

## Program Guidelines

# Preventing Tech-based Abuse of Women Grants Program

### Round 3

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Opening date and time:</b>      | 11:00 am (AEDT) Monday 9 February 2026   |
| <b>Closing date and time:</b>      | 5:00 pm (AEDT) Friday 20 March 2026  |
| <b>Commonwealth policy entity:</b> | Department of Infrastructure, Transport,<br>Regional Development and the Arts  |
| <b>Administering entity:</b>       | eSafety Commissioner   |
| <b>Enquiries:</b>                  | If you have any questions, contact the eSafety Grants Team<br>at: <a href="mailto:grants@esafety.gov.au">grants@esafety.gov.au</a> |
| <b>Date guidelines released:</b>   | Monday 9 February 2026   |
| <b>Type of grant opportunity:</b>  | Open competitive   |

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# Preventing Tech-based Abuse of Women Grants Program Round 3 processes

## **The Preventing Tech-based Abuse of Women Grants Program is designed to achieve Australian Government objectives**

This grant opportunity is part of the Preventing Tech-based Abuse of Women Grants Program which contributes to Program 1.3, the eSafety Commissioner, in the Australian Communications Media Authority Portfolio Budget Statement, focusing on the prevention of online harm to Australians. The eSafety Commissioner has designed Round 3 of the grant program according to the [Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles](#) (CGRPs).

### **The grant opportunity opens at 11:00am (AEST) Monday 9 February 2026**

We publish the grant guidelines on [GrantConnect](#)



### **You complete and submit a grant application**

You complete the [online application form](#) and address all the eligibility and assessment criteria to be considered for a grant.



### **We assess all grant applications**

We assess the applications against eligibility criteria. We assess your eligible application against the assessment criteria and compare it to other eligible applications.



### **We make grant recommendations**

We provide advice to the decision maker (the Program Delegate) on the merits of each application.



### **Grant decisions are made**

The Program Delegate decided which applications are successful.



### **We notify you of the outcome**

We advise you of the outcome of your application. We may not notify unsuccessful applicants until grant agreements have been executed with successful applicants.



### **We enter into a grant agreement**

We will enter into a grant agreement with you if your application is successful. The type of grant agreement is based on the nature of the grant and will be proportional to the risks involved.



### **Delivery of grant**

You undertake the grant activity as set out in your grant agreement. The type of grant agreement is based on the nature and amount of the grant and is proportional to the risks involved.



### **Evaluation of the Program**

We evaluate your specific grant activity and the Program as a whole. We base this on information you provide to us and that we collect from various sources.

# 1. Introduction

These guidelines contain information for the eSafety Commissioner's Preventing Tech-based Abuse of Women Grants Program ('the Program').

The Program complements eSafety's work to help safeguard Australians at risk from online harms and to promote safer, more positive online experiences.

The intent is to fund projects that focus on the prevention of online harms and enhanced safety for women and children. This may include projects that target people who perpetrate technology-facilitated abuse and/or changing attitudes and behaviours in the broader community, as well as projects that specifically target women and children.

This document sets out:

- the objectives of the Program
- the eligibility and assessment criteria
- how grant applications are considered and selected
- how grantees are notified and receive grant payments
- how grantees are monitored and evaluated
- the responsibilities and expectations in relation to this opportunity

**These guidelines relate exclusively to Round 3 of the Program.**

You must read these guidelines before filling out an application.

# 2. About the Preventing Tech-based Abuse of Women Grants Program

## 2.1 About eSafety

The eSafety Commissioner (eSafety) is Australia's independent regulator for online safety. We foster online safety by exercising our powers under Australian Government legislation, primarily the *Online Safety Act 2021* (the Online Safety Act), to protect Australians from serious online harms.

Online harms are actions that take place wholly, or partially, online that can damage an individual's social, emotional, psychological, financial, or even

physical safety. These harms can occur because of content, conduct, or contact.

The Online Safety Act governs the functions of eSafety and includes a world-leading initiative – the Basic Online Safety Expectations – as well as the development of industry codes or standards to regulate illegal and restricted content. The Act also includes four complaint-based schemes (the Adult Cyber Abuse Scheme, the Cyberbullying Scheme for children, the Image-Based Abuse Scheme, and the Online Content Scheme for illegal and restricted content) and gives eSafety powers to limit access to abhorrent violent conduct material during an online crisis event.

We provide strategic leadership and guidance, through the delivery of evidence-based resources and outreach programs, to educate Australians about online safety. We lead online safety grant programs funded by the Australian Government as part of its commitment to keeping communities safe online. The [ACMA and eSafety Corporate Plan 2024-25](#) and the [eSafety Strategy 2022-2025](#) guide our work.

Our vision is that through prevention, protection and proactive systemic change, Australians are supported and empowered to engage more safely online, and globally industry is enabled to meet legislated safety expectations.

## 2.2 About the Preventing Tech-based Abuse of Women Grants Program

The Program will be delivered from 2023 to 2028 with \$10 million available through a minimum of three separate grant opportunities (rounds). Further break down of the funding available is at section 3.

We administer the program according to the [Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles](#) (CGRPs).

The program forms part of the Government's commitment to the aims and objectives of [2022-32 \(the National Plan\)](#). The National Plan highlights the need to understand and factor in the role of technology in addressing violence against women and children.

This Program specifically seeks to address **technology-facilitated gender-based violence** (hereafter referred to as 'tech-based abuse of women'). For the purposes of these guidelines, tech-based abuse captures all forms of violence and abuse that occur online or through other digital technology, including

where technology is used to enable, assist, or amplify abuse or coercive control of a person or group of people

As a form of gender-based violence, tech-based abuse of women is associated with **the four drivers** identified in Our Watch's [Change the Story](#):

- the condoning of violence against women,
- men's control of decision-making and limits to women's independence in public and private life,
- rigid gender stereotyping and dominant forms of masculinity, and
- male peer relations and cultures of masculinity that emphasise aggression, dominance and control.

Women are a key focus of the program because i statistics indicate they are at greater risk of various forms of violence and abuse, including from tech-based abuse. The majority of reports to eSafety under our cyberbullying and adult cyber abuse schemes, are received from women and girls. Women experience online abuse that is personal, sexualised, often violent and threatening, and which can cause real, enduring harm.

Technology can also be used as the means of abuse. For example, it can be used as the tool by which a woman is monitored, stalked, controlled, or isolated. Within the context of domestic, family, or sexual violence, technology can be used as a tool to exert power and control over women and their children and allow perpetrators to inflict harm and abuse that is often invisible to others. It often forms part of a pattern of coercive control in these situations.

Furthermore, there is a growing recognition that some groups of women are at increased risk of tech-based abuse because of attitudes to intersectional factors such as race, disability, cultural background and sexual orientation and identity. It is important that prevention initiatives consider the range of factors that can further increase harms<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> See eSafety reports:

- eSafety Commissioner (2022). [Women in the Spotlight](#): Women's experiences with online abuse in their working lives. Melbourne
- eSafety Commissioner (August 2021). 'For my safety' [Experiences of technology-facilitated abuse among women with intellectual disability or cognitive disability](#).
- eSafety Commissioner (August 2021). 'Can I just share my story?' [Experiences of technology-facilitated abuse among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women from regional and remote areas](#).
- eSafety Commissioner (August 2021). [Protecting LGBTIQ+ voices online: resource development research](#)
- eSafety Commissioner (August 2020). [Adults' negative online experiences](#).
- eSafety Commissioner. [Online hate speech. Findings from Australia, New Zealand and Europe](#)
- eSafety Commissioner (October 2019). [Online safety for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women living in urban areas](#)

eSafety is committed to implementing the [National Agreement on Closing the Gap](#). As part of that commitment and in line with the [Closing the Gap Grants Prioritisation Guide](#), this grant opportunity includes priority funding for projects that directly target tech-based Abuse in First Nations communities.

eSafety understands there is a continuing need to promote broader societal, cultural, and institutional changes in terms of how tech-based abuse is understood and ultimately addressed. This includes contributing to the prevention of online sexual harassment and engaging with the Australian community on how to encourage respectful and positive online behaviours.

There is also a growing body of evidence that children are also affected, directly and indirectly, by the tech-based abuse of women. eSafety research indicates that children are affected by technology-facilitated abuse in the form of monitoring, threats, and intimidation in about a quarter of domestic violence cases, contributing to negative impacts on their mental health and relationships. Projects that focus on the prevention of these types of harms on children may be considered within scope for the purpose of this program. Projects targeting the prevention of online harms against children more broadly (for example, peer-based cyberbullying, access to harmful online content, or child sexual exploitation material) are not within the scope of the program.

Key terms used in these guidelines are defined in the glossary at section 15. More information about our work is available at [eSafety.gov.au](#).

## 2.3 Program objectives

The Program supports development of prevention initiatives, including new programs and resources, that contribute to the following objectives:

- 1.1 address one or more of the drivers of tech-based abuse against women and their children, and/or
- 1.2 aim to challenge and shift the prevailing social norms that contribute to tech-based abuse against women and their children, and/or
- 1.3 promote positive and respectful behaviour and accountability in men and boys that perpetrate or may perpetrate tech-based abuse against women and their children.

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- eSafety Commissioner (February 2019) [eSafety for Women from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Backgrounds](#).
- eSafety Commissioner (October 2017). [Image-based Abuse. National Survey: Summary Report](#).
- eSafety Commissioner (2019). [Protecting voices at risk online](#).

Applicants will be required to nominate one **of the above as the primary objective** that their project responds to. Applicants may identify additional program objectives that their project would also support.

## 3. Grant amount and grant period

### 3.1 Grants available

A total of \$10 million in grant funding is available under the Program, to be allocated over at least three rounds. \$3 million was awarded under Round 1 in 2023.

Under Round 3:

- at least \$3.5 million in grant funding is available
- the minimum grant amount is \$80,000 (GST exclusive)
- the maximum grant amount is \$400,000 (GST exclusive).

#### **Priority funding for First Nations Projects**

Of the total funding available, up to \$600,000 has been set aside to support priority funding of projects that directly target tech-based abuse in First Nations communities ('First Nations Projects').

Eligibility and assessment of First Nations Projects are outlined in subsequent sections of these guidelines.

### 3.2 Grant period

Projects should be scheduled to be completed within a maximum of 24 months of the project start date as stated in the grant agreement, subject to any agreed variation (see Section 12.4). Projects seeking smaller grants (less than \$150,000) should aim to be completed within 12 to 18 months.

Following the completion of your project activity, a period of up to three months will be available for you to complete final reporting and evaluation requirements.

## 4. Eligibility criteria

### 4.1 Who is eligible to apply for a grant?

To be eligible to apply for a grant under Round 3, all eligibility requirements specified in this section must be met.

**The applicant must:**

- a. have an Australian Business Number (ABN)
- b. be registered for the purposes of GST
- c. have a bank account with an Australian financial institution
- d. be a legal entity, and
- e. be a non-government organisation, not-for-profit or charitable organisation registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission.

**The applicant must provide evidence from the organisation's governing board, or CEO that:**

- a. the application is supported by the organisation's board
- b. the organisation has the capacity to deliver the project within the specified timeframe
- c. the organisation is financially viable and that the grant funds sought will not be used to pay for any 'business as usual' costs
- d. the organisation acknowledges that if their application is successful, receipt of funding is conditional on their entering into an agreement with the Commonwealth, based on the Commonwealth Standard Grant Agreement templates.

### 4.2 Eligibility for priority funding for a First Nations Project

To be eligible for priority funding as a First Nations Project, the applicant must (in addition to meeting the requirements specified at 4.1 above) be:

- a. an Aboriginal Controlled Community Organisation (ACCO)<sup>2</sup>; or
- b. an organisation that is primarily focused on achieving outcomes for First Nations communities; or
- c. an organisation that is partnering with an organisation that meets a) or b), above.

## 4.3 Who is not eligible to apply for a grant?

Notwithstanding sections 4.1 and 4.2, an applicant will not be eligible to apply for funding under Round 3 of the Program if it is:

- a. a Commonwealth, state, territory or local government agency or body (including government business enterprises)
- b. an individual or a sole trader
- c. an unincorporated association
- d. an overseas resident/organisation
- e. a school (from any sector – Government, Independent, or Catholic)
- f. an organisation, or partner organisation, that is included on the National Redress Scheme's list of organisations that have not joined or signified their intent to join the Scheme.
- g. receiving funding from eSafety or another Commonwealth source for the same purpose as the proposed project (whether the entire project, or one or more elements of it). You must declare if you are receiving any Commonwealth funding for the same purpose to us.

## 4.4 What qualifications, skills or checks are required?

If you are successful, your organisation must:

- a. comply with all relevant legislation relating to the employment or engagement of Child-Related Personnel in relation to the grant activity, including all necessary Working with Children Checks as outlined in the grant agreement, however described, and implement the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations

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<sup>2</sup>For the purpose of this program, an ACCO is an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community-Controlled Organisation that delivers services that builds the strength and empowerment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and people and is: a) incorporated under relevant legislation and not-for-profit, b) controlled and operated by Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people, c) connected to the community, or communities, in which they deliver the services, and d) governed by a majority Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander governing body”

- b. ensure the personnel involved in your project have relevant qualifications required for delivery of the grant activity, and
- c. ensure the online safety of your target audience/s and staff when using digital technologies and take reasonable steps to protect users of technology made available by your organisation under this grant from the risks of harmful content and harmful or inappropriate use of technology.

## 5. What the grant money can be used for

### 5.1 Eligible grant activities

**To be considered eligible grant activity for assessment panel consideration, projects must:**

- a. be focused on the prevention of tech-based abuse against women, or women and their children,
- b. must directly respond to at least one of the three program objectives (the applicant's nominated 'primary objective')
- c. must not solely focus on education of or behaviour change in potential or existing victim/survivors, and
- d. must not wholly or substantially duplicate an existing program, service, or resource that is currently, or has previously been, available to the target audience.

**To be eligible for priority funding as a First Nations Project, the project must (in addition to meeting the requirements specified above), be:**

- a. primarily focused on the prevention of tech-based abuse against First Nations women and their children, and
- b. designed and delivered by, or in partnership with a First Nations community (or communities).

**To be considered eligible grant activity, the project must have a primary focus on prevention.**

Your application will need to identify the type/s of prevention strategies the project will employ. Project types include, but are not limited to:

- a. developing and piloting a new approach to preventing tech-based abuse

- b. embedding tech-based abuse into an existing harm prevention program, service, or resource
- c. adapting and delivering an existing, evidence-based prevention of tech-based abuse program, service, or resource:
  - o for a new target audience/cohorts
  - o in a new location or via a new delivery method.

The National Plan acknowledges that ‘prevention’ work comprises a range of strategies. For this Program, eligible grant activity includes, but is not limited to, the following.

| Prevention strategy type                            | Examples   |
|---|--|
| <b>Direct participation programs</b>                | Peer or direct education programs that work with men and boys<br>Peer education models that operate through different community group settings, like sports, cultural or arts organisations<br>Peer or direct education with community members on bystander action   |
| <b>Community mobilisation and strengthening</b>     | Holistic whole-of-community events and strategies that engage community leaders and members together to prevent violence against women and girls. This can include specific cultural or demographic communities, place-based or local area specific and co-designed interventions  |
| <b>Organisational development</b>                   | Whole-of-organisation or whole-of-industry strategies that engage industry leaders and the broader workforce<br>Whole-of-workplace training and leadership initiatives<br>Whole-of-organisation policy, practice, and systems interventions  |
| <b>Communications for behaviour change programs</b> | Sustained, multi-channel and multi-audience media campaigns<br>Edutainment campaigns that use entertainment/ the arts alongside peer education materials to reinforce positive messaging<br>Large scale arts campaigns/ creative platforms used to engage diverse population groups through entertainment  |
| <b>Tech-based solutions</b>                         | Innovative or new technologies (including but not limited to apps, generative AI, in-platform messaging) that can demonstrate a capacity to deter or reduce the use of online violence.  |
| <b>Research</b>                                     | Development of new research that contributes to filling gaps on what works to prevent tech-based abuse of women<br>Policy papers or research uptake communications materials to inform policy or legislative reform<br>Policy events that bring together key stakeholders across multiple sectors to increase knowledge and practice on the prevention of tech-based abuse of women. |
| <b>Other</b>  | Prevention strategies not listed above may still be eligible for funding. However, if you are intending to seek funding for a project that is not substantially based on one or more of the strategies above, we   |

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|  | <p>recommend contacting us before commencing your application to clarify whether it would be considered eligible.</p> <p>Examples of projects that are not in scope are ones that would focus on changing the awareness and behaviours of victim-survivors in order to avoid tech-based abuse as this type of project does not focus on preventing perpetration of harms.</p> |
|--|---|

## 5.2 Eligible locations

Your project can include activities across multiple locations, but it must occur wholly within Australia.

Organisations that are based in regional or remote areas are encouraged to submit proposals for projects in their communities. Non-local organisations intending to deliver a project in a regional or remote area would need to demonstrate existing partnerships with relevant local organisations and community.

## 5.3 Eligible expenditure

If your application is successful, you can only spend the grant funding on eligible expenditure you incur to deliver the project, as specified in the grant agreement.

Not all expenditure in your application and project may be eligible for grant funding. The Program Delegate makes the final decision on what is eligible expenditure and eSafety may give additional guidance if required.

You must incur the project expenditure between the activity start date and agreement end date specified in your grant agreement for the expenditure to be deemed eligible.

The following table sets out the categories of eligible grant expenditure.

| Category of eligible expenditure  | Examples  |
|---|---|
| <b>Delivery costs and/or the acquisition of advice or services that are directly related to the project</b> | <p>Contractor fees or employee wages directly associated with the delivery of the project.</p> <p>Costs paid to a vendor or contractor to install equipment, or systems required to deliver agreed outcomes for the project. This could include program design, content development or travel to identified areas (not overseas).</p> <p>Marketing and consumables directly related to the activity</p> |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>The acquisition of intellectual property licenses, to deliver the project</b> | The upfront costs associated with acquiring intellectual property licenses.  |
| <b>Purchase or lease of assets and equipment (including digital technology)</b>  | The upfront costs associated with leasing or installing new technology.  |
| <b>Evaluation and reporting</b>  | Costs associated with evaluation of the project during the project period and preparation of project reports required under the agreement. |

If your application is successful, we may ask you to verify expenditure against the project costs outlined in your application. We may seek supporting documents such as quotes and invoices for major costs.

## 5.4 What the grant money cannot be used for

Grant money cannot be used for:

- capital expenditure, including purchase of real estate and vehicles
- staff wages (of ongoing and non-ongoing staff) associated with the ordinary business as usual activities of your organisation
- costs incurred prior to the project start date or after the agreement end date
- activities which will provide commercial advantage to the applicant (for example, promotion of the applicant's own business)
- costs incurred in the preparation of a grant application or related documentation
- existing overheads and ongoing administrative costs such as electricity, phone, rent, salaries (including for research assistants or administrative staff, honorariums or administrative charges levied by your organisation)
- major construction and/or capital works
- activities for which other Commonwealth, state, territory or local government bodies have primary responsibility
- overseas travel.

## 6. The assessment criteria

We will assess your application using a combination of the project information you provide in your application form and one page pitch. We may request additional information as requested by the assessment panel.

Applications for First Nations Priority Funding will need to provide the same project information requested in the application form and a one page pitch.

### 6.1 One page pitch

Your submission should aim to include the following information:

#### **Organisational capacity and capability**

- relevant knowledge, skills and experience of key people who will be involved in the delivery of your project (including employees, contractors, staff of partner organisations) including in the prevention of gender-based violence
- your approach to implementing key elements including project and risk management, evaluation, communication, and reporting (e.g., in-house, use of specialist contractors, outsourced)
- examples of projects that your organisation has successfully delivered and are similar in scale or approach,
- established relationships with target communities, partner organisations, and other relevant stakeholders.

#### **Project need:**

- why the project is needed, referencing relevant evidence (evidence may include various sources that demonstrate need e.g., service delivery, stakeholder feedback, previous project evaluations, published research, relevant plans and frameworks.

#### **Alignment:**

- how your project will contribute to your nominated primary objective and any other Program objectives that you identify as relevant
- how your project will:
  - increase public awareness about the nature and impact of tech-based abuse against women and their children, and

- contribute to the evidence base on what works to prevent tech-based abuse against women and their children through project evaluation, and where relevant, research

**Impact:**

- projected reach including overall numbers and breakdown across key audiences, locations (including regional/remote areas) and/or project elements and how these figures were estimated
- the intended outcomes for the target audience/s
- how you will evaluate whether these outcomes are achieved
- the potential for the project to be maintained beyond the life of the grant period
- the potential for the project to be scaled up or replicated across other locations and for other audiences.

## 7. How to apply

You must submit your grant application using the [online form application form](#) available through the [eSafety website](#). eSafety will not provide application forms or accept applications for this grant opportunity by fax, mail, or email.

In Round 3, organisations can apply once as either an individual applicant or the lead applicant for a consortium. Organisations may apply more than once as a joint applicant in a consortium (for information on consortium applications see Section 7.2).

All applicants must:

- read the guidelines and sample grant agreement
- complete the online application form at [eSafety.smartygrants.com.au](https://eSafety.smartygrants.com.au)
- provide all information requested, including a detailed description of your proposed project
- address all eligibility and assessment criteria and include all necessary attachments
- submit your application online by the advertised closing date and time.

You are responsible for ensuring that your application is complete and accurate. Giving false or misleading information is a serious offence under the

Criminal Code 1995 and we will investigate any false or misleading information and may exclude your application from further consideration.

If you find an error in your application after it has been submitted or if there are changes to contact details, you should contact us at [grants@eSafety.gov.au](mailto:grants@eSafety.gov.au). We do not have to accept any additional information, nor requests by applicants to correct applications after the closing time.

If we find an error or that information is missing, we may ask for clarification or additional information from you, provided this information will not change the nature of your application. However, we can refuse to accept any additional information from you that would materially change your submission after the application closing time.

You should keep a copy of your application and any supporting documents. We will acknowledge receipt of your application once it has been received and provide updates to applicants as required.

Documents related to this grant opportunity, including any alterations or addenda to these Guidelines, will be published on [GrantConnect](#). By registering on the GrantConnect website, you will be automatically notified of any changes.

GrantConnect is the authoritative source for grants information. eSafety will also publish all documents, including alterations and addenda on [our website](#).

If you need further guidance on the application process, contact us at [grants@eSafety.gov.au](mailto:grants@eSafety.gov.au).

## 7.1 Applications for priority funding of First Nations projects

Applicants seeking priority funding for First Nations projects will need to select this option when completing the online application form.

They will also need to be able to meet the eligibility requirements set out in section 4.2 and demonstrate the project is:

- a. primarily focused on prevention of tech-based abuse against First Nations women and their children, and
- b. designed and delivered in partnerships with First Nations communities (or community)

## 7.2 Attachments to the application

Your supporting documentation should be attached to the application form. There will be instructions in the application form to help you. Only attach the documents you have been asked to include. The documents required are listed at section 4.1.2.

- evidence of support from your organisation’s board (or CEO or equivalent)
- evidence of (or commitment to develop and submit) your organisation’s child safety guidelines or policies if it involves people under the age of 18 years.

## 7.3 Consortium applications

Consortium applications may be submitted. A consortium is two or more organisations working together to apply for a grant and deliver the project.

One member of the consortium must be appointed the ‘lead organisation’. This organisation must meet all of the eligibility criteria specified at paragraph 4.1.1. All other members of the consortium will be considered “joint applicants”. Joint applicants are not required to meet all of the eligibility criteria at 4.1.1. Joint applicants are treated as the lead organisation’s subcontractors for the purpose of the grant agreement.

The lead organisation must complete and submit the application form. If the application is successful, the lead organisation will need to enter into a grant agreement with the Commonwealth, and, must have a formal arrangement in place with all parties prior to execution of the agreement.

Consortium partnerships and other subcontracting arrangements should generally be with Australian organisations. If you anticipate a need to subcontract part of your project to an overseas organisation, you should clearly state this in your application and explain why you consider this is necessary.

The grant application should include:

- details of each consortium member
- the roles and responsibilities of each consortium member
- financial or in-kind contributions of consortium members

- relevant experience and expertise that each consortium member will bring to the grant activity.

## 7.4 Questions during the application process

If you have any questions during the application period, please contact eSafety via [grants@eSafety.gov.au](mailto:grants@eSafety.gov.au).

eSafety will endeavour to respond to emailed questions within three working days. Answers to questions may be posted on [GrantConnect](#) and the [eSafety website](#).

# 8. The grant selection process

## 8.1 Assessment of grant applications

The Program is a competitive grants opportunity, and each application will be assessed on its merits.

The order in which we receive applications is not relevant, provided we receive your application during the application period.

We will first review your application against the eligibility criteria. If it meets all of the eligibility criteria, the Assessment Panel will then assess your application against the assessment criteria set out at Section 6.

Applications must receive an average score of at least 60 out of 100 to be considered for funding, however, this does not guarantee the project will be funded. Applications that receive the highest scores will be considered first.

## 8.2 Assessment of applications for First Nations Priority Funding

In the first instance, applications for First Nations Priority funding will be assessed against each other with each applicant needing to address all the selection criteria set out in Section 6.

Applications must receive an average score of at least 60 out of 100 to be considered for funding, however, this does not guarantee the project will be funded.

Once the allocated priority funding has been exhausted, remaining applications will then be considered eligible for funding from the main pool of funds available and would be assessed against all other applications.

## 8.3 Who will assess applications?

The Assessment Panel will be chaired by eSafety and will comprise representatives from eSafety and other government departments and agencies with suitable expertise in the prevention of gender-based violence and grants programs.

The Assessment Panel may seek additional information from other Australian Government agencies and may contact referees provided as per Section 4.1.4.

The Assessment Panel may also consider other available information about your organisation or proposed project, provided this is in keeping with our privacy policy and obligations under the Privacy Act 1988.

If the assessment process identifies unintentional errors in your application, you may be contacted to correct or explain the information.

You cannot make any material alterations or additions at this time, and we can refuse to accept any additional information that would materially change your application.

## 8.4 Who will approve grants?

The Assessment Panel will recommend applications for grant funding to the Program Delegate for approval.

The Program Delegate is the person who occupies the position of General Manager, Corporate & Strategy Division.

The Program Delegate decides which grants to approve with consideration of the Program objectives, recommendations of the Assessment Panel, and the availability of grant funds.

The Program Delegate's decision is final in all matters, including:

- the approval of the grant
- the grant funding amount to be awarded
- the terms and conditions of the grant.

There is no appeal mechanism for decisions to approve or not approve a grant. We cannot review decisions about the merits of your application.

eSafety reserves the right to offer less funding than that sought by the applicant.

The Program Delegate will brief the eSafety Commissioner and the Minister for Communications on the assessment process and outcomes.

## 9. Notification of application outcomes

We will advise you of the outcome of your application in writing. If you are successful, we will advise you of any specific conditions attached to the grant. Please note that due to the volume of applications eSafety's receives and the complexity of the assessment process for this program, there may be delays in finalising the outcomes.

### 9.1 Feedback on your application

If your application is unsuccessful, you may request feedback from eSafety within one month of being advised of the outcome. Details regarding the feedback process will be made available in the assessment outcome notification letter.

### 9.2 Further grant opportunities

If the Program Delegate decides to award less than the total amount available under this round (for example, if there are not enough suitable applications), remaining funds may be offered through a subsequent grant opportunity, subject to the timing of decisions and availability of funding across financial years.

## 10. Successful grant applications

### 10.1 The grant agreement

If your application is successful, you will be required to enter into a legally binding grant agreement with the Commonwealth, as represented by the eSafety Commissioner. Grant agreements used under this Program are developed using the [Commonwealth Grant Agreement templates](#).

The specific template used will depend on the nature of the project and funding amount.

#### **The grant agreement will state:**

- the maximum grant amount to be paid
- project activities, deliverables, and timeframes

- the proportion of eligible expenditure covered by the grant (grant percentage) the payment milestones and, where applicable, associated reports
- any financial contributions you must make any in-kind contributions you will make
- any financial contributions you must make any in-kind contributions you will make
- any financial or in-kind contributions that will be provided by a third party.

We will seek to enter into grant agreements with successful applicants as soon as possible and within 30 days from the date of offer. During this time, we will work with you to finalise and execute the agreement. (Note: ‘Execute’ means both you and the Commonwealth have signed the agreement.)

If there are unreasonable delays in finalising a grant agreement with a successful applicant, the grant offer may be withdrawn and awarded to a different applicant. Under certain circumstances, we may extend this period.

The agreement has general terms and conditions that cannot be changed. Any additional conditions attached to the grant will be identified in the grant offer or during the grant agreement negotiations.

## 11. Timing of grant opportunity processes

You must apply between the published opening and closing dates and times. We cannot accept late applications.

The anticipated timeline for this grant opportunity is the following table.

Applicants should note there may be changes to this timeline. We will publish any timeline updates on GrantConnect and on the eSafety website.

| Activity   | Anticipated time frame |
|--|------------------------|
| Guidelines published on <a href="#">GrantConnect</a> and the <a href="#">eSafety website</a> | Monday 9 February 2026 |
| Applications open  | Monday 9 February 2026 |
| Applications close   | Friday 20 March 2026   |
| Notification of successful applicants  | May 2026               |
| Notification of unsuccessful applicants  | May-June 2026          |
| Announcement of successful applicants  | May-June 2026          |
| Negotiation and execution of grant agreements  | May-June 2026          |

## 12. Specific legislation, policies and industry standards

### Accessibility and inclusivity

We require all successful grant recipients to consider the accessibility and inclusivity of any information resources that will be developed in this grants program including for First Nations people, culturally and linguistically diverse peoples and other groups identified by eSafety as being at high risk of online abuse. A guide to accessible and inclusive writing can be found here:

[stylemanual.gov.au/user-needs/understanding-needs](https://stylemanual.gov.au/user-needs/understanding-needs).

All web-based material generated under or in connection with the grant activities must be fully compliant with WCAG Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (w3c.org).

### Child safety

The successful applicant will be required to comply with all child safety obligations set out in the grant agreement including the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations, which have been endorsed in draft form by the Commonwealth Government (available at:

[www.childsafety.gov.au/resources/national-principles-child-safe-organisations](https://www.childsafety.gov.au/resources/national-principles-child-safe-organisations)). Irrespective of the child safety obligations in the grant agreement you must always comply with your state and territory legislative requirements for working with children and mandatory reporting.

## 13. How we pay the grant

We will not exceed the maximum grant amount under any circumstances. If you incur extra costs, you must meet them yourself.

We will make an initial payment on execution of the grant agreement. We will make subsequent payments as detailed in the grant agreement based on your progress against project milestones, actual expenditure acquittals (if requested), and receipt of a valid invoice. Payments are subject to satisfactory progress on your project.

### 13.1 Grants Payments and GST

Where applicable, we will add GST to your grant payment. We will not pay GST on any wages that are paid to an ongoing or non-ongoing employee in your organisation.

Before any payments are made, you must provide:

- a tax invoice for the payment
- any milestone reports associated with payments as stated in your grant agreement, where applicable
- evidence that any other conditions of payment (for example, evidence of purchase of equipment) in your grant agreement have been met.

## 14. Announcement of grants

We will publish details of successful projects on [GrantConnect](#) 21 calendar days after the date of effect. We are required to do this by the Commonwealth Grant Rules and Principle's (Section 5.3) unless otherwise prohibited by law.

We will also publish information on the [eSafety website](#). This information may include one or more of the following:

- the name of your organisation the title of the project
- a description of the project and its aims
- the amount of funding being awarded your Australian Business Number
- your business location
- your organisation's industry sector

- your target audience and website.

Examples of the information eSafety published for past grants programs are on the [eSafety website](#).

## 15. How we monitor your grant activity

### 15.1 Keeping us informed

You must let us know if anything is likely to affect your project or the status of your organisation.

We need to know of any key changes to your organisation or its business activities, particularly if they affect your ability to complete your grant, carry on business and pay debts due.

You must inform us of any changes to your:

- name
- addresses
- nominated contact details
- consortium members or subcontractors (if any)
- bank account details.

You should notify us of any media or other events relating to your grant so we can consider

eSafety's involvement or approach the Minister or their representative regarding attendance.

### 15.2 Reporting

You must submit reports in line with your grant agreement. We will provide you with reporting templates and remind you of your reporting obligations before a report is due.

The amount of detail you provide in your reports should be relative to the size, complexity and grant amount.

We will monitor progress by assessing your reports and may conduct site visits or request records to confirm details of your reports if necessary. Occasionally

we may need to re-examine claims, seek further information or request an independent audit of claims and payments.

### **Progress reports**

We expect progress reports to:

- include evidence of your progress towards completion of agreed activities and outcomes
- show the total eligible expenditure incurred to date
- be submitted by the report due date (you can submit reports ahead of time if you have completed relevant activities).

In the instance where milestone payments are scheduled, we will only make payments when the associated milestone report has been received and accepted by eSafety. You must discuss any reporting delays with us as soon as you become aware of them.

The timing of progress reports will be determined during grant agreement negotiations.

### **Individual progress meetings**

Progress meetings will be scheduled throughout the delivery of the project. The purpose of these meetings will be to discuss project progress and identify challenges.

### **Collaborative meetings**

We may conduct collaborative meetings which will provide grant recipients an opportunity to meet and share information about the projects being delivered.

### **Ad hoc reports**

We may ask your organisation or ad hoc reports on your project. This may provide an update on progress, or any significant delays or difficulties in completing the project.

### Final report

When you complete the project, you must submit a final report.

The final report must include:

- the projects achievement against the outcomes
- the reach and impact of the project, including assessment against the evaluation plan
- the contribution the project has made to the Program objectives
- a statement of compliance in relation to Child Safety (Clause CB9).

## 15.3 Financial declaration

We will ask you to provide a declaration that the grant money was spent in accordance with the grant agreement and to report on, and repay, any underspends of the grant money.

We may ask you to provide an independently audited financial acquittal report. A financial acquittal report will verify that you spent the grant in accordance with the grant agreement.

## 15.4 Grant agreement variations

We recognise that unexpected events may affect your progress.

In these circumstances, you can request a variation to your grant agreement. You can request a variation by contacting us at [grants@esafety.gov.au](mailto:grants@esafety.gov.au).

The Program does not allow for variations that increase the agreed amount of grant funds.

If you want to propose changes to the grant agreement, you must put them in writing before the grant agreement end date.

## 15.5 Compliance visits

We may visit you during or at the completion of your grant activity to review your compliance with the grant agreement. We will provide you with reasonable notice of any compliance visit.

## 15.6 Record keeping

We may inspect the records you are required to keep as stated in your grant agreement.

## 15.7 Evaluation

We will evaluate this grant program to measure how well the outcomes and objectives have been achieved. We may use information from your application and reports for this purpose. We may also interview you, ask you for information, or for participation in data collection, to help us understand how the grant impacted your organisation and to evaluate how effective the program was in achieving its outcomes.

We will obtain some of this information through our progress meetings as outlined in Section 12.2.

We may contact you up to five years after you finish your project for more information to assist with this evaluation.

During the project you may be contacted by an independent evaluator for this purpose.

## 16. Acknowledgement

The specified eSafety logo must be used on all materials related to grants under the Program in accordance with eSafety's brand guidelines. Whenever the logo is used the publication must also acknowledge the Commonwealth as below:

‘Preventing Tech-based Abuse of Women Grants Program - An Australian Government initiative’.

All verbal presentations must also acknowledge Australian Government funding.

You may also wish to invite representatives of the Australian Government and eSafety to support your project or event. Requests can be sent to [grants@eSafety.gov.au](mailto:grants@eSafety.gov.au).

## 17. Probit

The Australian Government will make sure that the grant opportunity process:

- is fair, according to the published guidelines
- incorporates appropriate safeguards against fraud, unlawful activities and other inappropriate conduct
- is consistent with the Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines.

## 18. Enquiries and feedback

For further information or clarification on these guidelines or this grant program, you can contact us at [grants@eSafety.gov.au](mailto:grants@eSafety.gov.au).

We may publish answers to your questions on GrantConnect and on the eSafety website as 'Frequently Asked Questions'.

If you have a complaint, please contact us at [grants@eSafety.gov.au](mailto:grants@eSafety.gov.au). All complaints about a grant process must be provided in writing. We will refer your complaint to the appropriate contact person.

If you do not agree with the way eSafety has handled your complaint, you may forward it to the Commonwealth Ombudsman.

The Ombudsman will not usually investigate a complaint unless the matter has first been raised directly with the eSafety Commissioner.

The Commonwealth Ombudsman can be contacted via:

- phone (Toll free): 1300 362 072
- Contact: [Ombudsman online contact form](#)
- website: [ombudsman.gov.au](#)

## 19. Conflicts of interest

Any conflicts of interest could affect the performance of the grant opportunity or program. Your organisation may have a conflict of interest, or perceived conflict of interest, if any of your employees, agents, subcontractors, committee members or advisors has one or more of the following:

- a professional, commercial or personal relationship with a party who can influence the application selection process, such as an Australian Government officer,
- a relationship with, or interest in, an organisation which is likely to interfere with or restrict your organisation from carrying out the proposed activities fairly and independently or;
- a relationship with, or interest in, an organisation from which they will receive personal gain because the organisation receives a grant under the grant program or opportunity.

You will be asked to declare, as part of your application, any perceived or existing conflicts of interests or that, to the best of your knowledge, there is no conflict of interest.

If you later identify an actual, apparent, or perceived conflict of interest, you must inform eSafety in writing immediately.

Conflicts of interest for Australian Government staff will be handled as set out in the Australian Public Service Code of Conduct (Section 13(7) of the *Public Service Act 1999*). Assessment panel members and other officials including the decision maker must also declare any conflicts of interest.

Links to the Australian Public Service Commission page on conflicts of interest are available on the eSafety website.

## 20. Privacy

We treat your personal information according to the *Privacy Act 1988* and the Australian Privacy Principles. This includes letting you know:

- what personal information we collect
- why we collect your personal information
- to whom we give your personal information.

Your personal information can only be disclosed to someone else for the primary purpose for which it was collected unless an exemption applies.

The Australian Government may also use and disclose information about grant applicants and grant recipients under this grant opportunity in any other Australian Government business or function. This includes disclosing grant information on GrantConnect as required for reporting purposes and giving information to the Australian Taxation Office for compliance purposes.

We may share the information you give us with other Commonwealth entities for purposes including government administration, research or service delivery, according to Australian laws.

As part of your application, you declare your ability to comply with the *Privacy Act 1988* and the Australian Privacy Principles and impose the same privacy obligations on officers, employees, agents and subcontractors that you engage to assist with the activity, in respect of personal information you collect, use, store, or disclose in connection with the activity.

Accordingly, you must not do anything which, if done by eSafety, would breach an Australian Privacy Principle as defined in the Act.

### 20.1 Confidential Information

Other than information available in the public domain, you agree not to disclose to any person, other than us, any confidential information relating to the grant application or agreement, without our prior written approval. The obligation will not be breached where you are required by law, Parliament or a stock exchange to disclose the relevant information or where the relevant information is publicly available (other than through breach of a confidentiality or non-disclosure obligation).

We may, at any time, require you to arrange for you or your employees, agents or subcontractors to give a written undertaking relating to non-disclosure of our confidential information in a form we consider acceptable.

We will keep any information in connection with the grant agreement confidential to the extent that it meets all the three conditions below:

1. You clearly identify the information as confidential and explain why we should treat it as confidential.
2. The information is commercially sensitive.
3. Revealing the information would cause unreasonable harm to you or someone else.

We will not be in breach of any confidentiality agreement if the information is disclosed to:

- the Assessment Panel and other Commonwealth employees and contractors to help us manage the program effectively
- employees and contractors of the eSafety Commissioner and other Commonwealth Government employees with suitable expertise in online safety so we can research, assess, monitor and analyse our programs and activities
- employees and contractors of other Commonwealth agencies for any purposes, including government administration, research or service delivery
- other Commonwealth, State, Territory or local government agencies in program reports and consultations
- the Auditor-General, Ombudsman or Privacy Commissioner the responsible Minister or Parliamentary Secretary
- a House or a Committee of the Australian Parliament.

## **21. Freedom of information**

All documents in the possession of the Australian Government, including those about this grant opportunity, are subject to the Freedom of Information Act 1982 (FOI Act).

The purpose of the FOI Act is to give members of the public rights of access to information held by the Australian Government and its entities. Under the FOI

Act, members of the public can seek access to documents held by the Australian Government. This right of access is limited only by the exceptions and exemptions necessary to protect essential public interests and private and business affairs of persons in respect of whom the information relates.

All Freedom of Information requests must be referred to the Freedom of Information Coordinator in writing.

**By mail:**

Freedom of Information  
Coordinator eSafety Commissioner  
PO Box Q500  
Queen Victoria Building NSW 1230

**By email:**

[foi@eSafety.gov.au](mailto:foi@eSafety.gov.au)

## 22. Consultation

To develop these guidelines, eSafety has consulted with other relevant Australian Government agencies and Program stakeholders.

## 23. Glossary

| Term  | Definition   |
|---|--|
| <b>applicant</b>                                    | The applicant is the lead applicant and is distinct from consortium members.   |
| <b>Aboriginal Controlled Community Organisation</b> | <p>for the purpose of this program, an ACCO is an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community-Controlled Organisation delivers services that builds the strength and empowerment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and people and is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) incorporated under relevant legislation and not-for-profit,</li> <li>b) controlled and operated by Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people,</li> <li>c) connected to the community, or communities, in which they deliver the services, and</li> <li>d) governed by a majority Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander governing body”</li> </ul> |
| <b>assessment criteria</b>                          | The specified principles or standards, against which applications will be judged. These criteria are also used to assess the merits of proposals and, in the case of a competitive grant opportunity, to determine application rankings.   |
| <b>application period</b>                           | is the timeframe from when the application round opens and closes.   |
| <b>Assessment Panel</b>                             | The people responsible for assessing each application and making recommendations to the Program Delegate (as decision maker) for which applications should be awarded funding.   |
| <b>charity</b>                                      | an organisation that is registered with the ACNC a <u>not-for-profit</u> , has only charitable purposes that are for the public benefit, not have a disqualifying purpose and, not be an individual, a political party or a government entity.   |
| <b>co-design</b>                                    | an inclusive, collaborative process involving users of services in the development and design of new projects, policies, programs, services or initiatives.  |
| <b>coercive control<sup>3</sup></b>                 | Coercive control is often a significant part of a person's experience of family and domestic violence and describes someone's use of abusive behaviours against another person over time, with the effect of establishing and maintaining power and dominance over them.   |

<sup>3</sup> National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children 2022–2032. Commonwealth of Australia (Department of Social Services).

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>coronavirus – COVID-19</b>                                  | COVID-19 (also referred to as coronavirus) is a respiratory illness caused by a new virus. The World Health Organization has announced that COVID-19 is a pandemic. For more information see the Australian Government, Department of Health <a href="#">website</a> .   |
| <b>Commonwealth entity</b>                                     | a Department of State, or a Parliamentary Department, or a listed entity or a body corporate established by a law of the Commonwealth. See subsections 10(1) and (2) of the PGPA Act.  |
| <b><u>Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles (CGRPs)</u></b> | establish the overarching Commonwealth grants policy framework and articulate the expectations for all non-corporate Commonwealth entities in relation to grants administration. Under this overarching framework, non-corporate Commonwealth entities undertake grants administration based on the mandatory requirements and key principles of grants administration.  |
| <b>date of effect</b>  | the date on which a grant agreement is signed or a specified starting date. Where there is no grant agreement, entities must publish information on individual grants as soon as practicable.  |
| <b>decision maker</b>  | the person who decides to award a grant. In these guidelines, the decision maker is the Program Delegate.  |
| <b>domestic and family violence<sup>4,5</sup></b>              | <p>refers to any repeated pattern of behaviour that is violent, threatening controlling or intended to make a person or their family feel scared and unsafe. It includes physical, sexual, emotional, psychological, financial and technology-facilitated abuse.</p> <p>It can affect anyone in all types of relationships such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• past or current intimate relationships, including in de facto relationships or dating relationships, regardless of gender or sexuality</li> <li>• relationships involving carers of people with a disability or a medical condition, or elders</li> <li>• relationships with relatives and guardians</li> <li>• culturally recognised family groups.</li> </ul> <p>In First Nations communities, family violence is often the preferred term as it encapsulates the broader issue of violence within extended families, kinship networks and community relationships as well as intergenerational issues.</p> |
| <b>eligibility criteria</b>                                    | Refer to the mandatory criteria which must be met to qualify for a grant. Assessment criteria may apply in addition to eligibility criteria.   |

<sup>4</sup> 6 Services Australia. *What is family and domestic violence*. Accessed at [What is family and domestic violence - Family and domestic violence - Services Australia](#).

<sup>5</sup> 1800 Respect. National Domestic Family and Sexual Violence Counselling Service. *Domestic and family violence*. Accessed at [Domestic and family violence | 1800RESPECT](#).

|   |   |
|---|---|
|   |   |
| <b>gender<sup>6</sup></b>                       | Refers to the economic, social, political, and cultural attributes and opportunities associated with being women and men. The social definitions of what it means to be a woman or a man vary among cultures and change over time. Gender is a sociocultural expression of particular characteristics and roles that are associated with certain groups of people with reference to their sex and sexuality.  |
| <b>gender-based violence<sup>7</sup></b>        | Gender-based violence refers to violence that is used against someone because of their gender. It describes violence rooted in gender-based power inequalities, rigid gender norms and gender-based discrimination. While people of all genders can experience gender-based violence, the term is most often used to describe violence against women and girls, because most gender-based violence is perpetrated by heterosexual, cisgender men against women, because they are women. Violence experienced by LGBTIQA+ people, particularly by those who are gender diverse is also gender-based violence and shares some of the drivers of violence against women.   |
| <b>gendered drivers of violence<sup>8</sup></b> | <p>The underlying causes that are required to create the necessary conditions in which violence against women occurs. They relate to the particular structures, norms and practices arising from gender inequality in public and private life, but which must always be considered in the context of other forms of social discrimination and disadvantage.</p> <p>They include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. the condoning of violence against women,</li> <li>2. men's control of decision-making and limits to women's independence in public and private life,</li> <li>3. rigid gender stereotyping and dominant forms of masculinity, and</li> <li>4. male peer relations and cultures of masculinity that emphasise aggression, dominance and control.</li> </ol> |
| <b>gendered social norms</b>                    | <p>The dominant beliefs and rules of conduct that are determined by a society or social group in relation to the types of roles, interests, behaviours and contributions expected from girls and boys, men and women. Norms are not neutral in their effect, but rather create and maintain unequal relations of power.</p> <p>Changing social norms is a key goal of prevention.</p>   |

<sup>6</sup> Our Watch. (2017). Putting the prevention of violence against women into practice: How to Change the Story. [Our Watch](#), Melbourne, Australia.

<sup>7</sup> Our Watch. (2017). Putting the prevention of violence against women into practice: How to Change the Story. [Our Watch](#), Melbourne, Australia.

<sup>8</sup> Our Watch. (2017). Putting the prevention of violence against women into practice: How to Change the Story. [Our Watch](#), Melbourne, Australia.

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
|                                  | <p>When working on changing social norms, it is important to recognise that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Norms and attitudes are different – changing some people's attitudes does not mean that social norms are changing.</li> <li>• Social norms can have both direct and indirect influence on values, beliefs and behaviours.</li> <li>• Social norms can have either a positive or a negative effect.</li> <li>• Social norms vary between different contexts and change over time.</li> <li>• Work to change individual values and beliefs must be supported by work to address how social norms are embedded in organisations and institutions.</li> </ul> |
| <b>grant</b>                     | <p>for the purposes of the CGRPs, a 'grant' is an arrangement for the provision of financial assistance by the Commonwealth or on behalf of the Commonwealth:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• under which relevant money<sup>9</sup> or other <u>Consolidated Revenue Fund</u> (CRF) money<sup>10</sup> is to be paid to a grantee other than the Commonwealth; and</li> <li>• which is intended to help address one or more of the Australian Government's policy outcomes while assisting the grantee achieve its objectives.</li> </ul>   |
| <b>grant activity/activities</b> | <p>refers to the project/tasks/services that the grantee is required to undertake.</p>  |
| <b>grant agreement</b>           | <p>sets out the relationship between the parties to the agreement and specifies the details of the grant.</p>   |
| <b><u>GrantConnect</u></b>       | <p>is the Australian Government's whole-of-government grants information system, which centralises the publication and reporting of Commonwealth grants in accordance with the CGRPs.</p>   |
| <b>grant opportunity</b>         | <p>refers to the specific grant round or process where a Commonwealth grant is made available to potential grantees. Grant opportunities may be open or targeted and will reflect the relevant grant selection process.</p>   |
| <b>grants program</b>            | <p>a 'program' carries its natural meaning and is intended to cover a potentially wide range of related activities aimed at achieving government policy outcomes. A grant program is a group of one or more grant opportunities under a single [entity] Portfolio Budget Statement Program.</p>   |

<sup>9</sup> Relevant money is defined in the PGPA Act. See section 8, Dictionary.

<sup>10</sup> Other CRF money is defined in the PGPA Act. See section 105, Rules in relation to other CRF money.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>grantee</b>                                      | the individual /organisation which has been selected to receive a grant.  |
| <b>intersectional approach</b>                      | In the context of addressing violence against women and children, an intersectional approach recognises that the way women experience gender and inequality can be different based on a range of other cultural, individual, historical, environmental or structural factors including (but not limited to) race, age, geographic location, sexual orientation, ability or class.   |
| <b>Non-Government Organisation</b>                  | be a non-government organisation, not-for-profit or charitable organisation registered with the <a href="#">Australian Charities and Not-for Profit Commission</a> .  |
| <b>primary prevention<sup>11,12</sup></b>           | whole-of-population initiatives that address the primary (first or underlying) drivers of violence. In the context of gender-based violence, this means addressing the underlying gendered power imbalances embedded within societal systems, norms and attitudes that drive violence against women.  |
| <b>primary prevention of violence against women</b> | <p>Primary prevention means stopping violence against women from occurring in the first place by addressing its underlying drivers. This requires changing the social conditions that give rise to this violence; reforming the institutions and systems that excuse, justify or even promote such violence; and shifting the power imbalances and social norms, structures and practices that drive and normalise it.</p> <p>Comprehensive primary prevention aims to influence laws, policies, and the practices and behaviours of organisations, groups and individuals. It seeks to engage and reach people of all ages in all the places they live, work, learn, socialise and play. Through this whole-of-society approach, primary prevention addresses the systems, structures, norms, attitudes, practices and power imbalances that drive violence against women.</p> <p>Examples of primary prevention activities include employer-led workplace initiatives to embed respect and gender equality in organisational structures, policies and cultures; efforts to encourage more respectful and informed reporting on violence against women in the media; respectful relationships education in schools; and gender-responsive policy analysis and development processes to identify ways to address the gendered drivers of violence in a given area of public policy.</p> |
| <b>program</b>                                      | refers to the Preventing Tech-based Abuse of Women Grants Program.  |

<sup>11</sup> Our Watch. (2017). Putting the prevention of violence against women into practice: How to Change the Story. [Our Watch](#), Melbourne, Australia.

<sup>12</sup> Our Watch. (2021). Change the story: A shared framework for the primary prevention of violence against women in Australia (2nd ed.). Our Watch, Melbourne, Australia.

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| <b>Program Delegate</b>                             | the eSafety Chief Operating Officer who has responsibility for the Program.   |
| <b>project</b>                                      | is used interchangeably with the term ‘grant activity’ and means the grant activity that is the subject of the recipient’s grant.   |
| <b>project completion date</b>                      | the expected date by which the project must be completed as specified in the grant agreement.   |
| <b>Safety by Design</b>                             | puts user safety and rights at the centre of the design and development of online products and services.<br>Rather than retrofitting safeguards after an issue has occurred, Safety by Design focuses on the ways technology companies can minimise online threats by anticipating, detecting and eliminating online harms before they occur.   |
| <b>secondary prevention</b>                         | also called early intervention, this aims to ‘change the trajectory’ for individuals at higher-than-average risk of perpetrating or experiencing violence.  |
| <b>selection criteria</b>                           | comprise eligibility criteria and assessment criteria.  |
| <b>selection process</b>                            | the method used to select potential grantees. This process may involve comparative assessment of applications or the assessment of applications against the eligibility criteria and/or the assessment criteria.  |
| <b>technology-facilitated abuse</b>                 | Technology-facilitated abuse is an overarching term that captures all forms of abuse that occur online or through other digital technology. It is where digital technology is used to enable, assist or amplify abuse or coercive control of a person or group of people.<br><br>In the context of domestic and family violence, technology-facilitated abuse covers a range of behaviours an abusive person can use to control, coerce, isolate, harass, monitor, stalk, impersonate, threaten, frighten or humiliate their partner, ex-partner or family using technology. It may take many forms such as harassing texts, the sharing or threats to share intimate images or using tracking devices. |
| <b>technology-facilitated gender-based violence</b> | Technology-facilitated gender-based violence is a subset of technology-facilitated abuse.<br><br>It is where digital technology is used to enable, assist or amplify abuse or coercive control of a person or group of people.<br>It is a multidimensional, systemic and intersectional form of violence that captures all forms of violence and abuse that occur online or through other digital technology that   |

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|  | <p>are rooted in harmful gender norms, discrimination, modes of oppression and unequal power structures.</p> <p>It predominantly affects women and girls, gender diverse groups and LGBTQI+ people, while also disproportionately affecting First Nations women, women living with disability, culturally or linguistically diverse women and other marginalised groups.</p> <p>Examples include sexist or homophobic hate speech, online sexual harassment, coercive control, image-based abuse, gendered misinformation and disinformation, and toxic misogyny linked to radicalisation.</p>  |
| <b>tertiary prevention<sup>13</sup></b>  | supports survivors and holds perpetrators to account and aims to prevent the recurrence of violence.  |
| <b>value for money/value with money/value with relevant money<sup>14</sup></b> | <p>value with money in this document refers to 'value with relevant money' which is a judgement based on the grant proposal representing an efficient, effective, economical and ethical use of public resources, and determined from a variety of considerations as specified in these guidelines.</p> <p>When administering a grant opportunity, the CGRPs state that officials should consider the relevant financial and non-financial costs and benefits of each proposal including, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the quality of the project proposal and activities</li> <li>• fitness for purpose of the proposal in contributing to government objectives;</li> <li>• that the absence of a grant is likely to prevent the grantee and government's outcomes being achieved; and</li> </ul> <p>the potential grantee's relevant experience and performance history.</p> |
| <b>violence against women</b>  | <p>any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life</p> <p>The term 'violence against women' encompasses all forms of violence, harassment and abuse that women experience. Violence can be physical, sexual, emotional, psychological, social, cultural, spiritual, financial and technology-facilitated abuse (including image-based abuse), and stalking.</p>   |

<sup>13</sup> [Our Watch](#). (2021). Change the story: A shared framework for the primary prevention of violence against women in Australia (2nd ed.). Our Watch, Melbourne, Australia.

<sup>14</sup> Relevant money is defined in the PGPA Act. See section 8, Dictionary.

# Appendix A. Sample reference material

You should consult and reference relevant evidence in the development of your project and preparing your application.

The sources below are provided as examples of relevant evidence. It is not intended to be definitive list of relevant evidence.

- The [National Plan to end violence against women and children 2022-32](#).
- The Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety (ANROWS) [website](#) and [National Research Agenda](#) – this is a central source of information about the evidence base on violence against women and children, including technology-facilitated violence
- The [Women pages](#) of the eSafety website, for information about eSafety's existing programs and resources about tech-based abuse of women.
- [eSafety research](#) - for an exploration of the evidence base surrounding the nature and impacts of online abuse.
- [Safety by Design](#) - an eSafety initiative which places the safety and rights of users at the centre of the design, development and deployment of online products and services, to shape a more positive online experience.



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