



National Council of Churches in Australia NATSIEC

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER DEVELOPMENT FUND: GUIDELINES

Funding human development is a tangible expression of the churches supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to develop their communities and their participation in the wider Australian and international community.

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Development Fund (tax deductible) was therefore set up to assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples by giving small, usually one-off grants for community development projects.

Grants not exceeding \$5,000 will be considered.

FUNDING PRIORITIES

Our policy is to give preference to the projects of community based organisations, rather than to individuals. Each application will be decided on its own merits and on the basis of mutual assessment by the applicant and NATSIEC of community need. Funds are limited, and NATSIEC may not be equipped to support every application that falls within the funding priorities. Applicants are encouraged to seek support from a range of sources, and to show evidence of these efforts.

In general, **priority will be given to projects** that fall into the following categories:

- 1: Development of Skills
Programs which assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to become self-reliant; programs which develop or enhance leadership and/or community organisation skills
- 2: Education
Development of special education programs, including projects to assist the church and the wider community to better understand Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander issues.
- 3: Community Development
Community development projects addressing identified needs within the community; community-based initiatives with direct benefits to the community
- 4: Culture
Programs to foster the development of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture

Again, in general, **funding is not available for projects** that fall into the following categories.

- Bricks and mortar and vehicles
- Individuals, including study costs
- Activities which are the responsibility of another agency, such as Government or church denomination
- Ongoing salary costs
- Ongoing organisational operating costs

Anglican Church

Antiochian
Orthodox Church

Armenian
Apostolic Church

Assyrian Church
of the East

Chinese Methodist
Church

Churches of Christ

Congregational
Federation

Coptic
Orthodox Church

Greek
Orthodox Church

Indian
Orthodox Church

Lutheran Church

Mar Thoma Church

Religious Society
of Friends (Quakers)

Roman Catholic Church

Romanian
Orthodox Church

Serbian
Orthodox Church

Syrian
Orthodox Church

The Salvation Army

Uniting Church

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DEADLINES FOR APPLICATIONS

Closing dates for applications are posted on the NATSIEC website
<http://www.ncca.org.au/natsiec/atsidf>.

Applications received **at least two months** prior to the starting date of the project, or the date when funds will be required, will be viewed favourably.

SUCCESSFUL APPLICATIONS

Successful applicants will receive a letter of acknowledgement and a Funding Agreement to sign and return to the ATSIDF. By doing so, the applicant agrees to provide a report to the ATSIDF on the project outcomes. Upon receiving the signed Funding Agreement, the ATSIDF will provide a cheque for the approved amount, made out to the applicant's organisation.

For more information on the ATSIDF application process, please contact:

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ecumenical Commission
National Council of Churches in Australia
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