

Aboriginal Sport for Respect Grant Program



Stopping Violence Before it Starts – Basic Guide



The NSW Government is offering grants of **\$3,000 to \$25,000** for Aboriginal-led projects that use sport and active recreation to help prevent domestic, family and sexual violence.

What is this program about?

This program supports Aboriginal communities to build on the cultural strength, leadership and respect that already exists, helping communities become even safer, stronger and more respectful. Sport and active recreation are powerful ways communities bring people together, strengthen culture and address the causes of violence before harm occurs. Projects should:

- Be led by Aboriginal people and community
- Use sport or active recreation to bring people together
- Promote respect, safety and healthy relationships
- Help address the causes of domestic, family and sexual violence before it happens
- Support safe, respectful and inclusive communities

Why this program is different?

For generations, Aboriginal communities have helped keep families strong, grow respect, and create safe and supporting environments where violence is less likely to occur. What government often calls primary prevention-stopping violence before it starts by addressing its underlying causes-is already happening through culture, community leadership, connection to Country, and the ways mob bring people together.

Aboriginal Sport for Respect recognises that Aboriginal people and communities know what works best to create safety and respect. This program is designed to amplify that existing strength, not replace it. When Aboriginal sport and active recreation are used in ways that strengthen culture, build belonging, grow confidence, and support healing, they help address the drivers of violence before harm occurs.

Need help?

The Office of Sport has an **Aboriginal Advisor** who can provide free support.

The Advisor can:

- Explain the grant program
- Answer questions
- Help you understand the application process
- Discuss project ideas

The Advisor cannot help write, review or assess applications.

Find out more about the Aboriginal Advisor and how you can contact them by calling 13 13 02 or emailing grants@sport.nsw.gov.au

What are the causes or drivers of violence against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women?

Violence can affect people of all genders. This program focuses on preventing violence against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women because they experience disproportionately high rates and impacts of violence. To stop this violence before it happens, we need to address the factors that drive it. These are:

- Ongoing impacts of colonisation for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, families and communities.
- Ongoing impacts of colonisation for non-Indigenous people and society.
- Gendered factors.

What is this program not about?

This program is about **preventing violence before it occurs**. It is **not for** crisis support, counselling, case management or responding to violence *after* it has happened.

What does 'Aboriginal-led' mean?

Aboriginal people must lead the project and make all important decisions about the project's priorities, design, activities, delivery, community engagement and any reflection or evaluation processes throughout the project.

Who can apply?

Aboriginal organisations are encouraged to apply, including:

- Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs)
- Aboriginal corporations
- Aboriginal-owned businesses
- Local Aboriginal Land Councils

Sporting organisations, active recreation organisations and local councils can also apply if they work in partnership with an Aboriginal organisation, Elders or community group, ensuring the project is still 'Aboriginal-led'.

What is a partnership?

A partnership is when organisations work together to design and deliver a project. Every application must include:

- One organisation that applies for the grant
- At least one project partner

Each partner must have a clear and active role in the project.

When do applications close?

Applications close at 1:00pm on Tuesday 6 October 2026.

**For more information visit
sport.nsw.gov.au/grants or contact
our Grants Team on 13 13 02**

**Scan the QR code to
visit our website for
more information**

