

Department of Education First Nations Languages Program (FNLP) grants

FAQs 2027

What are the First Nations Languages Program (FNLP) grants?

The [First Nations Languages Program \(FNLP\)](#) grants are a Specific purpose funding appropriation intended to support Queensland state schools to work in partnership with Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islander people to develop and deliver First Nations language programs in schools.

The FNLP grants are distributed annually via a competitive grant application process and are aligned to the Department of Education's *Brighter Futures education strategy* and *Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property (ICIP) protocol for the teaching of Aboriginal languages and Torres Strait Islander languages in Queensland State Schools*, and Targets, 5, 6 and 16 of the *National Agreement on Closing the Gap*.

Who is eligible to apply for FNLP grants?

All Queensland state schools are eligible to express interest in the program. State primary schools, secondary schools, special schools and Outdoor and Environmental Education Centres working in partnership with Language Custodians - Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander people who hold cultural authority for their language - are eligible to apply.

Schools must work collaboratively with Language Custodians when developing their application and can apply individually or as a cluster of schools.

What funding is available?

Two funding tiers are available.

Tier 1 – Up to \$7,500

Supports schools **to establish the foundations** of a First Nations language program. Funding to support early consultation with Language Custodians, community engagement, staff professional development including cultural capability, establishing a co-designed governance model and initial planning and design of learning activities.

Tier 2 – Up to \$15,000

Supports schools **to maintain an existing First Nations language program**. Funding to review or support continued governance from Language Custodians to ensure cultural authority and sustainability, further development of language curriculum and teaching resources, and staff PD and building of professional learning networks.

What types of activities can FNLP grants support?

Grant funding can cover

- consultation and engagement with Language Custodians, Elders and community members to collaboratively plan and design program
- remuneration for Language Custodians and cultural knowledge holders contributing to language advisory bodies, curriculum development or teaching
- external contractors such as linguists, videographers, researchers or curriculum writers
- employment of additional staff or staff replacement
- professional development through attending language workshops or cultural learning activities
- professional development opportunities including tuition fees, TRS, travel and accommodation costs to attend languages upskilling courses
- purchase of pre-existing language programs or packages of resources developed by Language Custodians or through Language Centres
- development of language teaching resources
- production of locally contextualised language learning resources including creation of audio and video recordings of people and places, books and digital learning apps
- costs associated with archival research including travel to visit state and national libraries
- language and culture celebration or launch events related to the language program
- design and production of language and culture program related school signage and artwork.

Grant funding cannot cover

- retrospective activities
- capital equipment or works
- activities, services or goods that are not directly related to the language program

Does the application need **community** endorsement?

Yes, schools must demonstrate engagement and collaboration with recognised Language Custodians, Elders and community knowledge holders, acknowledging that language knowledge and cultural authority are held within community. Evidence of Language Custodian endorsement for the grant application and the intended activities must be provided in a signed and dated support letter.

Does the application need **regional** endorsement?

Yes, schools must discuss their application with their school supervisor and the Partnerships and Programs team in their regions and receive endorsement to submit. Please complete the school supervisor and regional endorsement form.

How do schools apply?

Schools apply for FNLP grants online through [SurveyManager](#). Applicants are required to register to receive a link to the application. Schools provide a language program plan, expected milestones and outcomes, budget and evidence of endorsement from their school supervisor, Partnership and Programs' manager and the Language Custodians.

Applications are open from:

Monday 27 July to Monday 12 October 2026 (Week 3, Term 3 to Week 2, Term 4)

How are FNLP grant applications assessed?

Applications must provide information on partnerships with Language Custodians, commitment to cultural capability, curriculum planning and alignment with teaching and learning priorities, opportunities for professional learning, sustainability of the language program beyond the grant period and clear and achievable implementation plans.

The assessment panel will evaluate applications against the following selection criteria:

- whole school use of Cultural Capability Framework;
- genuine co-design with the Language Custodians; and
- benefits to students and communities.

Additional criteria for schools at Implementing stage;

- reporting in OneSchool.

What happens after the selection process?

Schools will be notified of the outcome of their application; reporting, evaluation and acquittal requirements; and details of release of funds in line with monthly SAPA payments.

Schools will then work with Language Custodians and community partners to implement the approved language program activities. Schools are required to participate in a co-evaluation meeting with departmental staff to reflect on the program and share outcomes.

Is there a recoupment process?

Yes, schools receive funds based on delivery of agreed language program activities. If a school is unable to deliver the program as planned, recoupments of residual funding may be requested from the school.

Who can I contact for more information?

For further information about the FNLP grants please contact the Curriculum, Teaching and Learning – Languages and Cultures Team

Email: LanguagesCultures.FNSP@ged.qld.gov.au