



Australian Government
National Indigenous
Australians Agency



NIAA

NAIDOC Local Grants

2024 Applicants Guide – Forecast
Opportunity

Working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples



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Introduction

The NAIDOC Local Grants – Grant Opportunity Guidelines are expected to be released in early 2024 and will contain all the information needed to apply for a grant.

This document provides information about NAIDOC Week and NAIDOC Local Grants, to help you decide if you would like to apply and to be ready when applications open.

When the Grant Opportunity Guidelines are released, they will contain all the detail you need to apply. A more detailed version of this document will also be available, covering the most commonly asked questions about applying for a NAIDOC grant.

NAIDOC Week

[National NAIDOC Week](#) is a grassroots celebration of Australia's First Nations people and communities.

NAIDOC Week is a time for Australians of all backgrounds to respect, embrace and celebrate First Nations culture and histories.

National NAIDOC Week usually runs in the second week of July.

Each year, the National NAIDOC Committee chooses a theme that provides the focus for National NAIDOC Week. The theme for 2024 will soon be announced on the NAIDOC website (www.NAIDOC.org.au).

NAIDOC Local Grants

The Australian Government helps fund activities to celebrate NAIDOC week, focused on the annual theme.

NAIDOC Local Grants activities showcase First Nations histories, cultures, achievements and their continuing contributions to Australian society.

Planning your activity/event

We encourage you to start planning your NAIDOC activity or event early. The [NAIDOC website](#) is a great place for ideas to celebrate NAIDOC week - visit the website to:

- find some ideas for celebrating on the [plan your own event](#) page and the [Supporting NAIDOC Toolkit](#) (for non-First Nations organisations, this has some great tips to make sure you are appreciating culture, not appropriating it).
- get in touch with your [local NAIDOC Committee](#) and find out what their plans are, or
- check out the [Local NAIDOC Week events](#) register to find out what other people are doing (or register your event),



The NAIDOC website also has great information about the [history](#) of NAIDOC, including [educational resources](#) and the [NAIDOC Poster Gallery](#) (where you'll find nearly all the posters from 1972 to present). While you're there, you can even nominate a First Nations person for a [national NAIDOC award!](#)

You can also reach out to your Local Aboriginal Land Council in your State or Territory to find out if they can help you. You can find a list [here](#).

NAIDOC activities and events should be tailored to the local First Nations community; First Nations organisations are encouraged to apply. Non-Indigenous organisations should work with their local community to plan and design activities and events.

Early planning is key; but remember that any expenses you incur before you have executed a grant agreement with us must be paid for by your organisation.

Dates for your event

Since 1975, National NAIDOC Week has been held from the first to the second Sunday in July. You should try to plan your event during National NAIDOC Week or sometime during July. To maintain the connection between National NAIDOC Week and NAIDOC local activities, we won't fund activities that take place before 1 July.

We know that since the 1980s, NAIDOC Week has fallen in the school holidays. Schools should try to hold events during Term 3 (close to National NAIDOC Week) to help students make the connection between the activity and the significance of NAIDOC Week.

Of course, sometimes an activity can't occur in July – for example, an entertainer might not be available or local weather patterns may get in the way. Just let us know in your application why you want to hold your activity or event at a later date.

Generally, all activities/events must be finished by 31 October.

Funding available

The Grant Opportunity Guidelines will be published on [GrantConnect](#) in early 2024 and will include details about funding available and how much you can apply for.

The maximum grant available will be \$50,000 (GST Exclusive).

To help you plan, most NAIDOC grants awarded are under \$10,000 (GST Exclusive). Last year, schools, early learning centres and universities received an average of \$1,250 - \$2,000 (GST exclusive).



Activities we may fund

NAIDOC Local Grants are available for communities and organisations to contribute to the costs of local National NAIDOC Week activities such as family days, art exhibitions and other cultural activities.

The Grant Opportunity Guidelines will outline exactly which activities are eligible (or ineligible). Typically the types of activities we may consider funding include:

- arts based activities, including painting, dancing, crafts, storytelling
- family fun days
- cultural activities, including Welcome to Country
- Elders' activities
- cooking activities
- NAIDOC themed sporting activities or competitions
- activities which actively promote reconciliation.

Schools and other educational institutions

Early-learning centres, schools and universities can apply for a NAIDOC Local Grant. Examples of the types of education-based activities (involving the local First Nations community) that we may consider funding include:

- presentations by a First Nations person on First Nations histories and cultures
- discussions on totem/skins and how they relate to sustainability
- telling dreamtime stories, Our Creation Spirit
- teaching traditional songs
- teaching symbolics of body painting, an artist in residence for the week
- using a sand box to show animal tracking, teach travelling by the stars
- teaching weaving classes, local language lessons
- cultural artefact exhibitions, and
- walking on Country (identifying native foods and healing plants growing locally, rock shelters, scarred trees, etc.)

Curriculum resources and other activities that are the core business of schools are out of scope. We suggest you explore the links below for free resources:

- [Educational resources | NAIDOC](#)
- [NAIDOC Week 2023 Resources & Activities | Australians Together](#)
- [First Nations Curriculum Resources | Classroom Learning | Australians Together](#)
- [Australian Children's Television Foundation](#)



- [SBS NAIDOC Website](#)
- [NAIDOC Week 2023 Resources, Tips and Information Guide | Koori Curriculum](#)

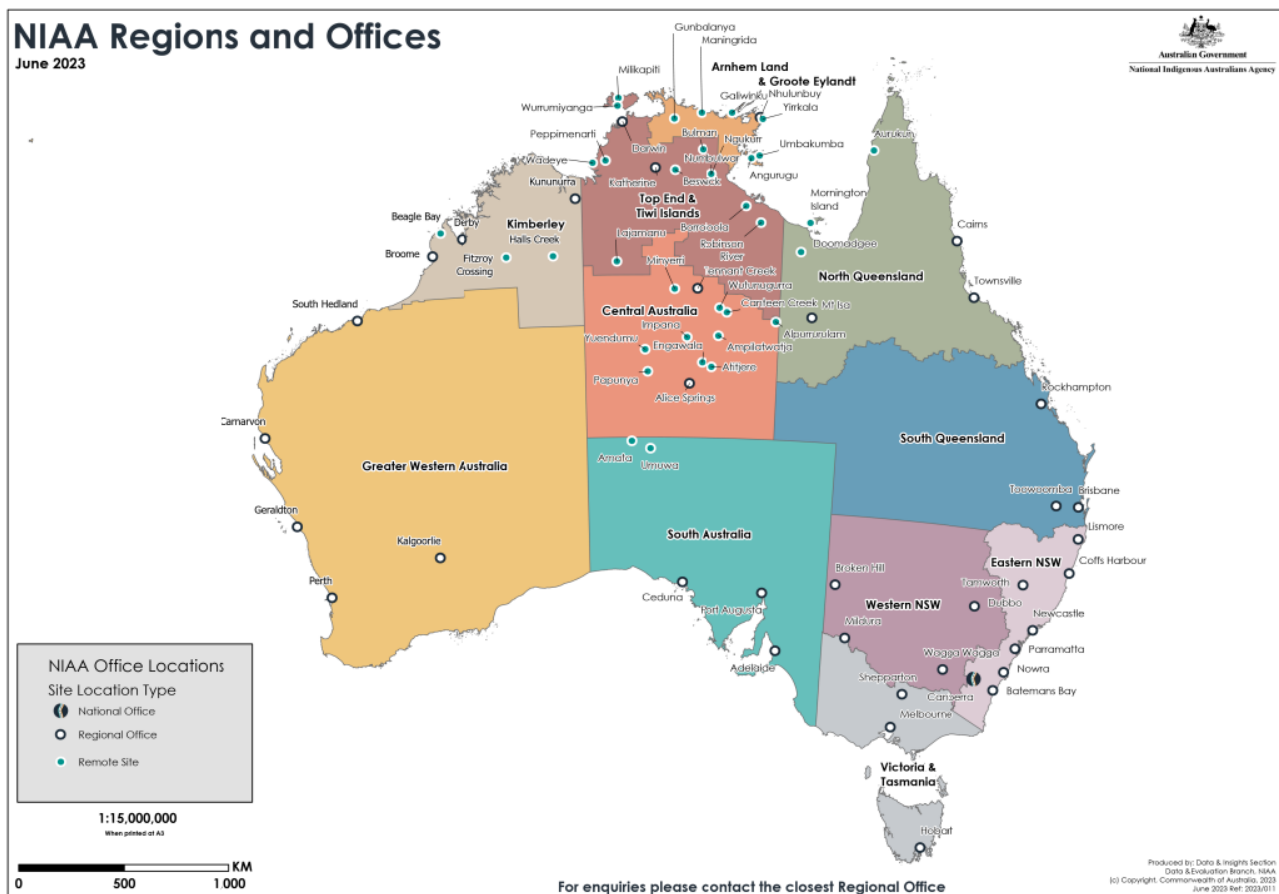
The NSW and WA Education Departments have their own NAIDOC grant funding and agreement arrangements for public schools in their states. More information will be made available in the detailed information, when the Grant Opportunity opens.

Locations and multiple applications

As with previous years, we generally only accept one application per NIAA Region.

You can hold multiple activities in the same Region, but you should only submit one application covering all events. You can also hold multiple activities in different NIAA Regions, but you'll need to submit an application for each Region.

Detail on submitting multiple applications will be in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.



COVID

Check the latest government and health [advice](#) to ensure your activity/event's COVID Risk Management Plan will limit the risk of transmission of COVID-19, particularly with respect to [protecting](#) Elders and anyone with a chronic health issue.

Getting ready to apply

Finding the application form

The application form is expected to be published on [GrantConnect](#) in early 2024 (where you found this Forecast Opportunity!), along with the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

To keep up to date on the Grant Opportunity opening, register on [GrantConnect](#) and make sure you personalise your [settings](#) to be notified of new opportunities. You can also explore funding offered by other Commonwealth agencies.

We will also advertise the Grant Opportunity opening on:

- www.niaa.gov.au
- www.indigenous.gov.au
- [the Koori Mail](#)

You can also visit the [NAIDOC website](#) and to subscribe to the NAIDOC Newsletter to keep up to date with what's happening.

Remember that [GrantConnect](#) is the authoritative source of advice for NAIDOC Local Grant Opportunity applications. Non-government websites don't always have the latest advice, and may list the grants as "pending" after the closing date.

Update your contact details

If your application is successful, we plan to let you know well in advance of NAIDOC Week.

We need your help to make sure we can tell you if you're going to be offered a grant.

Sometimes the person who puts the application in leaves an organisation and an email goes to a dead account. It would be unfortunate if you missed out on the grant because of that.

Think about setting up an email address that a few people in the organisation can access, or a general inquiries phone number (rather than relying on an individual's phone number).

Bank account details

We need you to tell us about your bank account. Sometimes payments are rejected because the account you told us about:

- has become dormant because you haven't used it in a while
- has a different BSB, or
- is your personal account (which isn't a problem if you're a sole trader).

Make sure your bank account is still operational and that you can provide proof of your details, as we'll ask for this on the application form (e.g. a statement or a letter from the bank on letterhead).

