



Australian Government

Department of Social Services

Ageing and Service Improvement Programme

**Partners in Culturally Appropriate Care (PICAC)
PICAC, My Aged Care CALD Accessibility Project
Funding Round Summary**

July 2015

Partners In Culturally Appropriate Care (PICAC)

The Australian Government funds one PICAC organisation in each state and territory with the aim of supporting aged care providers to deliver culturally appropriate care to older people from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) backgrounds.

There are six PICAC organisations funded to deliver PICAC services across the eight states and territories. PICAC services are delivered by the same organisation in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory.

Selection type

This selection is a restricted selection process.

Eligibility

The following entity types meet the eligibility requirements needed to apply for a grant for this Activity:

- a. Incorporated Associations (incorporated under State/Territory legislation, commonly have 'Association' or 'Incorporated' or 'Inc.' in their legal name);
- b. Incorporated Cooperatives (also incorporated under State/Territory legislation, commonly have 'Cooperative' in their legal name);
- c. Companies (incorporated under the *Corporations Act 2001* (may be a proprietary company (limited by shares or by guarantee) or a public company);
- d. Aboriginal Corporations (incorporated under the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006*);
- e. Organisations established through a specific piece of Commonwealth or state/territory legislation (public benevolent institutions, churches, universities, unions etc.);
- f. Partnerships; Trustees on behalf of a Trust;
- g. State and territory Governments;
- h. Local Governments.

Both not-for-profit and for-profit entity types specified above meet the eligibility requirements.

How much?

Up to \$100,000 is available from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2017.

Closing Date and Time

Applications should be submitted by 2:00pm AEST, Wednesday, 9 September 2015.

Who to contact?

Please email your enquiries to: grants@dss.gov.au.

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Grant objectives

The primary objectives of the activity are to:

- Embed the principles of culturally appropriate aged care in the everyday practice of the My Aged Care gateway.
- Facilitate and increase access to appropriate information and resources on aged care services for older CALD people.
- Improve the capacity of older CALD people and their families to make informed decisions about their aged care needs.

Statement of Requirement

The PICAC programme aims to equip aged care providers with the necessary skills to ensure the delivery of culturally appropriate care and supports innovative and alternative methods of service provision to meet specific needs.

A key feature of funding to PICAC organisations is increasing awareness amongst CALD consumers of the Aged Care reforms including the *My Aged Care Gateway* which focuses on providing consumers with reliable information about aged care.

This project will work with the services contracted to manage *My Aged Care*, Stellar¹ and HealthDirect², to identify and address access and equity issues for older people from CALD backgrounds.

The successful applicant will need to demonstrate how they will identify specific barriers faced by older CALD people when accessing *My Aged Care* and make recommendations to the Department on potential solutions.

Selection Criteria

This section sets out the selection criteria that will be used for this funding process under the Aged Care Service Improvements and Healthy Ageing Grants (ACSIHAG).

1. Explain how this project will address the identified need and the long term benefits it will deliver to achieve the desired outcomes of the Aged Care Service Improvement and Healthy Ageing Grants.
 - Explain how you will identify barriers and make recommendations to access to *My Aged Care* for older people and their families from CALD backgrounds.
 - Describe how you will engage with key stakeholders, in determining barriers to access and potential solutions.
2. Provide details of your organisational and staff capacity (experience, skills and qualifications of management and project personnel, including the time they will commit to the project) to deliver the project's objectives and details of your organisation's previous experience in delivering similar projects.

¹ <http://www.stellarbpo.com.au/>

² <http://www.healthdirect.gov.au/>

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3. Describe how your organisation will manage the project to ensure outcomes are met within the project timeframe and how your organisation manages multiple projects with competing timeframes.

Multicultural Access and Equity policy

Australia's *Multicultural Access and Equity Policy: Respecting diversity. Improving responsiveness* obliges Australian government agencies to ensure that cultural and linguistic diversity is not a barrier for people engaging with government and accessing services to which they are entitled, for example, by providing access to language services where appropriate. Grant applicants should consider whether services, projects, activities or events may require the use of professional translating or interpreting services in order to communicate with non-English speakers. If your Application Form states that a budget is required, costs for translating and interpreting services should be included in your application.

Assessment

The Assessment Team will be led by Department of Social Services (DSS) officers. Teams will undertake training to ensure consistent assessment for all applications received. The Assessment Team will be bound by the APS Code of Conduct and the Department's Secretary's Instructions.

Probity

The selection of funding recipients for the Activity must be fair, open and demonstrate the highest level of integrity.

The following probity principles will be applied through all stages of the selection process:

- a. fairness and impartiality;
- b. consistency, accountability and transparency of process;
- c. security and confidentiality of information;
- d. identification and resolution of conflicts of interest; and
- e. compliance with legislative obligations and government policy.

These principles are intended to achieve an equitable, justifiable and sound process.

Adherence to the probity principles means that everyone involved with the selection process will act:

- a. impartially; and
- b. with integrity, including avoiding actual or perceived conflicts of interest.

A Probity Advisor may be appointed for the Activity. If appointed, the role of the Probity Advisor will be to assist DSS meet its probity obligations in relation to the Activity by ensuring that the selection processes are defensible and will withstand external and internal scrutiny.

The Probity Advisor may independently monitor procedural aspects of the selection process to ensure compliance with the published relevant Programme Guidelines Overview and to

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advise DSS in relation to such matters. The Probity Advisor plays no part in the assessment of applications.

Programme Guidelines Overview

The Programme Guidelines Overview provides the key starting point for parties considering whether to participate in the activity and forms the basis for the business relationship between the Department and the funding recipient. Applicants are strongly advised to read the Programme Guidelines Overview prior to completing an Application Form. The Programme Guideline suite comprises of the following documents:

- Programme Guidelines Overview
- Funding Round Summary
- Application Form
- DSS Streamlined Grant Agreement - General Grant Conditions
- Questions

How to Apply

Applications can be lodged by emailing your completed application to:

selections@dss.gov.au

Grant Agreement Information

The type of grant agreement you are asked to enter into will be influenced by the nature of the Activity, the assessed Activity risk level, the length of the Activity and the value of the Activity.

The Grant Agreement is a performance-based, legally enforceable agreement between the Commonwealth (represented by DSS) and the successful applicant that sets out the Terms and Conditions governing the funding to be provided.

Your executed grant agreement represents DSS and your entire agreement in relation to each grant provided within it and the relevant Activity and supersedes all prior representations, communications, agreements, statements and understandings, whether oral or in writing.

Questions

Questions can be submitted via email to grants@dss.gov.au and responses will be sent directly to all applicants.