

Background

Tomorrow Today is Benalla's independent community foundation. We connect people, resources and ideas, to create a bright future for our great rural community. Grant funding for community projects is available as a result of generous donations to our Community Fund from local people and businesses.

Applications from **local organisations and groups** are invited for projects that enable residents to help build a stronger, more resilient and prosperous **Benalla and district community**.

Size of grants

Applications for grants up to \$5,000 will be accepted.

Opening and Closing Dates of Application

Applications open on **Friday 6 February 2026** and close on **Monday 23 March 2026 at 5pm**.

Focus Areas

Our priorities for the 2026 funding round are outlined below.

1. Building a stronger, more connected community through projects that meet these objectives:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addressing social disadvantage • Promoting inclusion and increasing involvement in community • Embracing community diversity
2. Improving social and educational outcomes for Benalla's children and young people through projects that fit one or more of these objectives:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring all children start school ready to learn • Improving literacy and numeracy • Increasing student wellbeing • Improving student knowledge of careers and career pathways • Building student aspiration
3. Applications for great community-building projects that do not meet the priorities above will also be considered for funding.

Eligibility and funding guidelines

IMPORTANT!

BEFORE submitting an application, it is essential that you contact us at Tomorrow Today, on (03) 5762 1211 to discuss your proposal to ensure it fits within our eligibility and funding guidelines.

1. Proposals must be for a recognised ***Charitable purpose*** (see definition below) to meet our legal requirements.
2. **Sport is not considered a charitable activity.** Applications from sporting organisations will only be considered if the project clearly demonstrates a benefit to the wider community. Examples of community benefit includes addressing social disadvantage.
3. The proposal **cannot be a fundraising activity.** Tomorrow Today does not subsidise fundraising activities.
4. The proposal **cannot be a government project.** Tomorrow Today does not fund projects which are the domain of government. Exceptions will be considered however, if the activity is outside the entity's regular scope of operation, such as a community vegetable garden established by a school which is open to all students.
5. Funding will not be considered for individuals, retrospective projects (i.e. those that have already occurred) or operational funding (i.e. ongoing expenses or recurrent costs).

*** Charitable purposes** - the *Charities Act 2013* (Cth) lists twelve charitable purposes. The purposes most likely to align with our grants are:

- advancing social or public welfare
- advancing education
- advancing health
- advancing culture
- promoting reconciliation, mutual respect and tolerance between groups of
 - individuals that are in Australia
 - advancing the natural environment
 - other purposes 'beneficial to the general public'

Period of funding

From approval you have 12 months to complete your project. If you run into challenges, please keep Tomorrow Today informed. If needed, an extension may be approved or in some instances Tomorrow Today may seek a return of granted funds.

How to Apply

You are **strongly** urged to contact us (as outlined under 'Eligibility' above) to discuss your proposal before submitting an application. Application forms can be requested from our office or downloaded from the Tomorrow Today website. Send your application either by e-mail, post or hand deliver to Tomorrow Today, **no later than 5pm on Monday 23 March 2026.**

All applications will be acknowledged by email.

Successful applicants will be notified in early May 2026.