



# Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) Grants Policy

<b>Policy Number</b>	83
<b>Policy Category</b>	Council Policy
<b>Date Adopted</b>	16 March 2026
<b>Resolution Number</b>	CNL/26/059
<b>Approval Authority</b>	Council
<b>Next Review Date</b>	1 April 2027
<b>Policy Version Number</b>	2
<b>Department</b>	Community Services
<b>Policy Owner</b>	Director of Community Services

## PURPOSE

The policy is intended to provide a structure for the Regional Arts Development Fund Program (RADF) making grants to organisations, which is open, transparent, legal, equitable, and furthers the aims and objectives of Council and RADF.

## POLICY OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this policy are to ensure that the RADF Program for organisations are provided in an equitable and accountable manner and produce the benefits towards which they are aimed.

## COMMENCEMENT OF POLICY

This Policy will commence on adoption.

## SCOPE

This policy applies to Diamantina Shire Council's councillors, employees and contractors, relating to the provision of any grants, partnerships, sponsorship, donations, and in-kind support provided by Council to organisations.

## HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITMENT

Council has considered the human rights protected under the *Human Rights Act 2019* (Qld) (the Act) when adopting and/or amending this policy. When applying this policy, Council will act and make decision in a way that is compatible with human rights and give proper consideration to a human right relevant to the decision in accordance with the Act.

## POLICY

### CONTEXT

The policy is designed to assist Council and its officers to administer the Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) program.

### STATEMENT

The RADF program was established to support the arts and cultural development of regional communities across Queensland. The Diamantina Shire Council's RADF program has a robust history of supporting innovative arts and cultural activities for the community.

The program objectives are to:

- Support local artists and arts and cultural activity to deliver value for local communities.
- Provide opportunities for local communities to participate in arts and cultural activities.
- Invest in locally determined priorities delivered through arts and cultural activity.
- Contribute towards current government priorities.

## STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES

### SPECIFIC AND STANDARD

Council supports the distribution of funds in an equitable, transparent and responsible manner. Council will provide funding only when it is satisfied that:

- a) The funded initiative aligns with RADF Key Performance Outcomes (KPOs)
- b) The recipient entity meets the eligibility criteria outlined in this policy
- c) The funding will be used for a purpose that is in the public interest; and
- d) The funding will address an identified need in the community.

All projects receiving RADF 2025- 2026 funding are required to report on their contribution towards RADF 2025-2026 Key Performance Outcomes (KPOs):

#### Impact

- RADF invests in a diversity of local arts and cultural projects
- RADF engages local communities in arts and cultural activities
- RADF supports local employment and strengthening of local arts sector

#### Quality

- RADF supports quality arts and cultural initiatives based on local priorities
- Local communities' value RADF

#### Reach

- RADF supports engagement with new and diverse artists, audiences, and communities
- RADF contributes to diversity and inclusive communities; growing strong regions; and providing training, education and employment

### **Viability**

- RADF builds strong partnerships between arts and non-arts sectors
- RADF leverages additional investment
- RADF funding is used effectively and appropriately

Feedback surveys for your project are available from Visitor Information Centre's or [info@diamantina.qld.gov.au](mailto:info@diamantina.qld.gov.au)

### **KEY DATES**

The opportunity to apply for grants will be available twice a year, and will be promoted through Social Media, Community Newsletter and Community email groups.

The funding will be in two (2) rounds as follows:

- September Round - for events to be held from 1 January to 30 June
- March Round – for events/activities to be held between 1 July to 31 December

Consideration will also be given to grants outside of the advertised grant round. This will be on a case-by-case basis and there is no guarantee that there will be funds available. Applicants will preferably apply during the advertised grant period.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

The following individuals and organisations can apply for a RADF grant:

- A community group, business or resident will be eligible to apply for a council grant or partnership if they meet the following criteria:
  - a) Reside or primarily provide services in the Diamantina Local Government Area; or
  - b) Primarily provide services outside the Diamantina Local Government Area, but the initiative is in the public interest of Diamantina Shire Council residents; and
  - c) Meet any further eligibility criteria specified in program guidelines.
- Individual artists, emerging artists, arts workers, cultural workers or project coordinators who:
  - a) are based in the Council area, or if based outside the Council area are able to demonstrate how the project will directly benefit arts and culture in the Council area;
  - b) are permanent residents or Australian citizens; or
  - c) have an Australian Business Number (ABN) or who will be auspiced by an incorporated organisation or individual with an ABN.
- Incorporated and Unincorporated arts, cultural and community organisations based in the Council area, or those based outside the Council area that are able to demonstrate how the project will benefit arts and culture within the Council area.

## INELIGIBLE APPLICANTS, APPLICATIONS AND PROJECTS

The following are **not eligible** for funding through the RADF Program:

The following entities are not considered eligible to apply for a RADF Program;

- a) Government agencies
  - b) Departments of local, state or federal government
  - c) Political organisations
  - d) A previously successful applicant who has not completed their acquittal
  - e) Applicants that have overdue outstanding payments to Council (e.g. rents, rates, fees, Council guarantor loan repayments)
- Ineligible activities will be specified in program guidelines
  - All applications considered eligible for a council grant or partnership will be assessed against specific criteria set in each program
  - All applications must demonstrate that their initiative:
    - a) Is in the public interest
    - b) Addresses an identified need in the community
  - Applicants who submit unsigned applications
  - Applicants who have failed to acquit previous RADF grants – this does not apply to applications submitted by sub-committees of the organisation
  - Activities that commence before notification of successful funding
  - Retrospective applications

Additionally, the program will not support:

- RADF does not support 100% of any project. Applicants are required to make a significant contribution which may be in-kind
- Framing, freight, publishing, costumes, props or printing costs — only a small proportion of these costs can be covered as part of presentation costs for significant exhibitions and/or performances
- Catering costs, openings, launches and parties are not eligible for RADF grants
- Competitions and Eisteddfods
- Purchase of capital items
- Operational expenses are ineligible under RADF including wages for permanent staff and office expenses

## DEFINITIONS

Term	Definition
<b>CEO</b>	Chief Executive Officer
<b>Council</b>	Means Diamantina Shire Council
<b>The Program</b>	Community Grants Program
<b>A Grant</b>	Is a payment provided to a recipient for a specific purpose or project, generally as part of an approved Council program, with the understanding that there will be a defined outcome that

Term	Definition
	directly or indirectly benefits the public, but with no expectation of commercial return to Council. Grants are subject to conditions (particularly reporting and accountability and a requirement for the funds to be expended for the direct purpose they were granted). Council requires some form of recognition for grant funding, as detailed in funding agreements
<b>Community Organisation or Group</b>	As defined in the dictionary schedule of the <i>Local Government Regulation 2012</i> , an entity that carries out activities for a public purpose or an entity whose primary object is not directed at making a profit. This can include clubs and associations
<b>Donation</b>	Means any charitable contribution made of Council to assist a person or entity
<b>In-Kind Support</b>	Means the provision of goods or services (not money), such as the waiver of hire fees
<b>Partnership</b>	Means an agreement between two entities to provide an amount of money or in-kind value based on shared and similar objectives that work together in an equal and mutually beneficial relationship
<b>Officers</b>	Includes employees, contractors, volunteers and all others who perform work on behalf of Council
<b>Sponsorship</b>	Is a formal reciprocal arrangement between individuals, groups or companies, which can include both cash and in-kind contributions in return for the right to associate the sponsor's name, product or service with the sponsored organisation's product or service

## SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

<b>Legislation</b>	<i>Financial Accountability Act 2009</i>
<b>Council Forms</b>	RADF Application Form RADF Acquittal Form
<b>Supporting Documents</b>	RADF Grant Framework RADF Grant Guidelines Creative Together 2020-2030, Queensland Government

## VERSION CONTROL

Version	Adopted	Comment	eDRMS #
1	21/07/2025	Original Version	327843
2	16/03/2026	Resolution: CNL/26/059	330180