



# Bring your big ideas to life!

A lot of us have big ideas about how to help our communities, but often need a helping hand and some extra resources to get them over the line. We are committed to working with and supporting our local community groups to deliver positive outcomes and build lasting relationships.

That's why we created the Ergon-Energex Community Fund, which is designed to empower groups across Queensland to create change for the better. So if you have a community project in mind, or already underway, and would like us to get involved, then we'd love to hear more. Your idea doesn't have to be complicated or large-scale to be 'big' - things that might seem small or simple can also make a huge difference.

Want to know more? Read on!

## So, what is the Community Fund?

In a nutshell, it's a grant program that provides funding to not-for-profit community groups and organisations. This funding empowers groups to make a difference in their community. We look for ideas that encourage community identity and wellbeing, support local prosperity, and are innovative, or enable access to future solutions.

Your project might support disaster recovery, diversity and inclusion, education, energy and environmental conservation, electrical safety or renewable energy projects, or provide essential equipment or facilities to the local community.

With grants on offer from \$200 up to \$5,000, we're here to be a helping hand in getting your big idea across the line. And even better, this year a new *people's choice bonus* is up for grabs, **giving you the opportunity to receive an additional \$5,000 in funding!**

All successful recipients will have their project profiled online, so that the whole community can view and vote for their favourites. The project with the most votes will receive the additional funding to help realise their dreams. That means you could receive up to \$10,000 in total!





## Can I apply?

You must be an incorporated not-for-profit organisation to be eligible for the fund. Previous applicants and grant recipients are also eligible to reapply. You can be based anywhere in Australia, however, your project must be undertaken within Queensland.

### Eligible groups include:

- Community groups
- Local government or other government entities
- Educational institutions
- Charities
- Sporting clubs
- Industry associations
- Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander organisations.

Applications close 5pm, Monday, 8 April, 2019.  
Apply now so you don't miss out!

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## How do I apply?

If your project will take place in Energex's South East Queensland network area - that's from the state's border north to Gympie, and west to the base of the Great Dividing Range - please apply to Energex.

For all other Queensland locations, please apply to Ergon.

 Energex  Ergon





# Which types of projects are eligible?

Firstly, your project (or the part supported by our grant) must be able to be completed within 12 months of receiving a grant from us. We're looking for ideas that facilitate innovative solutions to local issues, boost local economic activity or support a local community's identity and wellbeing. Eligible projects include, but are not limited to, those that:

- Contribute to recovery efforts following severe weather events – this year we know many communities have been hit hard
- Bolster long-term disaster resilience and prepare the community for Queensland's storm season and other disaster events by producing storm kits, upgrading first aid equipment, installing storm shutters, and installing a generator with a change-over switch
- Use, inform or promote renewable energy alternatives e.g. solar, wind, hydro and biomass
- Identify ways to educate consumers around energy consumption e.g. energy audits, new technology ideas or energy literacy programs
- Strive to improve diversity and inclusion in schools, workplaces and the general community by providing support through events or educational programs
- Keep the community safe around electricity e.g. by organising a wiring safety check, or upgrading the switchboard and installing new electrical wiring
- Help grow industry in key Queensland community pockets and create more sustainable communities
- Provide other lasting benefits to the local community such as educating kids about sustainability, or providing critical community-based equipment or facility upgrades.

## Which types of projects are not eligible?

- Projects outside Queensland
- Those projects that benefit specific individuals only
- Fundraising activities
- Initiatives that only seek to offer cash or financial grants
- Initiatives where the sole benefit is a commercial outcome for a specific individual/organisations
- Major infrastructure construction projects
- Purchasing of carbon offsets
- Projects which are the core business of local council, State or Federal Government or government owned corporations
- Commercial research and development projects
- Projects that will require ongoing financial support from Energex or Ergon after completion
- Projects that have already been completed.





# Need a little inspiration?

Get your creativity flowing with these big ideas.

Run a program to help rebuild or support those experiencing hardship following weather-related devastation like drought, flooding, severe storms or cyclone.



Organise a community energy audit, teaching local residents how to save energy at home.

Upgrade high-use community facilities that act as a hub for a variety of local groups.



Get ready for storm season by installing the necessary equipment, running resilience training or putting measures in place to support the community post disaster.



Run a program to encourage mental health wellbeing, diversity and inclusion in your school or workplace.



Adopt new technology that will revolutionise the way you engage with and support the community.

Create a community garden to task and educate kids about sustainable living or revitalise part of your town.



Provide first aid equipment for community and emergency response.



# Tips

- We'd love to see new and exciting ideas with wide-scale impact. We want ideas that will genuinely provide a positive and long-lasting benefit, and put our communities on the front foot for the future.
- Think about how you can give your application the edge. Think outside the box but keep it real. We want ideas that will create change for the better.
- Let your passion shine through! We know community projects are run by passionate volunteers keen to make a difference. Make sure you tell us about your great work and why your group deserves a grant.

And should you receive a grant, don't forget to rally your members, friends and family, share your story on social media and raise a voting storm around your project for the chance to receive the Community Fund's people's choice bonus – an additional \$5,000 in funding!



## Before you apply...

It's important to tick all the right boxes. Please read the Terms and Conditions and run through the criteria list before you start.

### How will my application be judged?

These are the essential criteria that your project needs to meet:

- Provide a clear picture of how it will benefit the community
- Tell us why it makes sense for us to partner in your project
- Demonstrate that you have sufficient expertise and resources to successfully implement the project
- A level of engagement with your local community
- Detail tangible, measurable outcomes (e.g. energy savings, improved safety outcomes, number of attendees)
- Include a realistic budget showing value for money
- Provide a compelling photo and response to why people should vote for your organisation or idea to receive an additional \$5,000 funding

### Non-essential, but nice

- Be innovative in nature
- Have an ongoing benefit beyond the initial project
- Provide opportunities to promote Energex or Ergon
- Show the potential to raise awareness of the project and its aims
- Obtain professional quotes



# Applying is easy

Jump online at [energex.com.au/communityfund](http://energex.com.au/communityfund) or [ergon.com.au/communityfund](http://ergon.com.au/communityfund) to complete an online application form, attach a photo of your group, premises or primary activity along with any supporting documents that will help us assess your proposal.



## Review process

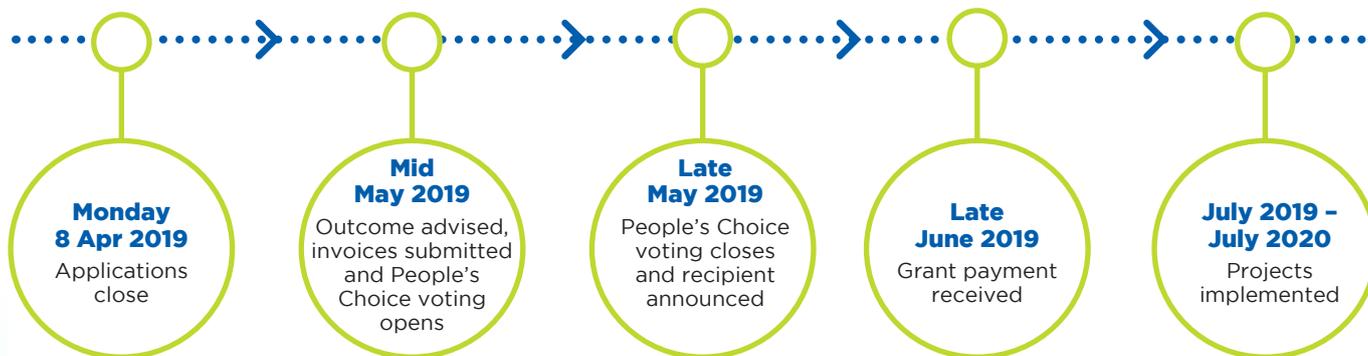
Firstly, your application will be assessed for eligibility. Shortlisted applications will then be reviewed by a panel of experts across our business in the fields of diversity, environment, safety and community engagement.

## Decision time

You'll find out whether your application has been approved via email. If you're successful, the email will contain details of the amount you've been granted. This is a one-off payment and it might

not be the full amount you applied for. If successful, you'll need to sign a funding agreement and submit your insurance certificate and a tax invoice for the grant to be paid.

## Timeline



## People's Choice Bonus

Once notified, all successful recipients will have their project profiled online. The whole community can then vote for their favourite application having viewed details about your group, your project's purpose and a snippet about what the additional funding would mean to you. So be sure to take some time on this in your application!



Voting will be open for two weeks, so you'll have the opportunity to promote your project, telling everyone why they should place a vote for you!

If you are lucky enough to be selected for the people's choice, we'll arrange a separate contract with you that will let you do even more for your community.



## Submission deadline

We'll need to receive your application submitted through [energex.com.au](http://energex.com.au) or [ergon.com.au](http://ergon.com.au) by **5.00pm, Monday, 8 April 2019**.

Late applications or additions/amendments to existing applications will not be accepted.

## Contact us

For further information, please email your applicable provider (Energex or Ergon) and a member of the Community Fund team will respond via return email or phone call as soon as we can.

### Ergon

[communityfund@ergon.com.au](mailto:communityfund@ergon.com.au)  
[ergon.com.au/communityfund](http://ergon.com.au/communityfund)

### Energex

[communityfund@energex.com.au](mailto:communityfund@energex.com.au)  
[energex.com.au/communityfund](http://energex.com.au/communityfund)



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