



Fact Sheet: Grant Extension Process

New FaC Activity requirements from 1 July 2021

Why is my organisation only receiving two years funding?

At the end of November 2020, the Department of Social Services (the department) notified in-scope service providers about funding extensions commencing on 1 July 2021 for the following programs:

Five-year grant extensions to 30 June 2026 for:

- Communities for Children Facilitating Partners (CfC FPs)
- Family and Relationship Services (FaRS)*
- Family Mental Health Support Services (FMHSS) and
- five national Children and Parenting Support (CaPS) providers

* Future funding arrangements for FaRS Specialised Family Violence Services (SFVS) who have funding until 30 June 2022 will be considered under the next National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children.

Two-year grant extensions to 30 June 2023 for other providers delivering CaPS or Budget Based Funded (BBF) services.

Two-year extensions for providers of CaPS and BBF services will ensure funding certainty and allow time to consult with providers on opportunities for improved collaboration and coordination of service delivery.

When can my organisation expect to receive a letter of offer?

Eligible service providers were notified in November 2020 that grant arrangements would be extended and that the department would finalise grant agreements following the FaC Activity consultation. On 26 March 2021, the department emailed a letter to providers formally notifying them of the intent to offer an extension to their funding.

A formal letter of offer including the new grant agreement for signing is expected to be sent to organisations from the end of April 2021.

If your organisation has not received a letter of offer and you believe it should have, you should contact your Funding Arrangement Manager.

Why has my organisation been asked to transition to the Whole of Government Standard Grant Agreement?

The offer of extended funding will require transition to the Standard Commonwealth Grant Agreement, Terms and Conditions and Supplementary Terms and Conditions for some providers. This is to bring funding arrangements in line with standardised administrative arrangements for Commonwealth grants.

Further information about government grants administration can be found on the Australian Government Department of Finance website at [Commonwealth grants | Department of Finance](#).

Can I negotiate the terms and conditions outlined in the new grant agreement?

No. The Standard Terms and Conditions apply to all Standard Commonwealth Grant Agreements. The department has determined additional clauses provided in the Supplementary Terms and Conditions which align with government priorities, including those requirements that aim to ensure the safety and wellbeing of vulnerable people and children.

What support will the department provide to enable my organisation to meet the service improvement measures outlined in the grant?

The first 12 months under new grant agreements will be a transition period where the department will work with you to resolve any issues or barriers. The department is also developing a package of support, based on the feedback we received through consultations, which will continue to assist providers who require support.

How will the new grants contribute to national Closing the Gap targets, particularly, to strengthen and improve formal partnerships and shared decision-making?

The department is committed to strengthening and improving partnerships with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community controlled sector. The department is continuing to consult on future opportunities to increase the involvement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and to improve targeting and accessibility of services for vulnerable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and children.

While grant extensions will be offered to existing organisations, this does not prevent the establishment of new service delivery partnerships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community controlled organisations. For more information on developing genuine partnerships, see the SNAICC partnership tools resource [here](#).

Where can I go for more information or if I have further questions?

You should contact your Funding Arrangement Manager in the first instance to discuss any issues.