

This Fact Sheet will give you an overview if auspice support is required for your Biodiversity Environment and Community Grant application.

Auspicing projects

What is an auspice?

If you are not eligible according to the funding guidelines, there is an opportunity to have your project supported (sponsored) by another organisation. This is called auspicing. You may choose to seek an auspice if you do not meet all of the eligibility criteria or would like help managing the funding and project.

In a funding context, an auspisor is an organisation that manages project funding on behalf of a successful applicant (auspicee). The auspisor will receive and manage the funding, while the auspicee will undertake the project. The auspisor takes legal and financial responsibility for the project.

Do I need an auspice?

1. Is your group one of the following four types of organisations?
 - a. incorporated through Consumer Affairs Victoria OR
 - b. registered as a not-for-profit organisation with the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission (ACNC) OR
 - c. registered with the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC) OR
 - d. a DEECA Public Land Committee of Management?

Yes No

To check to see if your organisation is incorporated or to find your group's incorporation number, please visit the Consumer Affairs Victoria website

<https://www.consumer.vic.gov.au/clubs-and-fundraising/incorporated-associations/search-for-an-incorporated-association>.

2. Do you have at least \$10 million public liability and personal accident insurance?

Yes No

If you answered 'no' to either of the above questions, you need an auspice to apply for a Biodiversity Environment and Community Grant.

Applicants that meet the eligibility criteria, can also have an auspice if they choose to.

What if I partner with an organisation?

Applicants can partner on projects with other organisations, including those that do not meet the eligibility criteria. If one of the partner organisations is eligible to apply, they can apply as the 'lead applicant'. In this instance an auspice is not required. The lead applicant will take legal and financial responsibility for the project. Include details of all partnering organisations in your application.

Who can auspice my project?

Applicants can ask any organisation that meets the funding eligibility requirements. For these grants the following organisations can auspice a project:

- State Government statutory bodies/authorities or portfolio agencies (e.g. Local Government, Catchment Management Authorities, Parks Victoria, water authorities, etc).
- Umbrella community networks (e.g. Landcare Victoria Incorporated)
- Incorporated organisations or organisations registered as a not-for-profit with ACNC.



DEECA Biodiversity Environment and Community Grants

It is suggested you set up a written auspice agreement between the organisations, outlining the roles and responsibilities of each party. This agreement is the responsibility of the applicant.

You must provide a letter or email from your auspisor (sponsor), that confirms they agree to act as your auspisor, as part of your application. An example letter can be found at the end of this fact sheet.

What will the auspice be responsible for?

Auspisors of a Biodiversity Environment and Community Grant will be responsible for the following during the course of the project:

- Hold at least \$10 million public liability insurance and personal accident insurance.
- Sign the funding agreement and provide supporting documentation if required.
- Receive and manage the grant funds.
- Be accountable for the delivery and reporting of the project.

Further information

You can find further information on auspicings here <https://www.nfplaw.org.au/auspicings>

Contact us

Program enquiries

If you have any queries, or require more information, please contact the Community Programs team via email at enviro.grants@delwp.vic.gov.au or contact the DEECA Customer Contact Centre on 136 186 during normal business hours. Please quote your application number and the grant program in your communications with DEECA.

Technical difficulties

If you require technical assistance submitting your application online email grantsinfo@delwp.vic.gov.au or call the DEECA Customer Contact Centre on 136 186 during normal business hours. Please quote your application number and the grant program in your communications with DEECA.

EXAMPLE SUPPORT FOR AUSPICING A PROJECT

Date: {insert date}

To the DEECA Biodiversity Environment and Community Grants Program Manager,

{insert your organisation name and ABN} agrees to Auspice {insert applicant organisation name}'s project application for the {insert project name} project if it is successful for funding through the {insert grant program name} program.

We understand our legal contractual obligations including, but not limited to, maintaining public liability insurance, O&HS requirements and reporting for the works being undertaken should {insert applicant organisation name}'s applicant be successful, and we are willing to meet those obligations.

{insert signature block including name, contact details and signature}

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