

# DISCRETIONARY FUNDING GUIDELINES

## How to make a funding application

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Waikato District Council provides discretionary funding to assist community groups, non-commercial groups and voluntary organisations operating within the council's rural wards, community boards and the Te Kauwhata and Meremere Community Committees areas.

### Funding Mechanisms

1. Waikato District Council Community Boards / Community Committees
2. Waikato District Council Discretionary and Funding Committee

### Who can apply?

Any community group, non-commercial group or voluntary organisation can apply for a grant. Specific criteria for each fund are as follows:

1. Waikato District Council Community Boards and the Te Kauwhata and Meremere Community Committees  
Community boards and the Te Kauwhata and Meremere Community Committees allocate grants for events and projects in their areas. Applicants must outline how their event or project will contribute to the community board area and wider community. The relevant community board or committee has responsibility for determining grant applications in their area.
2. Waikato District Council Discretionary & Funding Committee  
The Discretionary & Funding Committee allocates grants from the Rural Ward Fund. Rural grants are available for events and projects in rural areas and areas that are not served by Community Boards or the Te Kauwhata and Meremere Community Committees. Applicants must outline how their event or project will contribute to the community Rural area and wider community. The Discretionary & Funding Committee has responsibility for determining grant applications in the Rural area.

### 3. Criteria for grants

Applications are required to meet the following criteria:

- a) Applications will be accepted from community groups, non-commercial groups and voluntary organisations. Applications from individuals will not be accepted.
- b) Applications will need to be made to the relevant community board or committee, or to Council's Discretionary & Funding Committee.

- c) Applications for Christmas parade/events will need to be made to the relevant community board or community committee.
- d) Applicants need to describe in their application why the event or project is important to the community and how the wider community will benefit by the event or project.
- e) Applicants can have in-kind contributions recognised in terms of the non-grant funding component provided they demonstrate good community engagement.
- f) Applications must detail how the monies sought will specifically be used and how the balance of the monies required for the event or project will be obtained.
- g) Capital expenditure items may be considered for grant applications.
- h) Applicants can make more than one application for a grant within a 12-month period provided that the grant being sought is for a different project or event and an accountability statement has been completed.
- i) Applications may be considered from schools where the Ministry of Education will not fully fund the project and the benefits are for the wider community.
- j) Grants will not be considered for events or projects that have already occurred / projects completed (i.e. no retrospective funding).
- k) Grants will not be given to oppose consent decisions, attend conferences or to contest legal cases.
- l) Applications from commercial entities will not be considered.
- m) All applications will need to provide the relevant template describing the event/project, budget and relevant quotes.
- n) The project or event must take place in the Waikato District Council area of jurisdiction.
- o) Council-owned property i.e. halls managed by hall committees and who receive a targeted rate are not eligible for funding.

## **Eligibility Criteria**

Applications are required to meet the following criteria:

- a) Applicants must be either a community groups, non-commercial groups and voluntary organisations
- b) Successful applicants must complete a project accountability report within 2 months of the completion of the project before being eligible for further funding. This is essential for auditing requirements.
- c) Applicants may be required to attend the community board / community committee and the Discretionary & Funding Committee to present their application.

## **Funding Rounds**

Applications to be presented to the boards/committee's chair or funding representative two weeks prior to the next scheduled meeting.

Applications for Waikato District Council funds close on the First Friday of February, April, July, and October.

## **Presenting your application**

Applicants are advised in writing by the community board/committee of the outcome of the funding.