

TAC Road Safety Grant Program

2026 Funding Guidelines



Contents

Introduction	3
Program background	4
Road safety projects	6
How to apply?	8
Assessment process	9
Grant management responsibilities	11
Contact us.....	12



Acknowledgement of Country

The Transport Accident Commission (TAC) acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Traditional Custodians of the land. We pay respect to Elders, past and present, and all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people that call Victoria home today.

We recognise and respect their culture, beliefs, and connections to Country, with traditional customs that have existed for over 60,000 years, and are privileged to share the lands we live and operate in. We respect this land too - and our purpose is to care for the lives of everyone who travels on Victorian roads.

Introduction

The Transport Accident Commission (TAC) is a Victorian Government-owned organisation that promotes road safety and supports people who have been injured on our roads.

About the TAC

Along with our road safety partners, the Department of Transport and Planning, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Justice and Community Safety, and Victoria Police, the TAC is working to achieve the vision of zero deaths and serious injuries on our roads.

This work is guided by the [Victorian Road Safety Strategy 2021-2030](#).

The objectives of the Strategy are to:

- Ensure all Victorians are safe and feel safe on and around our roads.
- Halve road deaths and progressively reduce serious injuries by 2030.
- Embed a culture of road safety within the Victorian community.



The Safe System

Australia adopts a Safe System approach to road safety, as do many other developed nations. The Safe System is a holistic approach to road safety that recognises different elements of the road environment must work together to keep everyone safe. These elements include roads and roadsides, vehicles, travel speeds, and road users.

The Safe System is based on the following principles:

- **People make mistakes**
When those mistakes occur on the road, they can lead to crashes.
- **Humans are fragile**
Our bodies are vulnerable and have limited ability to tolerate crash forces. Any impact beyond 30km/h significantly increases the risk of dying.
- **Road safety is a shared responsibility**
Everyone has a part to play in keeping themselves and others safe on the roads.
- **The road system must be forgiving**
Building a forgiving road system ensures crash forces do not exceed the limits the human body can tolerate.

Program background

Road safety is everyone's responsibility. Those within the community may be best placed to identify specific problems and implement solutions relevant to their unique communities.

This grant program supports community groups and organisations to develop and implement effective community road safety projects.

Program objectives

The TAC Road Safety Grant Program aims to:

- Create a sense of shared responsibility for reducing road trauma within the Victorian community.
- Build and sustain meaningful relationships with community groups and organisations that will contribute to improved road safety outcomes.
- Empower communities to advocate for changes that will have positive road safety outcomes.
- Deliver evidence-based projects that have the potential to reduce or prevent road trauma.

Key Dates	
Guidelines published	15 Dec 2025
Collaboration Grant EOI	9 Feb - 27 Feb 2026
EOI assessment and notification	2 Mar - 13 Mar 2026
Round open for application	16 Mar - 15 Apr 2026
Assessment	Mid Apr - Early May 2026
Notification	Late June 2026
Project Delivery	From 1 Aug 2026

What funding is available?

Support Grants of up to \$50,000 (ex GST)

These grants are available to support the planning and/or delivery of community road safety projects.

Projects funded within this category are to be delivered within 12 months.

Collaboration Grants of up to \$150,000 (ex GST)

These grants are available to support the planning and delivery of larger community road safety projects.

Applicants for this category will need to demonstrate how they believe their organisation can work in collaboration with the TAC to deliver the road safety project. This category involves an Expression of Interest (EOI) process. Please see the 'How to apply?' section for more information on the EOI process.

Successful applicants will be required to collaborate with the TAC Road Safety Grants Team throughout the project to ensure the best possible road safety outcome can be achieved.

Projects funded within this category are to be delivered within 18 months.



Who is eligible to apply?

To be eligible for funding, applicants must be financially viable and one of the following organisation types:

- Incorporated association
- Community trust
- Registered not-for-profit/charity
- Social enterprise

In addition, the proposed project must not have received prior funding from the TAC, and all planned activities must be carried out within Victoria.

An auspice will be required if the applying organisation does not have an ABN or incorporation number. An auspice is an organisation that meets the eligibility criteria and takes financial responsibility for the grant.

Who is not eligible to apply?

The following groups are not eligible to apply for this grant program:

- Individuals
- For-profit organisations
- State government departments or organisations
- Local Government Authorities - LGAs can access funding through the [TAC Local Government Grant Program](#).
- Schools - Schools may apply for a [Road Safety Small Grant](#) (see alternate funding guidelines).

Applications deemed aligned with initiatives listed under the 'What won't be funded' section on page 7 are also ineligible for funding.

Organisations with an existing contract with the TAC outside the grant programs must contact the TAC Road Safety Grants Team before applying.

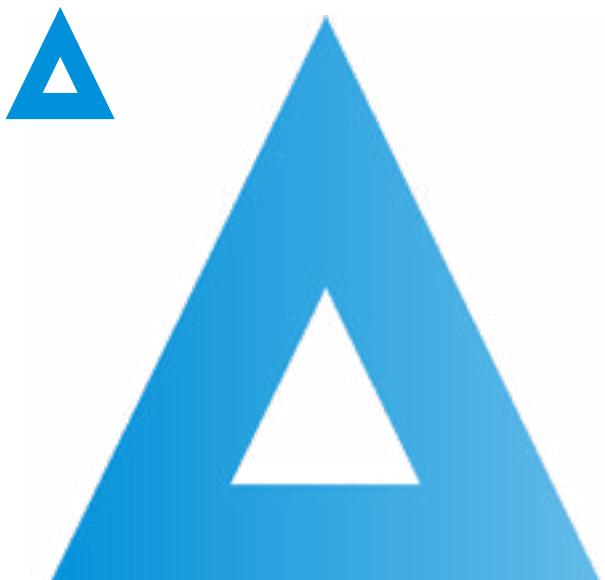
Child Safe Standards

All organisations in Victoria that provide service or facilities to children or young people under the age of 18 are required to comply with Child Safe Standards, to ensure that the safety of children is promoted, abuse is prevented and allegations of child abuse are promptly responded to.

Non-government organisations funded by the Victorian Government to deliver services to children are required to be:

- Incorporated separate legal entities that can be sued in their own right in child abuse proceedings.
- Appropriately insured against child abuse.

'Services to children' means services provided by a non-government organisation that is responsible for the supervision of, or authority over, a child. This includes the provision of care, education, services or activities, nor incidental or ad hoc contact with children.



Road safety projects

What projects will be funded?

Applicants are invited to submit applications for projects that:

- Focus on road safety and address a clearly identified need or issue.
- Align with the grant program objectives.
- Are supported by evidence or principles indicating potential to reduce road trauma.
- Include measurable outcomes and an evaluation plan.
- Reflect Safe System principles, where appropriate.
- Are standalone or sustainable without ongoing TAC funding.



Road safety priorities

As we work towards the vision of no deaths or serious injuries on our roads, there are certain areas we know the most significant gains can be made. Applications for projects that focus on the following areas will be prioritised.

Safe cars - Vehicle safety technology helps prevent crashes and protect people if a crash occurs. Encouraging everyone to choose the safest car they can afford will significantly reduce deaths and serious injuries.

Safe travel speeds - The human body can only withstand crash forces at or below 30km/h. Driving at safe speeds is essential, especially in high pedestrian areas such as around schools and residential streets, and on high-speed, low-volume rural roads.

Safe roads - Improving roads and safety infrastructure reduces the severity of injuries from crashes. Examples include raised pedestrian crossings, roundabouts, separated bike lanes, and shared spaces.

Safe road users - We all play a role in road safety. Actions include not speeding, wearing seatbelts, using child restraints, avoiding mobile phone use, wearing helmets, and supporting young drivers through the graduated licensing system.

While some issues like infrastructure and speed limits are beyond community control, groups can advocate, educate, and raise awareness to create safer, more liveable communities.



What projects won't be funded?

Projects will not be funded if an existing program offered by the TAC or one of our road safety partners is suited to addressing the issue or need. Funding will also be declined if the proposed approach lacks supporting evidence, if a more suitable funding source exists, or if the work falls under the TAC's direct responsibility.

Before applying, applicants should review existing programs offered through the [Department of Transport and Planning \(DTP\) Community Road Safety Grant Program](#) (e.g. Road Safety for New Arrivals and Safe Routes to School), resources and programs provided on the [Road Safety Education Victoria website](#), and consult the TAC Road Safety Grants Team.

Other projects that won't be funded include:

- **Off-road driver training** - Past evaluations of off-road driver training have not demonstrated a reduction in road trauma involvement among participants.
- **One-off events** - There is no evidence to suggest that one-off programs or events produce any lasting outcomes. Events supporting a broader road safety initiative may be considered.
- **Driver simulation** - The application of simulation as a training tool for driving has not been found to be highly effective. Research shows that driving simulators cannot faithfully reproduce a real life driving experience, and performance on simulators is not linked to on-road performance.
- **Permanent infrastructure and signage** - Projects with an infrastructure focus may be eligible under the [TAC Local Government Grant Program](#).
- **Variable Messaging Signs (VMS)** - Funding to hire, transport and maintain VMS is available through the [DTP's Community Road Safety Grants Program](#). Funding to purchase a VMS is available to LGAs through the [TAC Local Government Grant Program](#).
- **Research projects** - Road safety research projects and priorities are decided as part of the

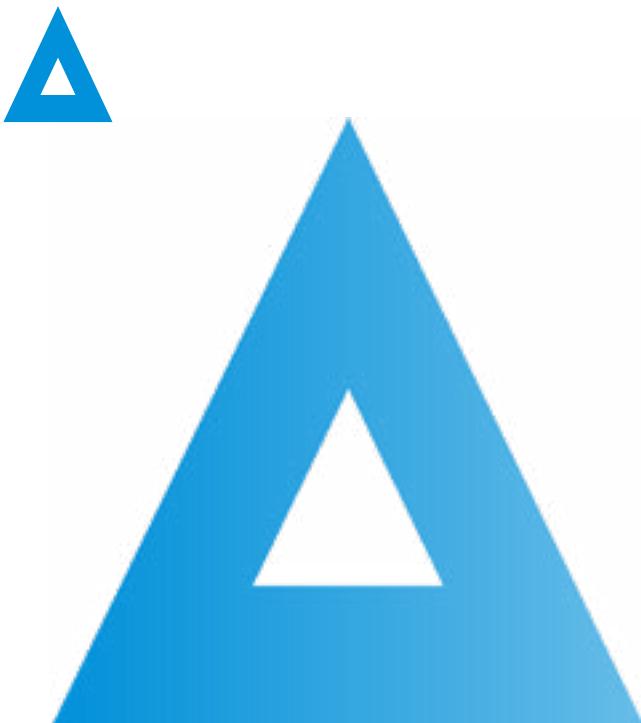
TAC's overall road safety strategy and carried out by the TAC's Research Team. Projects that include 'action research' may be considered.

- **Public education campaigns that duplicate the work of the TAC (Including roadside banners and billboards)** - Public education campaigns that promote safe behaviours and seek to improve road safety are executed by a dedicated team within the TAC. Communications that support projects and grassroots initiatives may be considered.

Project related costs

Administrative costs such as catering and office equipment will not be funded.

Ongoing staff salaries, routine wages, and staff entitlements will not be funded. However, reasonable staff costs directly related to delivering the project, proportionate to the grant amount, and consultant fees will be considered for funding.



How to apply?

Before applying, eligible applicants should ensure they have read and understand these funding guidelines.

Pre-application support

The TAC is available to provide early feedback and help applicants ensure their project aligns with the grant program objectives. We strongly recommend speaking with the TAC Road Safety Grants Team before starting an application.

Email: rsgrants@tac.vic.gov.au.

Expression of Interest (EOI)

Collaboration Grant applicants must submit an EOI by Friday 27 February 2026.

The TAC will provide a response by Friday 13 March 2026, with successful EOI applicants invited to complete a full grant application. Please note, an invitation to apply does not guarantee funding. All applications are assessed competitively against the merit criteria.

Your EOI should:

- Confirm you meet the eligibility criteria.
- Clearly articulate the road safety issue or need and how it aligns with program objectives.
- Outline the proposed project and how it addresses the issue or need.
- Explain how you believe your organisation can collaborate with the TAC to deliver the project.

Applicants for Support Grants do not need to submit an EOI.



Application

To apply for funding, visit the [TAC Road Safety Grant Program](#) webpage and follow the instructions in the 'How do I apply?' section. Ensure all supporting documents are submitted during the grant round open period. Late applications will not be accepted.

Applications must be submitted through the online grants platform [SmartyGrants](#).



Assessment process

Applications are assessed in three stages:

1. Eligibility

Each application is assessed against the eligibility criteria in these guidelines. Ineligible applicants will not progress.

2. Assessment

Eligible applications are reviewed and assessed against the assessment criteria (see page 10) by a panel of subject matter experts from the TAC and road safety partners.

3. Recommendation

Assessments are compiled into a recommendation report, and TAC management makes the final decision.

During the assessment process, the TAC may negotiate grant amounts, project plans or conditions. These negotiations can affect the outcome of your application.



Assessment criteria

All eligible applications will be assessed against the following assessment criteria:

Criteria	Description
Improving local community road safety	<p>A local road safety issue is clearly identified within a specific community group or cohort.</p> <p>The project is supported by recent evidence and best-practice principles that indicate its potential to reduce and prevent road trauma.</p> <p>Project objectives and expected road safety outcomes align with the grant program objectives.</p>
Project delivery and community engagement	<p>A detailed project with clear deliverables is provided.</p> <p>Evidence that demonstrates the organisation has the experience and resources to deliver the project is provided.</p> <p>A clear plan for engaging the community or target cohort is provided.</p>
Budget	<p>A detailed project budget that reflects all activities and deliverables is included.</p> <p>Quotes or cost estimates to support the budget are provided.</p> <p>The application outlines how the project will be sustained in the future without TAC funding.</p>
Collaboration <small>*Not applicable to Support Grants</small>	<p>A collaborative approach to project delivery is demonstrated.</p> <p>A description of how the organisation believes they can work in collaboration with the TAC (e.g. complementary skills, reach and engagement) to deliver the project is provided.</p> <p>There is evidence of the organisation's previous experience collaborating with another organisation to deliver a similar project.</p>
Project monitoring and outcomes	The monitoring and outcome measurement plans are sufficient for the project.

Notification and feedback

Ineligible applicants will be notified after the eligibility assessment stage.

All other applicants will receive an email late June with the outcome of their application and feedback from the assessment panel.



Grant management responsibilities

Funding agreement

Successful applicants must sign a Funding Agreement and agree to the TAC Road Safety Grant Program Standard Terms and Conditions. These documents outline the roles, responsibilities, reporting, payment schedules, and the final project plan.

Project delivery

Support Grants must be completed within 12 months of the Funding Agreement commencement date unless otherwise agreed to by the TAC.

Collaboration Grants must be completed within 18 months of the funding agreement commencement date unless otherwise agreed to by the TAC.

Reporting

All reporting will be completed and submitted online using SmartyGrants:

Support Grants

- Progress report midway through the project
- Final report upon completion of all project activities, including financial acquittal for all expended funds.

Collaboration Grant

- Progress reports determined by key project milestones
- Final report upon completion of all project activities, including a financial acquittal for all expended funds.

Payment schedules

Payment schedules for Support Grants are pre-determined at the following amounts:

Establishment payment

- 70% of the total approved funding amount. Payment will be made upon execution of the Funding Agreements.

Final Payment

- 30% of the total approved funding amount. Payment will be made upon acceptance of the final reports, including financial acquittal and evidence of expenditure.

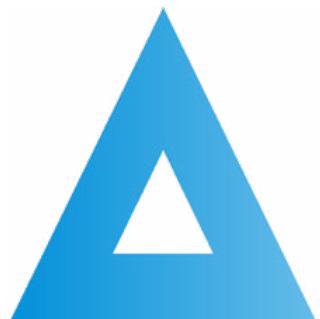
Payment schedules for Collaboration Grants will be specific to individual projects and determined by key project milestones.

Insurance

Evidence of the following insurance will need to be provided by successful applicants:

- Professional indemnity insurance of \$1,000,000
- Public liability insurance of \$5,000,000
- Workers' compensation insurance under the applicable legislation
- Personal accident insurance to cover any risks in relation to the project.

Certificates of currency for these insurances can be uploaded when completing the grant application form.



Contact us

For further information or support,
please contact the TAC Road
Safety Grants Team via email at
rsgrants@tac.vic.gov.au or visit the
[TAC Road Safety Grant Program](#)
website.