasing their awareness and knowledge of the risks associated with alcohol and other drug (AOD) use.

To be successful in your grant application, it should align to both objectives above.
Grants are not intended to be re-current funding and will be a one-off payment.

### Who can apply?

* Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations or Aboriginal-owned not-for-profit organisations.

Organisations are eligible for **one application** per region.

 **How much can I apply for?**

Applicants can apply for funding up to $30,000 to support the proposed project or activity.

A detailed expenditure budget is required as part of your application.

### How and when can I apply?

Applications are open now! And will close **Friday 5pm, 9 May 2025**.

* Go to page 5 and 6 to see the five step process to apply.
* Complete the **SSSMYP Community Grant Application Form** (**see Page 9**) and submit via email to:tenders@mhc.wa.gov.au

Please note any applications received **after** 5pm, 9 May 2025 **will not** be accepted.

### Activity delivery requirements

If your application is successful, you will receive funding by 30 June 2025.

Your program activity should be delivered within six months from the start of the Grant. However, you may be able to negotiate a longer service period with the Mental Health Commission if needed.

You will also need to:

* Provide a Service Delivery report and Financial Acquittal report within four weeks of your program activity finishing.
* Reference and tag the Strong Spirit Strong Mind Youth Project in all your social media, communication and branding. **Facebook**  <https://www.facebook.com/SSSMYouthProject/> **Instagram** <https://www.instagram.com/strongspiritstrongmind/>

###  What type of activities can I deliver?

 Activities must provide a service that falls within the Social and Emotional Wellbeing framework for youth.

### What is social and emotional wellbeing?

In broad terms, social and emotional wellbeing is the foundation for physical and mental health for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. It is a holistic concept which results from a network of relationships between individuals, family, kin and community. It also recognises the importance of connection to land, culture, spirituality and ancestry, and how these affect the individual. The seven social and emotional wellbeing domains are optimally sources of wellbeing and connection that support a strong and positive Aboriginal and/ or Torres Strait Islander identity /grounded within a collectivist perspective.

### Social and emotional wellbeing domains

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In the diagram a model of social and emotional wellbeing with seven overlapping domains is proposed including: body; mind and emotions; family and kin; community; culture; country; and spirituality and ancestors. With reference to the model, the seven social and emotional wellbeing domains are optimally sources of wellbeing and connection that support a strong and positive Aboriginal and/ or Torres Strait Islander identity grounded within a collectivist perspective.

[National Strategic Framework for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples’ Mental Health and](https://www.niaa.gov.au/resource-centre/indigenous-affairs/national-strategic-framework-mental-health-social-emotional-wellbeing-2017-23#publication_content_type_view-block_2-2) [Social and Emotional Wellbeing 2017-2023](https://www.niaa.gov.au/resource-centre/indigenous-affairs/national-strategic-framework-mental-health-social-emotional-wellbeing-2017-23#publication_content_type_view-block_2-2)

**Your submission needs to address activities which relate to one or more of the following:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Domain | Description | Examples of Protective Factors |
| Connection to Body | Physical health - feeling strong and healthy and able to physically participate as fully as possible in life. | * Access to good healthy food
* Exercise
* Access to culturally safe, culturally responsive and effective health services and professionals
 |
| Connection to Mind and Emotions | Mental health - ability to manage thoughts and feelings. | * Education
* Agency: assertiveness, confidence and control over life
* Strong identity
* A strong support system
 |
| Connection to Family and Kinship | Connections to family and kinship systems are central to the functioning of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander societies. | * Loving, stable accepting and supportive family
* Adequate income
* Culturally appropriate family- focused programs and services
 |
| Connection to Community | Community can take many forms. A connection to community provides opportunities for individuals and families to connect with each other, support each other and work together. | * Support networks
* Community controlled services
* Self-governance
* Involvement in community events and discussions
 |
| Connection to Culture | A connection to culture provides a sense of continuity with the past and helps underpin a strong identity. | * Contemporary expressions of culture
* Attending national and local cultural events
* Cultural institutions
* Cultural education
* Cultural involvement and participation
 |
| Connection to Country | Connection to country helps underpin identity and a sense of belonging. | * Time spent on country
* Ceremonies to honour country
* Education about country and learning to look after it.
 |
| Connection to Spirituality and Ancestors | Spirituality provides a sense of purpose and meaning. Connection to ancestral roots provides a basis of cultural identity. | * Opportunities to attend cultural events and ceremonies
* Contemporary expressions of spirituality
 |

**What are the type of eligible activities/grant expenditure items?**

* Equipment hire
* Elder payments ($300.00 maximum per person - per project)
* Venue hire
* Catering

**What will not be funded?**

* Use of funds for profit making initiatives or for profit making groups.
* Direct significant funding for purchase of capital items e.g., computers, equipment, videos, vehicles.
* Direct significant funding to contract individuals or pay wages (*no more than 15% of total grant).*
* Direct significant funding for travel or accommodation (*combined travel and accommodation not to exceed 25% of total grant*).
* Duplicate of existing local initiatives.
* Projects associated with unhealthy products (e.g. funding from tobacco companies or the liquor industry).
* Projects that do not follow best practice in health promotion.
* Projects that are considered religious in nature.
* Projects that are treatment based such as counselling/therapy.
* Use of significant funding for prizes or gifts *(no more than 5% of total grant).*
* Use of funds for leasing or renting premises *(excludes short term venue hire).*
* Covering retrospective activity costs.

### Grant Application Procedure

## **OPTIONAL STEP 1**

**Attend Community Grants Information Session – 1:30PM – 2:30PM, 4 April 2025**

* RSVP to sssmyouth@mhc.wa.gov.au

## **OPTIONAL STEP 2**

**Contact the Strong Spirit Strong Mind Youth Project Team**

* Applicants should contact the MHC well in advance and discuss your application.
* If having trouble developing a strategy to address a social and emotional wellbeing (SEWB)/ particular alcohol or other drug issue in your community, MHC staff can assist you with project ideas. Contact SSSMYP Team 08 6553 0600 or sssmyouth@mhc.wa.gov.au

**Please Note:**Discussing your project with staff does not mean that your application will be successful – applications are reviewed by a committee.

## **STEP 1**

**Complete the Strong Spirit Strong Mind Youth Project Community Grants Application Form (see Page 9 below)**

* Applications must be signed off by your Committee. Typed names of Committee members in place of signatures are acceptable only for electronic application submissions.
* Supporting quotes must be attached for estimated cost of funding for the Project that reflects the proposed budget.

## **STEP 2**

**Submit your completed Strong Spirit Strong Mind Youth Project Community Grants Application Form**

Submit your application electronically to tenders@mhc.wa.gov.au

## **STEP 3**Strong Spirit Strong Mind Youth Project Community Grants Review Committee will review the applications. The Committee consists of Strong Spirit Strong Mind Aboriginal Program members and external Aboriginal representatives.

 **Review of the applications**

## **STEP 4**

 **Notification of outcome**

* Applicants will be notified of the status of their application in writing two weeks after the Grants Review Committee has met. It is estimated this will be in early June.
* Upon acceptance of funding conditions, the Mental Health Commission will pay your invoices.

## **STEP 5**

 **Implementation and evaluation of project**

* Photos of projects should be accompanied by Photo Release Consent Forms where possible. It may help to nominate a person to be responsible for all media related to the project (from advertisements, flyers to taking photos etc).
* Projects that are granted funding approval will be sent the service delivery report attached to the confirmation of funding letter. This is to be completed and returned to the Mental Health Commission **within four weeks of the completion of the Project.**
* Tag the Strong Spirit Strong Mind Facebook/Instagram account for the community grant initiatives.
* It is requested that a photo or video journey be recorded as part of the evaluation process. Journeys could be presented in PowerPoint to highlight the steps taken to complete your project and the final outcome. These may be used to showcase examples of what works well in the community.

**How we will assess your application**

All eligible applications will be reviewed by the Strong Spirit Strong Mind Youth Projects Grants Review Committee. The Committee is made up of Strong Spirit Strong Mind Aboriginal Program members and external Aboriginal representatives.

The Strong Spirit Strong Mind Youth Projects Grants Review Committee reserves the right to compare and approve community grant responses in the WA community. The Committee’s main purpose is to make a collective decision based on the greatest reach, local community support and culturally secure impact for the allocation of these grants. They are designed as a community response to identified local SEWB and AOD issues. Also, the Grants will be limited to $30,000 unless the grants demonstrate a greater need and improvement of SEWB in a local community.

Please note: Organisations are eligible for one application per region.

Applicants are required to demonstrate an understanding of the grant requirements and intentions and are to include a detailed outline of their proposed activity, with a focus in their submission on addressing the criteria in the table below.

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| **Assessment Criteria** | **Evaluation Weighting** |
| **1. Your Project Proposal – the suitability of your proposed activity or program, and the region you are proposing to deliver this program in.** | 50% |
|  **Target Group** * + Must target Aboriginal young people aged 12-25 in Western Australia
	+ Must Improve SEWB of Aboriginal young people and address Aboriginal young people’s AOD use

 **SEWB Domain** * Connection to You as a Person /Body
* Connection to your Mind and Emotions
* Connection to Family and Kinship
* Connection to Community
* Connection to Culture
* Connection to Country
* Connection to Spirituality, Ancestors

 **Region** * Kimberley
* Pilbara
* Midwest
* Goldfields
* Wheatbelt
* Great Southern
* South West/Peel
* Perth
 |  |
| **2****. Supporting evidence of your organisation’s capacity and demonstrated experience in delivering similar projects including:****Cultural security, cultural safety and cultural awareness** * Applicants must demonstrate experience working in and engaging with the local Aboriginal community.
* Applicants must provide details of a recent project, especially any projects or similar proposals which are relevant to the requirements of the Grant, provide a referee in respect and support for the project.
 | 30% |
| **3. Your people who will provide the project activity**Describe the skills and experience of the proposed team/organiser, especially how their experience relates to executing the Grant. Including experience in undertaking similar events/activities and facilitating engaging with a range of stakeholders – and proven experience in engagement of young Aboriginal people (12 - 25 years of age), Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation Service Providers, Aboriginal families, Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Elders and community members; including the application of appropriate culturally secure strategies. | 20% |

**Note: These assessment criteria will be used to evaluate the information you provide to the various sections of the Strong Spirit Strong Mind Youth Project Community Grants Application Form.**

If you have any questions about the process or application please contact us at sssmyouth@mhc.wa.gov.au

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| **Strong Spirit Strong Mind Youth Project Community Grants Application Form** |

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| **Applicant Details** |
| **Applicant Name:** | *[Person/Community/Organisation/Service]* |
| **Postal Address:** |  |
| **Suburb:** |  | **Postcode:** |  |
| **ABN: (If applicable)** |  |
| **Contact Person:** |  | **Phone:** |  |
| **Email:** |  |

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| **Resources** |
| **Are you currently funded by the Mental Health Commission?** |
| [ ]  Yes | [ ]  No |
| **Are you currently funded from any other sources?** |
| [ ]  Yes | [ ]  No |
| **If yes, please provide details:** |  |

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| **Grant Request and Project Details** |
| **Section 1. Community/Organisation/Service** |
| **1a. Describe your community or organisation or service as it is now.** *[How many people are involved; what activities/support are provided]* |
|  |
| **1b. Select the region your service is located in:** |
| [ ]  Goldfields | [ ]  Great Southern | [ ]  Kimberley | [ ]  Midwest | [ ]  Peel |
| [ ]  Pilbara | [ ]  South West | [ ]  Wheatbelt | ☐ Perth Metropolitan  |
| **1c. Describe a recent project, especially any projects or similar proposals that your organisation has recently completed, provide a referee in respect and support for the project.** |
|  |
| **1d. Are other organisations involved in this project?** [If yes, please include a supporting letter or email] |
| ☐ No | [ ]  Yes |
| **Section 2. Team/Organiser** |
| **2a. Describe the skills and experience of the proposed team/organiser.**  |
| [Especially how their experience relates to executing the Grant. Including experience in undertaking similar events/activities and facilitating engaging with a range of stakeholders – and proven experience in engagement of young Aboriginal people (12 - 25 years of age), Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation Service Providers, Aboriginal families, Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Elders and community members; including the application of appropriate culturally secure strategies] |
| **Section 3. Your Project** |
| **3a. Identify which criteria this project will address:** *[select one or more below]* |
| [ ]  | Alcohol and other drug education for Aboriginal young people 12-25 years old (e.g. National Health and Medical Research Council guidelines, Strong Spirit Strong Mind resources, etc.) |
| [ ]  | Improving social and emotional wellbeing of Aboriginal young people 12-25 years old including but not limited to: |
| [ ]  | Connection to Person /Body  | [ ]  | Connection to Community |
| [ ]  | Connection to Mind and Emotions  | [ ]  | Connection to Culture |
| [ ]  | Connection to Family and Kinship  | [ ]  | Connection to Country |
| [ ]  | Connection to Spirituality, Ancestors |
| **Important Note:** Projects must respect key elements of alcohol and other drug education, social and emotional wellbeing, and the SSSMYP funding criteria referenced in the Guidelines. |
| **3b. Describe the proposed project:** *[Please include the number of people you expect will participate in the project]* |
|  |
| **Section 4. Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) Education & Social and Emotional Wellbeing (SEWB) Outcomes** |
| **4a. Please identify clear project objectives and outcomes – what is the change you hope to see? Include proposed dates for events, camps, daytrips, retreats or workshops if they are part of your project.** *[Use S.M.A.R.T goals/objectives to assist if necessary]* |
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| **Section 5. Project Budget** |
| Please make your project budget detailed, specific, and transparent and accompanied by quotes where possible. Do not round up totals - state real expected costs.*Do not include GST in the budget. GST will be paid separate and apart from the Grant.* |
| **5a. Detailed expenses requested from SSSMYP Grant (do not include GST)** | **Grant Request$ (excl GST)** |
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| **Total SSSMYP Grant Request** *(do not include GST)* |  |
| **5b. Please list any other income received in support of the project from other sources (if relevant)** | **$ (excl GST)** |
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| **Total Other Income** |  |
| **5b. Please list any project support – unpaid voluntary contribution of goods and services (if relevant)** |  |
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**DECLARATION – Must be signed**

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| **Grant Agreement – Declaration** |
| **If a Grant is provided, the Applicant agrees to the following conditions:**1. That the impact of the Grant will benefit the Applicant’s group members in line with the alcohol and other drug education and positive social and emotional wellbeing outcomes listed in Section 2 of this document.
2. The Mental Health Commission (Commission) will be responsible for approving the Grant, liaising with suppliers and successful Applicants, overseeing the purchase of requested items/services and ensuring the timely receipt of the approved items/services to the successful Applicant. This way, accountability for grants will be the responsibility of the Commission and will include the provision of documentation, including copies of invoices and a summary statement of all expenses to be provided to the Commission.
3. The Applicant in receipt of the Grant will retain a copy of all receipts, warranties and service agreements and become responsible for maintaining these after handover of goods and/or services.
4. If there is to be any delay in the expenditure of the Grant, a written request will be made seeking approval for an extension of time. Ideally, funds are to be expended within the designated period.
5. All conditions specified in the Grant submission which have been approved will need to be met.
6. The Applicant will be advised promptly of any changes/adjustments that need to be made, recommendations of alternative products or services and any other related and/or unexpected changes.
7. In signing this declaration, the signatory is verifying that they understand the parameters of the SSSMYP Community Grants and acknowledge SSSMYP is responsible for the dissemination of funds. No cash requests for money grants will be approved, nor will requests for monies to be directly debited into a group or person’s account.
 |
| I (name of authorised Applicant), agree to the parameters set out by the SSSMYP Grant Agreement and wish to submit this grant application on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (name of Project/Service) Authorised Applicant (signature), Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Witness (print name), \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Witness (signature), Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

**Thank you for completing the SSSMYP Grant Application.**

[Please direct any questions or queries to sssmyouth@mhc.wa.gov.au]