



GRANTGURU

More than just a search page

Jargon Buster

GrantGuru Jargon Buster

Navigating the world of grants can be overwhelming, especially with all the industry-specific jargon that comes with it. That's why we've created this GrantGuru Mini Jargon Buster—your go-to guide for understanding the key terms and phrases you may encounter when using our platform. Whether you're new to the grant process or just need a quick refresher, this guide will help you cut through the confusion and make the most of the resources available to you.

Applicant:

In most cases that's you! The applicant is the organisation/entity applying for the grant.

Activities:

Activities are what you will do to deliver your project/program.

Auspice:

In the realm of grant funding, 'auspice' refers to a scenario where a legally established entity oversees and administers grant funds for a third party, which could be an individual, a collective, or an organization. Such auspice agreements are frequently utilised when a grantor stipulates that applicants must possess certain qualifications, such as being a legally incorporated entity or having Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status. The auspicating body, typically a larger, well-resourced non-profit organization, assumes responsibility for the financial management of the grant, ensuring that the smaller group or individual can focus on executing the project work.

Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) Status (explained below!):

A Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) is an organization that can accept donations eligible for tax deductions by the donor. If your organization can issue tax receipts for donations, it probably has DGR status. In Australia, the Australian Tax Office (ATO) offers two main types of DGR endorsements for non-profits, each with specific criteria and guidelines. For detailed information on these categories and their requirements, you can refer to the ATO's official website.

Budget:

A budget outlines the financial plan for a project or idea, detailing both expenses and revenue. Depending on the funding provider, you may need to present a budget covering the entire project costs or just the specific amount you are requesting from them.

Co-contribution:

A co-contribution refers to the portion of funding provided by sources other than the primary funding provider you are applying to. For instance, if a project costs \$50,000 and you seek \$35,000 from one funding provider, the remaining \$15,000 might come from other sources such as personal funds, donations, grants, or additional support. Co-contributions can also include in-kind contributions, which are non-monetary resources or services provided to support the project.

Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) Status:

A Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) is an organization or entity eligible to receive tax-deductible gifts and contributions. If an organization can issue tax receipts for donations, it likely holds DGR status. The Australian Tax Office (ATO) provides detailed information on the two types of DGR endorsements available for non-profit organizations on its website.

Eligibility Criteria:

To successfully secure a grant, you must meet all the specified eligibility criteria. This is like passing a driving test—failing to meet any criterion means you won't qualify for the grant, even if other aspects of your application are strong. Make sure to review both Applicant Criteria and Project Criteria, as they are distinct. Eligibility is typically based on factors such as the type of organization, the location of the organization or project, the intended beneficiaries, and previous funding history.

Additionally, it's important to check any Funding Inclusions or Exclusions. These sections offer valuable insights into the types of organizations and projects that align with the funder's objectives

Evaluation:

Evaluation is a process that assesses the effectiveness and impact of your project or program by analyzing data collected during its design and implementation. Depending on the scale of the funding and the expected outcomes, some funding providers may require a detailed evaluation plan as part of your grant application.

Evidence-based:

A funding provider may inquire whether your project or program is evidence-based. This means you should be able to provide evidence supporting why you believe your project will be successful. For example, you should demonstrate an understanding of the community or groups your project targets, present strategies that have been proven effective in addressing these needs, and explain why you expect your project to achieve the desired impact.

Including evidence that supports both the need for your project and its objectives will strengthen your grant application.

Expression of Interest:

An Expression of Interest (EOI) is often, though not always, the initial step in a grant application process. It allows applicants to present a concise overview of their proposed project, helping to assess its suitability for the grant program and determine the funding provider's interest in the project.

EOIs are increasingly prevalent in funding rounds, as many funding providers now prefer a multi-stage application process. This approach allows both applicants and funding bodies to ensure alignment before engaging in a full grant application.

Grant Round(s)/ Funding Round(s):

Grant rounds, or funding rounds, refer to the specific periods during which applications for a grant are accepted. Some grant programs offer multiple rounds throughout the year, each with distinct opening and closing dates.

It's crucial to keep track of both the opening and closing dates for each grant round.

Consider the changes your project or program will bring about, distinguishing between short-term and long-term impacts.

In-Kind Contribution:

An in-kind contribution refers to the donation of goods or services instead of monetary support. Examples include donated items like equipment or materials, as well as services such as marketing and professional advice.

Contributions from applicants, such as salaries, wages, and overhead costs, are typically regarded as in-kind contributions. While some funding providers accept volunteer labour as in-kind support, others may not.

Inputs:

Inputs are the resources and tools necessary to implement your project or program. These may include funding, materials, equipment, time, facilities, and other essential elements.

Invitation Only:

"Invitation Only" refers to a grant application process where potential applicants are invited by the funding body to apply. This approach is typically used when the funding provider seeks specific projects or organizations that align closely with their strategic objectives. Unlike open calls for applications, only those who receive an invitation are eligible to submit a proposal.

Objectives/ Goals:

Objectives or goals are the specific results you aim to achieve through a project or program. The SMART acronym can guide you in setting effective objectives. Consider whether your objectives are:

Specific: Your objectives should be focused and clearly defined, not generalized.

Measurable: Ensure you can quantify the change you want to see in the specific area you are targeting.

Attainable: Set realistic goals that are achievable within your resources and constraints.

Relevant: Ensure that the program aligns with your mission and the context of your grant application.

Time-based: Establish realistic timeframes for accomplishing your objectives.

Competitive Programs:

Competitive programs are the most common type of grant funding. These funding rounds are open to applications from anyone who meets the eligibility criteria. They are considered "competitive" because applications are evaluated based on specified selection criteria and compared against other submissions.

Non-Competitive Programs:

Non-competitive programs are grant opportunities that remain open throughout the year, without specific opening and closing dates. Eligible applicants can submit their applications at any time, and these are evaluated according to the funding provider's assessment criteria and processes. Applications may be assessed independently or alongside others received during the same period.

Outcomes:

Outcomes are the results you expect to achieve through the implementation of a project. Examples of outcomes include participants gaining increased knowledge or confidence, community members experiencing reduced disadvantages, or improved access to facilities.

The outcomes can be reinforced using markers eg. 70% of participants received their diploma.

Outputs:

Outputs are the quantifiable results you expect of your project or program. Outputs are normally represented in a numerical value, i.e. the number of healthy meals served, or number of events held.