



Security Uplift for Muslim Communities Program (SUMCP)

Grant Information & Guidelines

1 About the grant program

The Australian Government, through the Department of Home Affairs (DHA)' Office for Multicultural Affairs, is providing \$25 million over three years for the Security Uplift for Muslim Communities Program (SUMCP). This program will provide a dedicated investment in security at Muslim faith-based places including mosques, schools, Islamic centres and other community facilities utilised and attended by the Muslim community in Australia.

The intended outcomes of the program are to:

- assess the security needs of the Muslim community across Australia
- increase the sense of safety and inclusivity within Muslim communities in Australia
- protect vital community infrastructure and prevent disruptions to religious, educational, and cultural activities
- strengthen community resilience against hate crimes and targeted attacks, and promote social cohesion.

Any additional details, updates, announcements and amendments will be published on the security program website: <https://anic.org.au/security-uplift/>

1.1 Program Administration & Support

The Australian National Imams Council (ANIC) is administering the program and has formed a dedicated team to manage and deliver the program.

The team is made up of professionals including Program Management, Security Consultants, Women's & Islamophobia representative, Legal & Financial professionals, Community Stakeholder Representatives as well as engaged an external independent probity consultant to design and monitor compliance and guide the program. ANIC will administer the funding in accordance with the Commonwealth Grant Rules and Principles 2024.

If you need more information or support in understanding the program or submitting an application, please contact the Security Program team via email: securitygrant@anic.org.au

1.2 Program Summary

As part of the Security Uplift for Muslim Communities Program, a number of activities are being undertaken to support the Muslim Community including:

- Security assessment by ANIC to understand and assess current security measures and potential for improvements in the form of a security Uplift
- Financial Grants for security uplift activities to improve safety and security of the Muslim Community
- Security and safety training for staff and volunteers to know what to do when an incident takes place

Further details on each activity, eligibility and application process are listed in below.

2 Program Eligibility

2.1 Eligible Organisations

To Participate in the SUMCP, an organisation must be an existing Australian Muslim based not-for-profit organisation registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) or otherwise able to demonstrate not-for-profit status through clauses in its governance documents (Refer to sample clauses by the ACNC: <https://www.acnc.gov.au/for-charities/start-charity/not-for-profit>).

All eligible organisations may participate in the security and safety training regardless of whether they are seeking a financial grant.

The SUMCP is open to all Muslim sects and denominations.

2.2 Financial Grant Eligibility

2.2.1 Eligible organisations

In addition to the above requirements, to apply for a Financial Grant under the program, the organisation must:

- be an organisation that has been in operation as a not for profit since 1st July 2024. and
- show that it manages and has the legal and institutional authority to implement funded security measures at the nominated facility for which the grant funding is to be used - for example, ownership or lease agreement of the facility, and where relevant, the organisation has current appropriate license, comply or has approval with local, state or federal bodies to operate the activities at the nominated facility.

2.2.2 Eligible facility

To apply for a financial grant, an eligible place is defined as a facility located within an Australian State or Territory which is one of the following types:

- Masjid (Mosque)
- Islamic school
- Islamic centres
- Other community facilities utilised and attended by the Muslim community in Australia

As part of the application process, applicants will be required to provide details of the facility including activities, frequency and attendance.

2.3 Eligible costs: What the grant funding can be used for

The following items are examples of Security Uplift Activities which may be funded under the program. Proposed measures will be reviewed and approved by the SUMCP Security Team as part of Application process.

- CCTV
- Emergency PA systems
- Reinforced doors, windows, locksmithing and safes
- Fencing and gates
- Lighting
- Security guard services
- Access systems, intercom, lockdown systems and alarm systems
- Cyber security measures
- Other proposed measures improve safety and security

Items that may be included in relation to the proposed activities include:

- Where appropriate, prepayment of software licenses and maintenance costs for one year from the installation or implementation.
- Parts and labour for the implementation of the uplift activities
- Costs related to the project, for example contractor fees/labour, equipment rental and installation fees
- Training in the proper use of new security equipment by staff and volunteers.
- Development of risk mitigation plans, processes, protocols and guidelines.

2.4 Ineligible costs: What items cannot be funded

Grant funding cannot be used for the following costs:

- Construction (including of guard houses), renovation or extensions of buildings including, but not limited to, the building or modifying of walls or other building structures
- Capital expenditure for the purchase of assets such as office furniture and equipment, motor vehicles, computers hardware, printers or photocopiers and the construction
- Activities, equipment or supplies that are already being funded through any other, Commonwealth, state or territory or local government grant program
- Activities that are dependent on recurrent funding that do not have future funding available by the applicant
- The operation or maintenance of the organisation including rent, utilities, rates, postage, legal and accounting fees, bank charges, fund-raising or sponsorship or travel costs
- Capital infrastructure or equipment that does not comply with industry/ISO standards
- Depreciation of plant and equipment beyond the life of the project
- Weaponry, armoury or defence equipment and/or hardware.
- Personal protection for specific individuals
- Staff training and development costs not directly related to the delivery of your grant activity
- Staff salaries and on-costs not directly attributed to the delivery of your grant activity
- Costs related to preparation of quotations or proposals for uplift activities
- Preparation of Expression of Interest or Funding Application under this program
- Spiritual or religious activities

3 Financial Grants

3.1 Grant amount and grant period

Financial grants of between \$5,000 and \$150,000, exclusive of GST, per successful application are available for eligible organisations to increase the safety and security at eligible places.

Funding is expected to be distributed in 2026-2027 financial year, and the project must be completed, and funds expended, by 30 Dec 2027.

3.2 Application Process

To apply for a Financial Grant, a two-stage process is being implemented.

To be considered for grant funding, applicants must first successfully complete Stage 1 - Expression of Interest and be shortlisted for funding. Shortlisted organisations will be then invited to apply for Stage 2 – Funding Application.

Stage	Application Stage 1 - Expression of Interest	Application Stage 2 – Grant funding (Shortlisted applicants from Stage 1 only)
Information required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organisation Information - Facility Information - Current Security Measures, Plans and/or training - Proposed Security uplift activities - Details of any current or past security breaches or Islamophobia incidents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organisation Information (confirm current) - Facility Information (confirm current) - Security assessment from Stage 1 - Quotation for Proposed works - Grant agreement review/ acceptance
Output	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understand current security state - Assessment and confirmation of eligibility for financial grant - Security assessment by ANIC Security Team - Registration for Security & Safety Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment of quotes and approval for funding - Signed Grant Agreement - Financial Funding
Timing	Expression of Interest Open Date: 27 th Feb 2026 Closing Date: 24 th April 2026	Application period open date: Mid 2026 – To be confirmed Funding Agreement Late 2026 / Early 2027 – To be confirmed

Further details on submissions for each stage are provided below.

4 Financial Grant Application Stage 1 – Expression of Interest

To be considered for grant funding, applicants must first successfully complete Stage 1 - Expression of Interest and be shortlisted for funding. Shortlisted organisations will be then invited to apply for Stage 2 – Funding Application.

4.1 Information to be provided

- Information to confirm the organisation’s eligibility
 - Australian Registered Business Number (ABN, ACN etc)
 - Governance documents such as constitution, rules, mission, goals and/or objectives demonstrating serving the Muslim community.
- Information on the facility to be uplifted including:
 - Type of facility, location and ownership
 - Activities undertaken at that location
 - Number of people using the facility per activity and frequency
- Current Security Measures, Plans and/or training
- Details of any current or past security breaches or Islamophobia incidents
- Details of Proposed uplift works
- Show how the project will achieve intended grant program outcomes
- Financial statement(s) for FY24-25 to validate the organisation’s size, patronage and activities. Financial Statements must be reviewed or audited as per ACNC reporting rules or equivalent: <https://www.acnc.gov.au/tools/topic-guides/charity-size>

The closing date and time for Application Stage 1 – Expression of Interest is 24th April 2026.

4.2 Security Assessment

As part of the Stage 1 application assessment and to support the grant funding application, the SUMCP Security team will undertake a security assessment for eligible organisations and facilities.

This includes review of current:

- Activities undertaken at the facility
- Patronage size and frequency
- Security plans and processes
- Staff / volunteer Training
- Security controls and measures
- Security and/or Islamophobia incidents at the facility

The team will undertake an initial desktop review and where necessary undertake a site visit. Through this process, it will help identify security risks and opportunities for security uplift activities in Stage 2.

4.3 Priority for funding

With finite funds and to ensure funding is prioritised for those who need it most, as part of Stage 1- Expression of Interest assessment, a scoring system will calculate a priority based on a combination of the following items:

- Size of regular attendance at the specified facility – those with higher attendance are considered higher priority
- Existing security/safety measures/training – those with low measures are considered higher priority
- Security and/or Islamophobia Incidents – those with greater number of incidents will be considered higher priority
- Size of the Organisations by assets – those with smaller assets are considered higher priority
- Previous security grant funding since the start of the previous financial year – those with little or no security funding are considered higher priority
- Regional or remote locations – those in regional and/or remote locations are considered higher priority

4.4 Stage 1- Expression of Interest Assessment Criteria

Criteria 1: A completed application is submitted using the ANIC Grant Portal before the respective closing date.

Criteria 2: The organisation is an eligible organisation as described in section 2. Program Eligibility

Criteria 3: The nominated facility is an eligible place as described in section 2. Program Eligibility

Criteria 4: The application demonstrates a genuine need for a security uplift.

Criteria 5: How the proposed uplift activities meets the program outcomes.

Organisations who do not meet the criteria or do not require a security uplift may still participate in the Security and & Safety Training.

5 Financial Grant Application Stage 2 – Grant Funding

To be considered for grant funding, applicants must first successfully complete Stage 1 - Expression of Interest and be shortlisted for funding. Shortlisted organisations will be then invited to apply for Stage 2 – Funding Application.

5.1 Information to be provided

- Confirmation of the organisation's and facility's eligibility for any changes since Stage 1 application
- Completed security assessment undertaken and/or reviewed as part of the Expression of Interest Process
- Written fixed price quotations for the proposed works including appropriate qualifications and/or licenses for proposed works
- Outline how the proposal is cost effective and viable with an accurate and balanced budget
- Confirm if and how much other funding sources that may be contributing to the total project budget including any co-contributions towards the project
- Approvals required to undertake the works proposed.
- Details of any current active grant applications in progress including proposed works and amount requested
- Confirmation of acquittal all prior grants that are due for acquittal
- Appropriate insurances and licences or appropriate exemptions for proposed works including, but not limited to, Public Liability Insurance and Workers Compensation Insurance
- Confirmation that the organisation and any contractors/suppliers have the capacity to start the project within 12 weeks of executing the grant agreement
- Timeline for delivery of the proposed works within the delivery timeframe for the grant

The opening and closing date for Application Stage 2 – Funding Application shall be advised via email following the completion of Stage 1 – Expression of Interest.

5.2 Stage 2 – Grant Funding Assessment Criteria

Criteria 1: A completed application is submitted using the ANIC Grant Portal before the respective closing date.

Criteria 2: The organisation is an eligible organisation as described in section 2. Program Eligibility. (confirmation information is still current from Stage 1)

Criteria 3: The nominated facility is an eligible place as described in section 2. Program Eligibility. (confirmation information is still current from Stage 1)

Criteria 4: A security assessment has been successfully completed by ANIC’s security team as part of the expression of interest process

Criteria 5: The proposed works is an eligible activity as described in section 2. Program Eligibility

Criteria 6: Proposed works proposal including:

- Fixed price quotations
- Those undertaking and/or managing the project and have the appropriate qualifications and/or licenses where necessary
- Budget breakdown of costs and other funding sources
- Approvals required to undertake the works proposed are provided
- Appropriate insurances and licences or appropriate exemptions for proposed works including, but not limited to, Public Liability Insurance and Workers Compensation Insurance
- Timeline of works including completion by 31st December 2027

5.3 Funding agreements

Eligible organisations who successfully complete Stage 2 – Grant Funding Process will be required to enter into a funding agreement for the funds provided to ensure they deliver the works that were agreed. Terms and Conditions will apply to the grant funding agreement. Successful organisations are required to:

- Review, understand and execute the funding agreement Terms and Conditions
- acknowledge that an agreement based on those Terms and Conditions will apply to the grant.

If a grant is awarded, they will agree to comply with these Terms and Conditions in reporting and acquitting the grant.

Acquittal for this grant requires independent audit of the grant financial statements and information. Grant funding cannot be used for the independent audit costs.

6 Application Submission & Assessment

6.1 Application Submission

Submission of a Stage 1 Expression of Interest Application or Stage 2 Grant Funding Application does not guarantee funding.

For applications to be considered, they must meet the Eligibility Criteria and be submitted using the ANIC Grant Portal before the respective closing date and time:

<https://anic.org.au/security-uplift-portal>

Late applications due to system or handling errors may be considered at the discretion of SUMCP Program Team.

6.2 Assessment process

Successfully submitted applications that meet the Eligibility Criteria will be assessed by ANIC's Application Assessment Team which comprises of members from ANIC and other organisations from within the Muslim Community. Applications that do not meet the Eligibility Criteria will not be assessed further.

In parallel, the security team will commence their security assessment of the nominated facility. This security assessment will then be provided to your organisation. Organisations who are invited to apply for funding under Stage 2 will be asked to submit this security assessment as part of their grant application.

The Application Assessment team will undertake a review of the application in conjunction with the security assessment to determine a genuine need for uplift of the facility. They will then compile their assessments into a report recommending for security uplift which will be reviewed and approved by the ANIC Security Uplift Board.

The assessment approval process is overseen by an independent probity advisor to ensure the process adheres to the grant guidelines, processes and Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles (CGRP's).

6.3 Outcome notification

Upon completion of the assessment process, you shall be notified in via email of the outcome of your application. If you are successful for Grant Funding, we will advise you of any specific conditions attached to the grant as part of the grant agreement.

If you are unsuccessful, we will give you an opportunity to receive feedback. A request for individual feedback should made to securitygrant@anic.org.au within 10 days of being notified of the outcome by responding to the outcome email. We will respond to your request for feedback in writing within 30 days.

A review of an unsuccessful application may be requested where unforeseen and extreme circumstances exist however is only undertaken at the sole discretion of the Program Board.

7 Security & Safety Training

Security and Safety training shall be provided to all Muslim Not for Profit organisations who submit an application in Stage 1, including those not eligible or not requiring financial funding. These training workshops will be provided so community organisations can recognise and respond to potential security threats and shall cover topics such as:

- Incident management training and emergency drills or planning for religious leaders, staff, volunteers, chaplains, and community members
- Cyber-safety measures and training addressing the risk of online hate and threats for managers of digital and social media channels and religious service livestreams

Training workshops are mandatory for organisations receiving financial grant.

8 Frequently Asked Questions

How is an organisation determined to be Muslim or serving the Muslim community?

Through the organisation's published governance documents for example its constitution, rules, mission, goals and/or objectives.

Are rented or leased facilities eligible for security uplift?

Yes, however the organisation will need to provide written authority by the owner to undertake the proposed works. Any lease needs to be in place until at least December 31st, 2029. Any equipment provided under the program cannot be removed, disposed or sold during this period unless it is deemed end of life, no longer usable or is being replaced for improved controls.

Can organisations contribute to the cost of a project?

Yes, however organisations must provide the cost breakdown of the project and clearly identify what amount is being requested under the grant funding and any costs that will be contributed by the organisation.

Can organisations fund multiple items under one application?

Yes, organisations can request multiple security uplift measures for one facility / application provided there is evidence supporting the need for those measures up to the application funding limit.

Can an organisation apply for multiple locations or campuses?

Yes, however individual applications must be lodged per location or campus. Each application will be measured on its own merit independent of the other locations. Multiple buildings or facilities within one location will be considered as one application.

Can variations or increases in uplift activities be covered by the program after commencement of the works?

No, all funded works must be fixed price agreements with the proposed suppliers/contractors. It will then be the responsibility of the successful applicant to cover any variations or increases in costs of uplift activities after the works has commenced.

What happens if circumstances change and the organisation can no longer implement the proposed works?

Funds will be returned to the program and reassigned to other projects in order of priority. Specific cases will be assessed in accordance with the funding agreement.