

NHFIC Capacity Building Grants – Sector Projects

Capacity Grants: sector wide project funding made available

CHIA and NHFIC are delighted to announce that as part of the Capacity Grants program, recently extended to 30 September 2021, funding will be made available for sector wide capacity building projects to assist registered community housing providers (CHPs).

Who can apply?

Applications are welcomed from any of the representative peak bodies (list at end) or groups of CHPs for grants to support sector-wide capacity building in one of the four areas identified in the program. These areas are risk management, property development, finance and business planning.

Types of projects

The types of project this funding is aimed at supporting are those that seek to:

- build individual organisational capacity – e.g. sector training, models and tools.
- seek to address barriers to CHPs developing or investing in their own dwellings – e.g. projects to support co-investment with government that could result in additional use of NHFIC finance
- improve general practice – e.g. asset management, procurement practice, business planning and risk management guidelines
- could create efficiencies and thus enable smaller providers to access funding – e.g. the production of legal templates.

What cannot be funded under this category:

- Applications cannot be made for projects that concern tenancy management or support service functions.
- Projects that could be funded via another existing program will not be considered. Projects which require a 'top up' to go forward can be considered.
- Please note the NHFIC contribution is for external consulting services only. The grants can't be used for costs outside of these services such as office admin or marketing.

Projects that aim to 'nationalise' i.e. make a state specific initiative available more widely, may be considered.

While a project can be state or territory specific, the project must be capable of being adapted for use more broadly.

Criteria: Support

Whatever the route to identification, all applications must demonstrate that they have either direct support from CHPs or contain a rationale that demonstrates they will meet proven capacity gaps.

It is anticipated that where groups of CHPs apply collectively, they will have the support of their state / territory peak organisation or CHIA/PowerHousing if the project is of national applicability.

Grants

NHFIC's contribution to sector projects is capped at \$20,000 (incl. GST) per project. A larger NHFIC grant contribution can be considered in exceptional circumstances where it can be demonstrated the project is of genuine benefit to the sector.

Important dates

There will be two scheduled application rounds. Deadlines for the two rounds are:

	Round 1	Round 2
Deadline for applications	26/02/2021	30/07/2021
Applicants informed of stage 1 outcomes by week beginning	15/03/2021	16/08/2021

Application process

Stage 1

- Applicants are asked to submit a [project brief](#) to CHIA by the chosen round deadline.
- This will be assessed by an independent panel, and if approved progressed to a costed approval.
- Assessment in the first review will check projects to avoid duplication; assess if there is capacity for alignment between applications, and whether they are consistent with evidenced needs.
- CHIA provides NHFIC with a final list of all applications; NHFIC will make the decision on whether each application can be progressed.

Stage 2

- CHIA will inform all applicants of the outcomes by the date provided above. Successful applications will be informed that they can secure a costed proposal to move to the next stage.
- The costed proposal will be submitted to NHFIC for approval.
- NHFIC will communicate the decision and monitor delivery
- Sector projects will be assessed for impact post completion and implementation.

For further information, please contact:

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For further information on NHFIC finance:

www.nhfic.gov.au

Ph: 1800 549 767 or 1800 749 167

Further information:

Representative peak bodies who are eligible to submit an application:

CHIA NSW
CHIA VIC
CHIA QLD
CHIA WA
CHIA ACT
CHCSA
ShelterTAS
Shelter ACT
Shelter WA
Q Shelter
ShelterNT
National Shelter
PowerHousing Australia

Application form:

Sector Project Application form [here](#)