

FRRR recognises that education is a key part of strong, vibrant, sustainable communities. The Rural Education Australia Program (REAPing Rewards) is a flexible program that provides grants of **up to \$10,000** to not-for-profit **community groups, early childhood service providers, and primary and secondary school community support committees**, for locally developed or locally driven ideas, projects and programs that directly enhance the educational outcomes for children and students (0-18 years) in remote, rural and regional communities.

Who is eligible to apply to the REAPing Rewards Program?

The program can assist community based not-for-profit organisations and educators to support education in remote, rural and regional communities through the provision of quality, positive educational experiences in the early childhood, primary and secondary years, including:

- Community based Early Childhood Service Providers such as playgroups, kindergartens, preschools, day care / family care centres, toy libraries;
- Primary Schools and Secondary Schools, community based support committees such as Parent & Citizens Committees, After School / Out of School Care Programs and Homework Programs;
- Not-for-profit community groups for projects and activities that directly support students and education providers.

To be eligible, projects must offer a clear public benefit, be for a charitable purpose **and clearly address an identified educational need.**

- Organisations must have an ABN or Incorporation Certificate.
- Applications from communities with a population of 15,000 or less will receive priority.
- Organisations and / or projects demonstrating community and school partnerships are preferred to multiple applications from one community (please submit only one application per organisation).
- Projects and activities should:
 - have clearly defined educational objectives, timeframes and evaluation strategies;
 - be community driven;
 - show creativity and innovation;
 - and where possible, include a financial and / or in-kind co-contribution.
- Projects should be undertaken between May 2018 and May 2019, as projects cannot be funded retrospectively.

NOTE: Previous FRRR grant recipients who have not completed final reporting requirements are ineligible.

What can be funded?

Projects and activities that extend, engage, ignite and broaden student learning and education outcomes in remote, rural and regional Australian communities through:

- **Reducing the barriers** to education by supporting broader, more effective learning environments and opportunities;
- **Fostering a positive attitude** to learning in students, families, teachers and community members;
- **Enhancing early childhood learning resources** and facilities leading to improved, quality learning experiences;
- **Building local capacity** for community groups and schools to develop or expand programs and activities that enhance learning outcomes and opportunities and support student aspiration;
- **Increasing opportunity** to participate in curriculum enrichment opportunities;
- **Encouraging collaborative partnerships** between education providers, community and not-for-profit organisations to support remote, rural and regional communities;
- Opportunities to **enhance student aspiration and learning goals** through links with **local community, business and industry;** and

- **Supporting the innovative delivery** of quality programs such as school readiness / transitions, student engagement, leadership and retention programs, work skills / work readiness, links with local industry and supporting student resilience and social and emotional health and wellbeing.

Please note the following:

- Travel and accommodation costs **may** be considered, particularly for applications from **remote** areas.
- Requests to support teacher capacity building should clearly demonstrate how this will directly support student engagement, learning and educational outcomes rather than ongoing teacher skill development.
- Support for Information and Communication Technology (ICT) such as Smart Boards, tablets and laptops will be assessed in light of existing infrastructure, curriculum requirements and direct student / teacher benefit. Generally, no more than seven tablets would be supported per application.

What can't be funded?

- Programs, resourcing, buildings or equipment that are considered to be the responsibility of Government;
- Business as usual, such as ongoing operational and administration costs;
- Ongoing wages;
- Outdoor learning areas, landscaping, playgrounds and shade structures for Primary and Secondary Schools;
- Conference attendance without a knowledge exchange plan outlining how knowledge will be shared with others;
- Adult education;
- Previous FRRR grant recipients who have not completed final report requirements;
- Overseas travel and overseas projects;
- Projects that benefit a single individual rather than a community;
- If your project involves working directly with children / youth under 18 years, your organisation must have policies and procedures around working with children, Working with Children Checks, and the handling of child abuse complaints, or the project may not be funded. See the [Community Group Resources section](#) on our website www.frrr.org.au for further information.

Note: 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.

What makes a stronger application?

- Projects which clearly articulate an education need (evidence based) that will enhance educational outcomes;
- Demonstrable partnerships, with defined project plans and evaluation of impact and outcomes;
- Quotes to support the budget where applicable;
- Letters of support from organisations directly involved in the project, clearly stating their contribution towards the project, are highly desirable;
- Financial or in-kind contribution towards the project from the applicant organisation is highly desirable and will be taken into account when assessing applications. Organisations that are unable to contribute either financially or in-kind should clearly articulate why they are unable to do so.

What information should be provided?

- You **MUST** attach an up-to-date organisational financial statement that shows 12 months of activity.
- You **MUST** attach a copy of your ABN or Incorporation Certificate.
- Letters of support or referees' details and quotes can significantly strengthen your application, as does the inclusion of in-kind support e.g. volunteer hours, and other sources of funding in your project budget. We highly recommend

that you include letters of support, in-kind support and quotes with your application. Note: we suggest costing unskilled volunteer labour at \$25/hr.

- All supporting material **MUST** be submitted with the application.

How to Apply

Applications can be submitted via our online Grants Gateway.

FRRR is transitioning to an online grants administration system call Grants Gateway. Applications for the REAPing Rewards program will be made via this online portal, using the process outlined below. We are only in the early stages of using the system, so if you encounter problems at any stage of your application, please contact FRRR on 1800 170 020.



To begin your first application, you must set up an account. Click on the Grants Gateway logo on the [REAPing Rewards](#) webpage and then follow the link to 'Set up an account'. You will be prompted to create an online account to access the REAPing Rewards Round 7 application form, using an email address and password.

Please use an email address associated with your organisation or group (rather than a personal email address) to create the account. This ensures that any member of your organisation or committee will be able to access the account even if the person managing the application changes. It will also ensure your history is there for future applications, and for reporting.

Once the account has been established, you will be able to start the application, save your progress and finally submit via the online portal, until the program closes at 5pm AEST on Monday 15th January 2018. We recommend that you print a copy of the form (top right of the online application screen), so you can see all the information required and begin drafting your answers and collating the required information.

We have developed various tools to help you navigate the application process. We strongly suggest you read the [How to Guide](#) and [FAQ's](#), and watch our helpful tips on [How to Navigate the Activity Tree](#) before you start your application.

You will need to upload the following with your application:

- Your most recent financials such as Profit and Loss statement or audited financials for the last 12 months. Financial documentation **is compulsory**. If you have any questions regarding the financial documentation required, please contact us on 1800 170 020;
- Quotes for items to be purchased (over \$500) or outsourced;
- Signed letters of support from those partnering in, or directly benefiting from the project;
- Please note the sections on the application form where you are required to upload financials, quotes, support letters and photos (if applicable) to the Grants Gateway.

How to submit

Applications are to be received by no later than 5pm AE Summer Time on Monday 15 January 2018.

Once you have reviewed and completed your Grants Gateway application for Round 7 of the REAPing Rewards program, and uploaded the relevant documentation, click the 'Submit' button at the bottom of the 'Review My Application' tab page. FRRR recommends you save a copy of the application for your records, although a copy will be emailed to you. You can return to your saved application at any time by clicking on this link: https://www.GrantRequest.com/SID_5684?SA=AM

If you have questions about your project, are unable to apply online, or experience any problems in using the Grants Gateway, please contact us on free call 1800 170 020 or email info@frrr.org.au.

Post: If unable to apply online, please contact us for an application form then post to:
FRRR, REAPing Rewards Program, PO Box 41, Bendigo, Vic 3552

Enquiries: Free call 1800 170 020 or email info@frrr.org.au.