



NATIVE TITLE ANTHROPOLOGIST GRANTS PROGRAM PROGRAM GUIDELINES

1. PURPOSE OF FUNDING

1.1 Anthropologists are vital to the successful operation of the native title system. Native title claimants rely on experienced anthropologists, usually engaged by their Native Title Representative Body, to provide high quality expert connection evidence to support their application. Government parties also require anthropologists to help assess connection evidence in relation to particular native title claims.

1.2 As the native title system matures, anthropologists are also increasingly involved in the negotiation of complex native title agreements.

1.3 In 2008, the Australian Government conducted a review of funding for the native title system to identify blockages within the system and reallocate funds to target priority areas of need. The review found there is an overall shortage of experienced anthropologists working in native title and there are a number of challenges to attracting and retaining junior anthropologists within the system.

1.4 As a result of the review, the Attorney-General's Department has been allocated \$1.4 million funding to help address these issues. The Native Title Anthropologist Grants Program is the key mechanism for distributing this funding.

2. FUNDING

2.1 Funding will be distributed through annual application rounds, commencing in July 2010 and terminating in June 2013.

2.2 All grant recipients will need to comply with annual financial and performance reporting requirements, as set out in a funding agreement (see Section 7).

2.3 Applicants are welcome to propose multi-year projects up to three years in duration (terminating 30 June 2013). However, intending applicants should note that funding for future years will not be provided upfront. Funding will initially be provided for the first financial year of the funding agreement only, with funding in subsequent years subject to negotiation and approval by the Attorney-General's Department.

2.4 To ensure that a range of initiatives receive funding, a notional cap of \$150,000 per year (GST exclusive) will be applied to each individual application. However, the cap should not preclude applicants from seeking funding for higher value or larger scale projects where the

expected outcomes warrant higher expenditure. Proposed initiatives that exceed the cap may be supported where the project is deemed to be cost effective and capable of achieving high value, measurable outcomes in one or more of the priority areas outlined in Section 3.

3. PRIORITIES

3.1 The Attorney-General's Department has identified three priority areas of need based on consultation with stakeholders, including anthropologists currently working in the native title system. The Department welcomes applications that target one or more of these areas:

- **Training and development for anthropologists to smooth the transition from study to native title field work.** Examples include internships, apprenticeships, mentoring programs, workshops, applied anthropological training (undergraduate and postgraduate level).
- **Professional development and support for anthropologists working in the native title sector.** Examples include initiatives to develop career pathways, activities to promote cultural change within organisations (particularly relationships between legal officers and anthropologists in Native Title Representative Bodies/Service Providers) and mentoring.
- **Stronger linkages between academic and applied anthropological work.** Examples include more opportunities for research, publication and teaching for field anthropologists.

4. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

4.1 In order to be eligible for funding under this program, intending applicants should ensure they are able to meet the selection criteria outlined in Section 6 of these guidelines.

4.2 Applications for joint or partial funding of a larger project with other contributors will be eligible for funding under this program.

4.3 Funding will *not* be provided for:

- activities that duplicate existing programs provided by the Commonwealth Government, State and Territory governments, educational institutions and/or non-government organisations
- activities that already receive significant funding through other Commonwealth Government programs, or
- retrospective activities.

4.4 Funding will generally *not* be considered for the following, unless the budget in the application can demonstrate that costs are directly and exclusively associated with the proposed project for the funding period:

- administrative expenses – the ongoing operation or running costs of an organisation. For example, general operation/secretariat/support expenses, and

- capital equipment and capital works – such as the purchase of large scale capital equipment or capital works, including the purchase or lease of land and the purchase, construction or maintenance of building and vehicles.

5. APPLICATION PROCESS

5.1 Applicants must complete the Application Form (at **Attachment A**), including a detailed project budget.

5.2 Applications should be submitted via email or mail to:

Email: native.title@ag.gov.au

Post: Native Title Unit
Attorney-General's Department
Central Office
3-5 National Circuit
BARTON ACT 2600

6. ASSESSMENT PROCESS

6.1 Eligible applications will be assessed by a selection panel appointed by the Attorney-General's Department. Applications will be assessed on their merit against the following *essential* criteria:

- i. the proposed activity does not duplicate existing programs, and
- ii. the proposed activity demonstrates value for money (ie the cost of the proposal is proportionate to the work involved and expected outcomes).

6.2 Proposals must also demonstrate the ability of the proposed activity to contribute to one or more of the following priority areas:

- i. smooth the transition from study to native title field work
- ii. improve retention rates for anthropologists working in the native title system, and/or
- iii. create stronger linkages between academic and applied native title anthropology.

7. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

7.1 Applicants awarded a grant must enter into a funding agreement with the Attorney-General's Department. The funding agreement will set out the terms and conditions relating to the grant, including funding arrangements and project reporting requirements.

8. GRANT PUBLICATION REQUIREMENTS

8.1 If an organisation is successful in obtaining a grant, the Department is required to publish, on its website, information about the grant no later than seven working days after the relevant funding agreement takes effect.

8.2 If an organisation has concerns about grant information being published, they should raise these concerns with the Department as part of the application process. If the organisation is successful in obtaining a grant, the Department will discuss these concerns with them.

9. PERFORMANCE MEASURES

9.1 The Department will measure the performance of all projects utilising a common set of mandatory project performance indicators. In relation to each funded project the Department will assess:

- how much has been done, including achievement of key milestones
- how well it has been done, and
- whether the project achieved the expected outputs and outcomes.

9.2 The Department may include additional project specific performance indicators and measures for any funded projects.

10. FURTHER INFORMATION

10.1 Applicants are welcome to contact the Native Title Unit within the Attorney-General's Department for clarification of the reasons for the decision regarding their grant application.

10.2 Applicants should write to the Attorney-General's Department:

Email: native.title@ag.gov.au

Post: Native Title Unit
Attorney-General's Department
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3-5 National Circuit
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