

2026 Youth Climate Action Fund Application Form

Form Preview

Program overview

Program Information

We know many young people in Melbourne care deeply about climate change, and want to be a part of bold climate action initiatives and see meaningful change.

City of Melbourne, with the support of [Bloomberg Philanthropies' Youth Climate Action Fund](#), is offering funding for climate change efforts led by young people.

From education programs and creating plans, to taking action – if you have a bold idea for our municipality, we want to hear about it.

We are offering a third round of micro grants of \$1500 - \$7500 for projects led by young people, supported by organisations that work with young people.

For more information about the Youth Climate Action Grants you can [email](#) Krystel Bendle, Senior Youth Project Coordinator.

Key dates and process

- **Round Opens:** 17 August 2026 at 9am (AEST)
- **Round Closes:** 28 September 2026 at 11:59pm (AEST)
- **Notifications of application outcome:** Early October 2026
- **Projects must be fully completed by:** 15 April 2027 (no extensions will be considered)
- **Project acquittals to be completed by:** 30 April 2027

Applications will be assessed by a nominated panel before final decisions are made.

Funding available

\$1500 to \$7500 (exc. GST)

Eligibility

- Individuals cannot apply for funding – funds will be granted only to organisations that support young people.
- It is expected that the project will be led by young people and the applicant organisation will take responsibility for assisting the young people to apply for the funding, and if successful they will receive and manage the funds, provide coverage for the activity under their public liability insurance, ensure the project is completed and acquitted on time and provide advice and support to the young people when needed.
- To be eligible to apply the application must be made by one of the following organisation types in partnership with young people:
 - Incorporated association
 - Public Company

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- Charitable Foundation
 - School
 - University / TAFE institution
 - Social Enterprise
- Projects are to be led by at least two young people aged 15-25 years
 - Equipment and capital investment for infrastructure improvements must be less than 50% of the total budget
 - No more than three microgrants may be awarded to the same applicant organisation

If you are unsure if your organisation is eligible to apply please [email](#) Krystel Bendle.

Climate priorities at City of Melbourne

All projects must support the achievement of at least one of our climate priorities:

Emissions

Our city is powered by renewables, uses active transport and has a circular economy

Nature

Our natural environment is cared for and cools the city

Built environment

Our assets and infrastructure are built for extreme weather

People and Governance

Our community is connected and prepared for extreme weather

To learn more about our climate priorities visit our [website](#)

Youth Lead Initiative Examples

Here are some examples of the types of eligible projects:

- Climate education and awareness, like courses, experiences, or arts projects
- Research and data collection, like mapping environmental health
- Resilience and adaptation, such as connection and care for waterways, stormwater pollution or heatwaves
- Green Infrastructure, reforestation, and environmental protection, like creating parks, community gardens, or green roofs for community buildings
- Sustainable agriculture and food systems, like urban farms that would enrich community access to fresh food
- Promotion and advancement of circular economy, like sustainable fashion or rethinking the use of discarded materials
- Sustainable waste management, like sorting, collection, or cleaning
- Sustainable transportation, like encouraging walking, cycling, and using public transportation
- Climate governance, like youth councils or consultation of youth for public decisions

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What we will fund

- Project supplies and materials, including rental and purchase of items directly needed to carry out the project, such as equipment, tools, art supplies, or technology.
- Costs for organising community events, workshops or educational sessions, including venue, printing and basic catering
- Promotional materials to raise awareness of the project and increase engagement, as well as share project results through photography, videography, editorial support
- Reasonable fees for training and mentorship offered in workshops for young people
- Supplies for projects such as equipment, tools, art supplies or technology
- Funds to enable young people to participate such as travel, food or gift cards. These cannot make up the majority of the microgrant
- Permit costs needed for the project.
- Auspicing fees which should be no more than 15 percent of total grant
- Capital investments when they do not exceed 50% of the microgrant and are an essential part of the project suggested and led by youth
- Initiatives within the City of Melbourne

What we won't fund

- Religious or political organisations or activities
- Capital campaigns, endowments or endowed chairs
- Commercial activities and/or organisations
- Projects that are already funded
- Services/expenses covered by existing city initiatives
- Operational costs such as rent, utilities, insurance, Incorporation fees
- Activities that denigrate or exclude parts of the community or that breach Commonwealth or State anti-vilification laws
- Political campaigns, lobbying or fundraising activities
- Scholarships or direct support for young people or families
- Speaker honorariums or speaker fees
- Regranting or sub-granting to other organisations or individuals
- Events not related to youth climate initiatives
- Projects that have already commenced or occurred
- Initiatives that take place outside of the City of Melbourne municipality
- Incomplete applications
- Late submissions

Eligibility

* indicates a required field

- Individuals cannot apply for funding – funds will be granted only to organisations that support young people.

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- It is expected that the project will be led by young people and the applicant organisation will take responsibility for assisting the young people to apply for the funding, and if successful they will receive and manage the funds, provide coverage for the activity under their public liability insurance, ensure the project is completed and acquitted on time and provide advice and support to the young people when needed.
- Projects are to be led by at least two young people aged 15-25 years
- Equipment and capital investment for infrastructure improvements must be less than 50% of the total budget
- No more than three microgrants may be awarded to the same applicant organisation

If you are unsure if your organisation is eligible to apply please [email](#) Krystel Bendle.

Are you applying as *

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ an Incorporated body | ☐ a School |
| ☐ an Australian Public Company Limited by Guarantee | ☐ a University or TAFE institution |
| ☐ a Charitable Foundation | ☐ a Social Enterprise (must be currently certified by Social Traders) |

Incorporation number *

Provide a copy of the organisations certification as a Social Enterprise *

Attach a file:

Is this project primarily led and implemented by young people aged between 12 and 25? *

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

Projects must be primarily led by young people. If they are not applications will be ineligible.

Did you receive a Youth Climate Action Microgrant in 2024 or 2025 *

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

If you are applying to this round of funding for a project that received funding in the first rounds of Youth Climate Action Grants 2024 or 2025, you must demonstrate a significant change or development in the project.

This application will need to clearly show what the new components of the project are and how this application will scale up or go beyond the project delivered in the first rounds.

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What was the name of the project? *

Applicant details

* indicates a required field

Organisation details

Organisation name *

Organisation Name

Street Address *

Address

Address Line 1, Suburb/Town, State/Province, and Postcode are required.

Postal Address *

Address

Address Line 1, Suburb/Town, State/Province, and Postcode are required.

Phone Number *

If you are using a landline please include 03 before your phone number

Email *

Must be an email address.

Website

Must be a URL.

Applicant ABN *

The ABN provided will be used to look up the following information. Click Lookup above to check that you have entered the ABN correctly.

Information from the Australian Business Register

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ABN
Entity Name
ABN Status
Entity Type
Goods & Services Tax (GST)
DGR Endorsed
ATO Charity Type [More information](#)
ACNC Registration
Tax Concessions
Main Business Location

Must be an ABN.

Organisation contact person

Name *

Title First Name Last Name

Position *

Mobile phone number *

Must be an Australian phone number.

Email *

Must be an email address.

Project details

* indicates a required field

Project Title *

Provide an overview of your project including its main goals and objectives, along with its expected effects on community and the environment. Describe the current issues or challenges your project aims to address and why this intervention is crucial now. *

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Word count:

Must be between 30 and 100 words.

How will the project work? Describe the specific activities and steps your project will undertake. Include a clear timeline that shows the projects activities and implementation will be finished by 15 April 2027. *

Word count:

Must be between 30 and 300 words.

What City of Melbourne neighbourhood will your activity primarily occur? *

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| ☐ All City of Melbourne | ☐ Docklands | ☐ North Melbourne | ☐ South Yarra |
| ☐ Carlton | ☐ East Melbourne | ☐ Parkville | ☐ West Melbourne |
| ☐ CBD (Central City) | ☐ Kensington | ☐ Southbank | |

Youth project lead

Provide the first and last names, and year of birth for at least two young people aged 15-24 who will actively participate in decision making and oversight of the project

First and last name

Year of birth

Climate Theme

City of Melbourne climate priorities are:

Emissions

Our city is powered by renewables, uses active transport and has a circular economy

Nature

Our natural environment is cared for to cool the city

Built environment

Our assets and infrastructure are built for extreme weather

People and governance

Our community is connected and prepared for extreme weather

You can read all our climate plans [here](#)

Which climate priority will your project address? (can choose more than one)

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Word count:

Must be no more than 100 characters.

Project result

Describe at least one measurable output that will show your projects immediate accomplishments and progress (eg number of events) *

Word count:

Must be between 30 and 100 words.

Describe at least one outcome or how your project will create changes in behaviour, knowledge, attitudes or process (eg the result of those activities you listed as an output) *

Word count:

Must be between 30 and 100 words.

Participation details

* indicates a required field

Project Leads

How many YOUNG PEOPLE will be involved in leading the project? *

Must be a number.

How many YOUNG PEOPLE involved in leading the project will be City of Melbourne residents? *

Must be a number.

What will the roles, responsibilities and opportunities be for the young people leading the project? *

Word count:

Must be between 30 and 200 words.

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Project participants

How many YOUNG PEOPLE will participate in or benefit from the activity? (estimate) *

Must be a number.

How many of these YOUNG PEOPLE will be City of Melbourne residents? (estimate) *

Must be a number.

Will your project engage young people under the age of 18 years of age? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Council requires grant recipients to ensure their compliance with all relevant child safety legislation, and with their responsibilities and requirements as a 'contractor' as outlined in [Council's Child Safety Policy](#) apply to community funded programs, activities or services, the Provider must:

- 1.implement and comply with the Standards at all times; and
- 2.supply Council with a copy of their child safety policy at any time upon reasonable request.

Information on the Child Safe Standards is available at <https://ccyp.vic.gov.au/child-safe-standards/>

Under the *Worker Screening Act 2020* (Vic), people engaging in child-related work must obtain a Working with Children (WWC) Check. Grant recipients must:

- 1.ensure that all their relevant employees, contractors and volunteers who are providing the services or facilities in any Council-funded program hold a valid and current WWC Check (or for interstate visitors, an equivalent Check from their home State/Territory) as per the requirements outlined in Council's Child Safety Policy;
- 2.maintain an up-to-date register of WWC Checks;
- 3.provide evidence of a valid and current WWC Check for each of their employees, contractors and volunteers providing the services or facilities to Council at any time upon reasonable request; and
- 4.notify Council immediately if any of their employees, contractors or volunteers who are providing the services or facilities to Council have their WWC Check suspended or revoked, or are issued with a WWC Check Exclusion.

Attach a copy of your organisations Child Safe Action Plan *

Attach a file:

Budget

* indicates a required field

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Total Amount Requested *

\$

Must be an amount between \$1500 and \$7500

Expenditure

Provide a breakdown of how you think you may spend your budget

Example:

- Supplies and materials: \$2300
- Equipment: \$500
- Transport and food: \$300
- Events and communication: \$200
- **Total: \$3300**

You can add more lines at the bottom of the table

Description	Total amount \$
	Must be a whole dollar amount (no cents).
	\$
	\$
	\$

Attachments

* indicates a required field

Certificate of Currency for Public Liability Insurance *

Attach a file:

Letters of support from partners, community members etc

Attach a file:

Select the types of contact you made with Council for this proposal *

- ☐ Face-to-face meeting
- ☐ I didn't make any contact with Council
- ☐ Email correspondence
- ☐ Other:
- ☐ Phone call

Where did you hear about this grant? *

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- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ City of Melbourne Website | ☐ Professional networks |
| ☐ City of Melbourne Youth Network | ☐ City of Melbourne Youth Team |
| ☐ Youth Connect newsletter | ☐ Poster or postcard |
| ☐ Friends or family networks | ☐ Other: <input type="text"/> |

Is this your first grant or sponsorship application to City of Melbourne? *

- ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Maybe

Is there any feedback you would like to provide about the grant program or this form?

Declaration

* indicates a required field

Privacy Statement

The City of Melbourne is committed to protecting your privacy. The information requested on this form is being collected by City of Melbourne for the purpose of assisting with the management of applications for grants and sponsorship. All information collected is securely stored in SmartyGrants and City of Melbourne computer systems. The personal information will be disclosed to assessment panel members for the purpose of assessing your application. It will not be disclosed to any other external party without your consent, unless required or authorised by law. If the personal information is not collected, Council may have difficulties in contacting you in a timely manner in relation to your application. If you wish to alter any of the personal information you have supplied to City of Melbourne, please contact Council via telephone 9658 9658 or email contact@melbourne.vic.gov.au

You can [view the City of Melbourne Information Privacy Policy](#) on our website.

By submitting an application you consent to council publishing the successful applicant's name, project name and description and amount funded on our website. This information may also be used for promoting the City of Melbourne's grant program more generally.

Declaration

I hereby apply for funding for a Youth Climate Action Grant and acknowledge that if successful in this application we agree to comply with the guidelines set out by the City of Melbourne and the Youth Climate Action Fund and commit to using the funds responsibly and transparently to advance the project's objectives, and submit necessary acquittal documentation when the project has been completed.

I also acknowledge that all details supplied in this application form and in the attached documents are true and correct and if the application is from an organisation that the application has been submitted with the full knowledge and support of the Committee of Management of the applicant organisation.

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I agree to the above terms and conditions *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ I agree that I understand the role of a support agency is to receive and manage the funds, provide coverage for the activity under our agency's public liability insurance, ensure the project is completed and acquitted on time, and provide advice and support to the youth lead/s when needed.

Organisation's representative

Name *

Title	First Name	Last Name

Position *

Date *

Must be a date.