
Companion Animal Welfare and Rehoming Grant – Round 2

Frequently asked questions

4 September 2026

What is the Companion Animal Welfare and Rehoming Grant for?

This Grant has been established to support designated companion animal rehoming organisations and registered non-government organisations. The Grant seeks to support community, grassroot organisations to cover the costs associated with caring for and rehoming companion animals and improve companion animal welfare across the State.

How much funding can an organisation apply for?

An organisation can apply for a minimum of \$5,000 and a maximum of \$50,000.

One application per organisation, per round will be considered.

Applicants are advised that requesting an amount of funding does not mean this will be the amount offered if successful.

What can funding be used for? What are eligible activities?

For a grant activity to be eligible it must be for one of the following activities:

- Rehoming of companion animals, or reuniting companion animals to their owners.
- Support the prevention of animals entering the rehoming system in the first instance.
- Training, services, systems or equipment that improve the efficiency and effectiveness of companion animal rehoming.
- Provision of animal relief services during an emergency or crisis.
- Veterinary treatment, including desexing, microchipping, vaccinations and other medical treatments.
- The provision of services to deliver training or rehabilitation for a dog or cat to enable future rehoming opportunities.
- Education programs on responsible ownership of animals, including consideration of ethics, sentience and duty of care.
- Upgrade or extension of current facilities to improve the welfare of companion animals

Who is eligible to apply for funding?

You must be one of the following non-government organisations:

- A designated rehoming organisation under section 88B of the Companion Animals Act 1998
- A rehoming organisation or approved animal welfare organisation as defined under section 5 of the Companion Animals Act 1998 (except for a council or any other operator of a council pound) and which is actively involved in companion animal rehoming activities.
- A registered charity predominantly involved in companion animal welfare or rehoming activities, including work that assists in preventing companion animals entering the rehoming system or providing support in an emergency or crisis.
- A registered charity or not-for-profit that provides low-cost veterinary services, including free or low-cost desexing.
- A registered charity or not-for-profit that promotes responsible pet ownership education and awareness-raising.
- A registered charity or not-for-profit involved in building and maintaining community foster care networks.

For the avoidance of doubt, a companion animal refers to a cat or a dog only, as per the Companion Animals Act 1998.

For the avoidance of doubt, a registered charity or not-for-profit refers specifically to an ACNC-registered organisation.

To be eligible you must:

- Have an Australian Business Number (ABN) or Australian Company Number (ACN) for an entity that is registered and based in NSW
- Have a bank account with an Australian financial institution
- Operate animal welfare or rehoming services within NSW.
- Currently hold public liability insurance cover for \$10 million and can upload a copy of the certificate of currency to your application or be willing to attain cover prior to entering into a funding agreement.

What is the assessment criteria an application will be assessed against?

The following criteria will be assessed:

- Consistency of the proposal with the policy principles, objectives and outcomes of the grant program
- How value for money will be achieved
- Capability, experience and skills of the applicant organisation in the rehoming and animal welfare space

- The project is feasible, realistic and deliverable by the organisation within the proposed timeframe and budget

How will applications be assessed?

This grant is open and competitive. This means that any eligible organisation is able to apply. All applications will progress through a staged assessment process.

Stage 1 is an eligibility check to confirm the applicant organisation meets the eligibility criteria.

All eligible organisations' applications will then progress to Stage 2.

Stage 2 involves an eligible application being assessed against the assessment criteria so an Assessment Panel can give each application a funding recommendation outcome.

Funding recommendations will be put to the Minister for Local Government as the decision maker for this grant.

Who do I contact if I have questions?

For any questions, please email grants@olg.nsw.gov.au or contact (02) 4428 4193 and ask for Alex Bellamy from the Grants Team.