



NSWALC Community Fund Policy

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Responsible Manager:		Manager, Policy and Programs Unit	

The NSW Aboriginal Land Council Community Fund Policy

Available Grants

1. The NSW Aboriginal Land Council will make available grants to less advantaged Local Aboriginal Land Councils for the following purposes:
 - a. Grants to assist with the acquisition of land, where all other avenues for funding have been exhausted; and
 - b. Grants to undertake land management activities, in relation to lands in which the Local Aboriginal Land Council has a legal interest.
2. The following activities will not be funded by grants:
 - a. The payment of salaries and wages of existing employees supervising or working on the proposed project as part of their usual duties;
 - b. the purchase of vehicles;
 - c. the engagement of consultants, feasibility studies and planning; and
 - d. activities primarily associated with housing management and housing related infrastructure, including on former reserves and missions.

Eligibility

3. The *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983* requires that funds from the NSW Aboriginal Land Council Community Fund may only be made available to less advantaged Local Aboriginal Land Councils.
4. Local Aboriginal Land Councils with net land assets worth less than the Local Aboriginal Land Council network average will be considered as less advantaged for the purpose of determining eligibility under this policy. These Local Aboriginal Land Councils will be eligible to access funds from the NSW Aboriginal Land Council Fund.
5. In considering Local Aboriginal Land Council land assets for the purpose of determining eligibility to funding under this policy, the NSW Aboriginal Land Council will exclude the following types of land:
 - a. Former reserves and missions; and
 - b. Jointly Managed National Parks;
6. The NSW Aboriginal Land Council may exclude from the class of eligible Local Aboriginal Land Councils, any Local Aboriginal Land Council that has sold, or otherwise transferred land assets that would otherwise render them ineligible.
7. Local Aboriginal Land Councils that are categorised as 'unfunded' as a result of their Risk Assessment System risk rating are ineligible to funding under this policy.
8. Only one application for funding a year will be accepted from eligible Local Aboriginal Land Councils

Assessment of Grant Applications

9. In assessing funding applications from eligible Local Aboriginal Land Councils, the NSW Aboriginal Land Council will consider the following:
 - a. The community development outcomes of the proposed use of funds;
 - b. Consistency with the applicant Local Aboriginal Land Council's Community Land and Business Plan;
 - c. Whether funding is adequately available from other sources;
 - d. That the funding amount sought is justified in terms of the proposal;
 - e. Whether the applicant Local Aboriginal Land Council has received funding from the NSW Aboriginal Land Council Community Fund in any of the previous three years; and
 - f. The disadvantage of the applicant Local Aboriginal Land Council in terms of the value of net land assets relative to other eligible applicant Local Aboriginal Land Councils.