

Shoalhaven Anti-Poverty Committee Connecting Communities Fund- 2026 Round

Who is the Shoalhaven Anti-Poverty Committee?

The Shoalhaven Anti-Poverty Committee (SAPC) is a coalition of interested Non-Government Organisations, Government Agencies and local residents committed to working with community members to address the issues that cause poverty within the Shoalhaven for individuals and communities; and to foster a healthy, thriving, inclusive and sustainable community.

The Committee aims to work collaboratively to empower communities through Community Connections, Health, Safety and Lifelong learning opportunities.

What is the grants program and its objective?

The Fund has been established to provide small financial subsidies of up to \$1,500.00 (GST exclusive) to eligible organisations and/or groups for initiatives that:

- Create opportunities for individuals, families and communities to participate in community projects to support them to connect with others and develop a sense of belonging.

The Fund is made possible through donations received from the Nowra Maker's Markets Committee who operate local markets and donate a portion of the stallholder fee to SAPC.

How much can we apply for?

Grants of up to \$1,500.00 (GST exclusive) are available.
Two (2) projects can be funded in this round.

Who can apply?

Organisations or groups from the list below who have an ABN and are offering initiatives in the Shoalhaven LGA are eligible to apply.

Eligible organisations or group types include:

- Incorporated not-for-profit organisations.
- Community groups auspiced by a not-for-profit organisation.
- Local Aboriginal Land Councils.
- School Parents & Citizens Associations.

Who do I talk to?

For more information you can contact Shoalhaven Anti-Poverty Committee member Emma Wood on 4422 9529 or email emma@scclaw.org.au

What support is available on how to apply?

An online information session will be available from 11am- 11.45am on Tuesday 6 October 2026. You will need to register to attend this session. If you are unable to attend the session and would like some support, please contact the key contact person, Emma Wood on 4422 9529 or email emma@scclaw.org.au

What type of projects will be funded?

We are seeking initiatives that provide opportunities for individuals, families and communities to participate in community projects to support them to connect with others and develop a sense of belonging.

Priority will be given to new initiatives. However, existing projects or projects that have previously been delivered will also be considered where applicants can demonstrate ongoing community need and how additional funding will expand or enhance the project.

Projects that may be eligible for funding include, but are not limited to:

- Community events and social activities.
- Sport and recreational programs.
- Cultural and community connection programs.
- Healing initiatives to support Aboriginal children, vulnerable children and people in the community.
- Peer support programs, mentoring and/or training programs.

What you can't apply for:

- Costs associated with existing ongoing staff.
- Purchase of plant, equipment, laptops, mobile phones and other capital items.
- Requests for ongoing program funding.
- Costs for programs that are already being delivered.
- Projects and/or activities that are not related to providing opportunities for individuals, families and communities.
- Projects and/or activities that are not held in the Shoalhaven LGA.
- Requests to recover costs for existing debts and/or budget deficits.

How long do you have to complete your project?

Projects can commence as soon as the funds are received and must be completed within a 12-month period.

What do you need to contribute?

A grant of up to \$1,500.00 (GST exclusive) will be provided to cover eligible expenses. The funding comes with the understanding that your organisation will also contribute in-kind; e.g. enthusiasm, staff and/or volunteer time, venue, etc.

You will need to acknowledge that the project has been funded by SAPC by putting our logo on promotional material and/or stating, "This project has been funded by the Shoalhaven Anti-Poverty Committee", on all forms of publicity for the project undertaken with this funding.

If you are successful in receiving a grant, we will ask you to write a one page project outcome report and provide two photos to the SAPC. You will consent to SAPC sharing your story in our publicity and promotional activities. The funding recipient is responsible for securing appropriate consents.

What is the timeline?

Stage of the grant process:	DATE:
Applications open.	21 September 2026 at 9am.
How to apply information session	6 October 2026 at 11am (optional)
Applications close.	2 November 2026 at 4pm.
Eligible applicants will present ideas at SAPC meeting.	Wednesday 11 November 2026 at 2pm.
Applicants notified of outcome.	Late November 2026.
Payment of funds to successful applicants.	Mid-January 2027.
Project outcome report.	31 January 2027.

What do you need to do?

1. Come up with a project idea.
2. Check your idea meets the eligibility criteria.
3. Attend the How to apply information session (optional).
To register to attend the information session click [here](#)
4. Complete the simple online Expression of Interest form.
Access the form using the QR Code below or click [here](#)
5. Be prepared to attend the SAPC meeting on 11 November 2026 to discuss your idea with the Committee. Attendance at this meeting is required if you wish to be considered for funding.

If you have any questions or want to discuss your idea further you can contact the key contact person, Emma Wood on 4422 9529 or attend the online information session on 6 October 2026 from 11am-11.45am.

The SAPC members will review all applications and make a decision on which applications to fund. All decisions will be final and conclusive without appeal.

