



Sunshine Coast heritage grants fact sheet 2026-2027 for community museums and research groups

This handout is recommended to be used in unison with *Community Grants Top 10 Grant Writing Tips* and *Community Grant Guidelines* found on [council's website](#), and *Heritage Grant Guidelines* available from Cultural Heritage Services (ph. 5420 8600).

The following examples are based on feedback from the heritage sector and the grant assessment panel.

Q. We have a large project coming up. Can we apply for more than one council grant?

A. Yes. You can apply for multiple grants as long as each application is for a different part of an overall project. In other words, you cannot apply for the same thing in more than one application.

Q. How do we apply for multiple Council grants?

Before you apply for any grant, have a project plan ready. The project plan will outline the actions and timing needed to achieve each project milestone, which you can then use to identify funding opportunities. You can mix and match the milestone type, size and timing to the grant type, amount and timing.

Below are examples of different approaches to similar projects involving an exhibition:

- Milestone 1 - conservator cleans and prepares objects (Conservation Care heritage grant); Milestone 2 – curator designs and prints interpretive panels (Exhibitions and Programs heritage grant); Milestone 3 – exhibition launched with Welcome to Country followed by a series of public programs (Council's Minor or Major Community Grants)
- Project 1 – graphic design and printing (Exhibitions and Public Programs heritage grant); Project 2 – new cases and dehumidifier (Conservation Care heritage grant); Project 3 – a digital story and screen (Council's Minor or Major Community Grants). Projects could be applied for separately in one year or spread out over consecutive years as each element is delivered.

Tip: Identify the essential elements needed to make your project happen and then the nice-to-have. Be mindful - you may not be funded for everything.

Q. How much information is needed?

A. Ask yourself - is there enough information for the assessment panel to understand the overarching project and what the funding is for? Try to keep your description to around 3 or 4 paragraphs. Reference and attach your Project Plan and Strategic Plan.

Consider the following and include if relevant:

- How will the community benefit from this project?
- What does this project mean to your group?
- Does this project follow on from previous work?
- Does the project align to the organisation's strategic plan?
- Does the project include other community partners and/or collaborators?
- Are you appointing experts?
- Will the project increase volunteer skills?
- Does the project broaden the group's experience?
- Is there potential to attract new volunteers, members, future sponsors or benefactors?
- Are there potential promotional opportunities?
- How does the project increase community awareness of heritage?
- How does this project deliver on service of excellence, heightened visitor experience and best museum practice?

Tip: Test the clarity of your description - ask an outsider to read your draft and then explain what the funding is for. Ensure you've aligned your application to the selection criteria, and that the budget reflects your project funding request (attach quotes).

Q. Can we apply for grants other than council?

A. Absolutely. There are several on-line resources such as M&G Qld. Try Council's Community Grants [resource webpage](#) for Grant Finder links.

