

# HINDU FESTIVALS AND EVENTS FUND 2019-20

Program Guidelines

Closing dates for applications is 6 September 2019.

For events from 1 January 2020 to 30 June 2020.

Applications can be submitted at [vic.gov.au/grants](http://vic.gov.au/grants)







### Accessibility



If you would like to receive this publication in an alternative format, please telephone the Department of Premier and Cabinet on 1300 366 356 or visit [www.multicultural.vic.gov.au](http://www.multicultural.vic.gov.au).

The Department can assist you with your application, but please note you are required to apply in English. Language and interpreter services are available, please mention the language support.

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# MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER FOR MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS

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The Victorian Government is proud of its ongoing support for Victoria's diverse multicultural communities.

Each year the Victorian Government receives an increasing number of applications for grants within the Multicultural Affairs portfolio from community groups across Victoria. This is a reflection of Victoria's growing multicultural community and cultural diversity.

Victoria is home to the largest Indian population within Australia. 135,000 Victorians are Hindu – making our state home to Australia's second largest Hindu population.

I am pleased to announce the latest initiative to support and facilitate multiculturalism within Victoria – the first Hindu Festivals and Events (HFE) Fund 2019-20.

The HFE Fund is a dedicated grant round to support and highlight Hinduism within Victoria. Successful grant recipients, through their festivals and events, will share the Hindu values of compassion, harmony and respect. The Victorian Government will invest \$200,000 in Hindu celebrations, events and festivals across four years.

Victorians will have many opportunities to participate and engage with Victoria's rich cultural diversity by attending the special Hindu events such Holi and Diwali.

The Hindu Festivals and Events Fund will run concurrently alongside the well-established Multicultural Festivals and Events Program, which in its Round One stream is anticipated to attract over 1.7 million participants to supported events and deliver more than \$10 million of economic activity to Victoria.

On behalf of the Victorian Government, I strongly encourage Victorian organisations that wish to celebrate Hinduism to apply for a grant under the HFE fund.

Our Government believes that Victoria's diversity is one of our state's greatest strengths and will continue to work with our proud multicultural communities to make Victoria safer, fairer and stronger.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard Wynne". The signature is fluid and cursive.

**Hon Richard Wynne MP**  
Minister for Multicultural Affairs

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# 1 VICTORIA'S MULTICULTURAL POLICY STATEMENT

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Victorian. And proud of it. is Victoria's Multicultural Policy Statement. It sets out the Victorian Government's ambition with a range of policies, programs and services that encourage every one of us to participate in a stronger, safer and more harmonious community.

The Multicultural Policy Statement is underpinned by the Victorian Values Statement (the Values), a set of shared values that form the foundation of our cohesive, multicultural society. All grant applications need to demonstrate alignment to the Values.

## 1. One law for all

Everyone is equal under the law. All Victorians have the same legal rights, responsibilities and protections.

As Victorians, we all have rights under the law and responsibilities towards each other. By respecting our mutual rights and responsibilities, we can ensure a safe and cohesive society.

## 2. Freedom to be yourself

Everyone is free to be themselves and to feel safe in being true to themselves. The Government wants every Victorian to be able to celebrate their culture with pride and practice their traditions in peace.

The freedom to be yourself includes freedom of speech, expressions of gender, sexuality and religion, and peaceful assembly; it does not allow people to break the law or to impinge on the safety or freedom of others.

# Victorian Values Statement

## 3. Discrimination is never acceptable

Everyone has a responsibility to promote inclusion and participation and to reject exclusion, racism and all forms of violence. A society free of discrimination is better able to tackle problems like economic and social disengagement and improve health and wellbeing for all.

## 4. A fair go for all

Everyone deserves a fair go in life. That means giving every Victorian – no matter where they live, their circumstances, or their background – the support they need to enjoy the Victorian way of life. This includes quality education and healthcare, accessible transport, equity in employment and a safe place to live.

## 5. It is up to all of us to contribute to a Victoria we can be proud of

We all want similar things – the opportunity to thrive, for our successes to be recognised, and for our families and loved ones to be safe, secure and happy.

## 2 ABOUT THE HINDU FESTIVALS AND EVENTS FUND

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To better facilitate the sharing of Hindu celebrations and events with the wider community, the Victorian State Government has launched Victoria's first dedicated Hindu Festivals and Events Fund (HFE).

Across four years, \$200,000 of grants funding will be available to support Victoria's Hindu community through a dedicated festivals and events fund.

In the 2019-20 round, \$50,000 of funding is available to support organisations to celebrate Hinduism through celebrations, festivals and events across the state. Applicants can apply for grants of \$2,000.

The HFE program is administered by the Multicultural Affairs and Social Cohesion (MASC) division within the Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC).

### Program Objectives

Applications should be clearly aligned with at least **one** program objective.

The HFE program objectives are to:

1. ensure that Victoria's Hindu communities can celebrate, preserve and share traditions in meaningful ways
2. foster cross-cultural awareness, understanding, respect, community unity and intercultural relationships
3. showcase the vibrancy and contribution of Victoria's multiculturalism through Hindu celebrations and events which encourage participation of the whole community
4. build the capacity and experience of smaller or emerging Hindu community groups to deliver events through the development of genuine partnerships between community organisations.

### HFE applications

All Hindu festivals and events are required to be open for the broader community to attend or participate.

The types of activities that will be considered under the HFE include:

- » Hindu performances and cultural exhibitions
- » celebrations of Hindu days of significance
- » events that promote cultural dialogue and understanding across communities.

A celebration, event or festival is generally a one-off occasion.

### Available funding

The HFE program offers grants of **\$2,000** for successful applicants.

Applications must:

- » indicate likely attendance
- » demonstrate how the activity will reach the organisation's community and be an event or festival which is accessible for the whole community to attend
- » outline two or more ways which the event or festival will be publicly advertised
- » specify if the organisation will secure other funding sources for the project.





## Timing

The first HFE round for 2019-20 is outlined below.

Please note, that future rounds will be confirmed in 2020.

| ROUND          | OPENING DATE | CLOSING DATE     | FOR EVENTS BETWEEN            |
|----------------|--------------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>2019-20</b> | 30 July 2019 | 6 September 2019 | 1 January 2020 – 30 June 2020 |

Please note, that only one application can be submitted per organisation.

If an organisation is acting as auspice for another organisation's application, this must be clearly stated.

## 3 WHO CAN APPLY FOR A HFE GRANT?

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Applicants who have overdue accountability reports will not be eligible for the program until they have returned these documents.

To check if you are up to date with accountability reports, please contact DPC on 1300 366 356 or email [Festivals.Events@dpc.vic.gov.au](mailto:Festivals.Events@dpc.vic.gov.au).

To be eligible, an organisation must:

- » be a not-for-profit organisation
- » be an incorporated legal entity, such as an Incorporated Association under the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic), a Company Limited by Guarantee under the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) or similar type of organisation
- » have a current Australian Business Number (ABN).

Your organisation's official details can be checked here:

- » for an Incorporated Association – [www.consumer.vic.gov.au](http://www.consumer.vic.gov.au)
- » for a Company Limited by Guarantee – <https://connectonline.asic.gov.au/>
- » to check your ABN – <https://abr.business.gov.au/>

Applicants that are not incorporated or do not have an ABN number may apply if they are supported by an eligible auspice organisation that has agreed to manage the grant for them.

One organisation may act as an auspice organisation for multiple HFE applications on behalf of multiple groups.

### Business partnerships and sponsorship

While commercial enterprises are not eligible to apply, they may partner in the application by providing funding through event sponsorship or project delivery. Local councils can also partner in an application but cannot apply as the lead applicant.

Applications that include other funding partners are strongly encouraged. This approach aligns with the HFE's focus on financial sustainability and capacity building.

### Who is not eligible to apply for HFE grants?

- » State and federal government departments and agencies
- » Individuals and sole traders
- » Commercial enterprises and for-profit entities
- » Fixed trusts
- » Political parties and organisations
- » Local Government Authorities (LGAs) and primary and secondary schools are themselves ineligible but can act as an auspice for an unincorporated community group.



## 4 ELIGIBLE APPLICATIONS AND COSTS

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### What applications can be supported?

**Please note that only one application can only be submitted per organisation. If an applicant applies for the HFE then they cannot apply for the same event under any other DPC grants program.**

To be considered for funding applications must:

- » be submitted by an eligible organisation (see section 3)
- » be for projects that address the program objectives
- » be consistent with the Victorian Values Statement
- » demonstrate how the grant will support and highlight Hinduism within Victoria
- » be complete and provide clear details about the planned event
- » show the expected level of attendance for the relevant funding stream
- » be for an event that is accessible for anyone to attend
- » be for an event that is actively promoted to the wider Victorian community (e.g. through flyers, emails, social media, newspaper articles or advertisements in mainstream media, etc.).

### Ineligible Applications and Activities

The following applications cannot be supported and will be ineligible for funding:

- » commercial activities
- » events where the primary goal is fundraising
- » events that are only accessible to the organisation's members i.e. closed organisation events, events where only the organisation's members are invited
- » events that promote or are held for political purposes

- » sporting tournaments and competitions
- » events taking place outside of Victoria
- » events outside of the funding period (see Timing on page 7)
- » retrospective funding for projects or programs that have already started or have been completed, (including any activity undertaken prior to the notification of the application outcome)
- » from organisations that have failed to comply with the terms and conditions of previously awarded grants
- » a specific event in the same year that has already been funded through the MFE or another grants program administered by MASC
- » activities/organisations funded primarily under another State, Federal or Local Government program, and/or where the project is within the responsibility of another government program.

### What costs cannot be supported?

In some instances, an application may be successful in receiving HFE program funding, however DPC reserves the right to place restrictions on specific project costs the funding may support.

Costs which will not be funded by the HFE program are:

- » recurrent administrative, infrastructure and other organisational costs
- » staff wages
- » public liability insurance
- » set-up or running costs of a business
- » purchase of capital equipment (including hardware or software)
- » set-up and maintenance of internet sites
- » travel outside Victoria or funding for people or organisations from overseas to visit Victoria.

## 5 HOW TO APPLY

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Complete the application form online at [vic.gov.au/grants](http://vic.gov.au/grants).

You need to attach all supporting documentation before you complete and submit your application.

**Applications will close on 6 September 2019.**

**Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.**

For more information or if you need assistance contact DPC on **1300 366 356** or email [Festivals.Events@dpc.vic.gov.au](mailto:Festivals.Events@dpc.vic.gov.au).



## 6 HOW WILL APPLICATIONS BE ASSESSED?

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Eligible applications will be assessed against the program objectives and assessment criteria outlined with the program guidelines.

Please ensure not only to align your application with a program objective, but consider:

- » why you are requesting funding
- » how your event, celebration or festival will include or benefit the wider Victorian community
- » how you will measure the success of your event.

Applications will be assessed by a panel of representatives from DPC and an External Panel made up of the Victorian Multicultural Commission and independent experts (as required) before final endorsement by the Minister for Multicultural Affairs.

The HFE program guidelines are subject to change by DPC at its discretion at any time during the grant process.

## 7 FUNDING CONDITIONS

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### Funding agreement

Successful applicants will be required to enter into a Victorian Common Funding Agreement (VCFA) with DPC, which outlines the terms and conditions of the grant including the use of funds, term of the agreement and reporting requirements.

Organisations that are successful in receiving HFE funding will have 90 days (only) to enter into a VCFA. If any issues arise with this requirement, successful recipients are strongly encouraged to contact the Community Grants Team as soon as possible.

If you would like further details regarding the VCFA, please contact DPC on **1300 366 356** or email [multicultural-festivals.events@dpc.vic.gov.au](mailto:multicultural-festivals.events@dpc.vic.gov.au).

Successful application outcomes will be published at [vic.gov.au/grants](http://vic.gov.au/grants).



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