

2025-26 Maitri Grant Program Application Form

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Overview - 2025-26 Maitri Grant Program

About the Program

Thank you for your interest in the Centre for Australia-India Relations' (the Centre) Maitri ("*friendship*" in Sanskrit) Grant Program. The Centre provides grants for economic, cultural and policy projects that benefit the Australia-India relationship. The Maitri Grant Program has been developed to deliver grants aligned to the Centre's strategic objectives and per Australian Government's Portfolio Budget Statement outcomes 1.1 and 1.6.

The Centre provides these grants for economic, cultural and policy projects that benefit the Australia-India cultural and business relationship. We administer the program according to the [Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines](#) (CGRGs).

For this grant opportunity, up to \$5,215,000 is available to be paid in financial year 2025-26 for grant activities to run over three (3) years.

- The minimum grant amount is \$75,000.00
- The maximum grant amount is \$800,000.00

It is anticipated that most grants will be between \$150,000 and \$500,000, but this does not preclude some grants being more or less than this amount.

The grants cannot exceed the amount of available funds.

Applications which include an in-kind or cash co-contribution towards the grant activities may be assessed more favourably, as per the assessment criteria in Section 6.

Please refer to the [2025-26 Maitri Grant Program Guidelines](#) when completing your application. Ensure you and your proposed activity meet the eligibility requirements and your activity does not include ineligible expenditure items.

If you have any questions, please email maitrigrants@dfat.gov.au prior to the advertised closing date.

The Centre will host an Information Session in due course. Details will be available on the Centre's website at [2025-26 Maitri Grant Program](#)

Overarching objectives:

- to advance Indian Australian people to people, business to business and cultural links
- to support the implementation of [A New Roadmap for Australia's Economic Engagement with India](#)

Through a program of impactful and innovative projects, the Centre intends to achieve the following **outcomes**:

- deeper Australian business capability of the India economic opportunity
- improved quantity and quality of national level dialogue on issues relevant to the Australia-India relationship in both countries
- increased recognition of the contribution of diverse Indian Australian communities to our national story
- stronger cultural literacy and improved mutual understanding between Australia and India

The Centre is seeking to fund projects that will:

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Drive new areas of business engagement between Australia and India in sectors outlined in [A New Roadmap for Australia's Economic Engagement with India](#), including the four superhighways of growth and other key priorities. Your activity should:

- harness clean energy to further advance and deliver supply chain resilience
- utilise education and skills to support research into new avenues for industry collaboration and opportunities to commercialise Australia's technical capability with India
- identify and provide education and opportunities for businesses without mature existing channels for market access, including SMEs and First Nations businesses
- advance agri-tech to further leverage the benefits of our economic cooperation under the Australia-India Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA)
- enhance uptake of tourism; or
- support sports collaboration to generate economic engagement, including leveraging Australia's experience in delivering Commonwealth and Olympic Games

Deliver high impact cultural, and people to people projects, activities and exchanges that may:

- build India capability at major Australian cultural institutions to improve mainstream understanding of India
- leverage/raise awareness of the Audiovisual Co-production agreement
- harness diaspora influence to promote the Australian Indian relationship, including the Indian economic opportunity

We wish you well with your application.

The Maitri Grant Program Team Centre for Australia-India Relations Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Eligibility Requirements

* indicates a required field

To be eligible to apply for this grant you MUST:

- have an Australian Business Number (ABN)
- be registered for the purposes of GST
- be a permanent resident of Australia
- have an account with an Australian financial institution
- be located in Australia

You MUST also be one of the following entities. Please tick one from the eligible list. *

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> A company incorporated in Australia | <input type="radio"/> A publicly funded research organisation |
| <input type="radio"/> A company incorporated by guarantee | <input type="radio"/> An individual/sole trader |
| <input type="radio"/> An incorporated trustee on behalf of a trust | <input type="radio"/> An Australian local government body |
| <input type="radio"/> An incorporated association | <input type="radio"/> An Australian state or territory government body |

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- A partnership
- A joint (consortia) application with a lead organisation
- A registered charity or not-for-profit organisation
- A Corporate Commonwealth Entity
- An Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Corporation registered under the Corporations (Aboriginal and /or Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006

ABN *

The ABN provided will be used to look up the following information. Click Lookup above to check that you have entered the ABN correctly.

Information from the Australian Business Register	
ABN	
Entity name	
ABN status	
Entity type	
Goods & Services Tax (GST)	
DGR Endorsed	
ATO Charity Type	More information
ACNC Registration	
Tax Concessions	
Main business location	

Must be an ABN.

Contact Details

Are you applying as an organisation or an individual? *

- Individual
- Organisation

Applicant Name *

This is the individual/organisation name listed on the Australian Business Register

Address *

Address

Address Line 1, Suburb/Town, State/Province, Postcode, and Country are required.

Phone number *

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Must be a valid landline number.

Email *

Must be an official email address.

Website

Must be a URL.

Twitter/social media handle or hashtags

Other Social Media Details

Has your organisation, consortia partner or collaboration partner been requested to join the National Redress Scheme? *

Yes No

[National Redress Scheme](#) If 'yes' please provide details below and we may need to contact you to discuss.

Provide further information

If yes to the above, has your organisation registered with the National Redress Scheme within 6 months of being asked to join? *

Yes No Not applicable (not on the register)

If 'no' please provide details on why you have not registered below and we may need to contact you to discuss.

Provide further information

Does your organisation or consortia partner comply with the Modern Slavery Act (tick yes or no below)? If 'no' or if your organisation has a statement on the Modern Slavery Statements Register provide details in the box below. *

Yes No

[Modern Slavery Register](#) if you do not comply or are listed on the Register we may need to contact you to discuss.

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Provide further information

Do you have any outstanding reports, acquittals or breaches relating to any Australian Government funding? *

Yes

No

If 'yes' please provide details below and we may need to contact you to discuss.

Details on outstanding Australian Government funding

Grant Activity Details

* indicates a required field

What is the activity title? *

Provide a brief description of the proposed activity *

Word count:

Must be no more than 50 words.

What is the start date of the activity? *

Must be a date.

The maximum grant period is 3 years.

What is the completion date of the activity? *

You must complete your grant by 30 April 2029

Amount of Maitri funding sought? *

Advise the \$ amount of Maitri funding you are requesting in this application.

Explain what your activity will do and what it will achieve *

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

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Provide a brief summary of the outputs/outcomes in quantifiable numbers that will be delivered by the activity *

Word count:
Must be no more than 200 words.

Centre's Objectives

What outcome of the grant opportunity will your activity help the Centre achieve? *

- Deeper Australian business capability
 - Improve quality of national dialogue
 - Increase recognition of Indian Australian communities
 - Stronger cultural literacy
- Please choose one objective

- Clean energy
 - Agri-tech
 - Tourism
 - Skills
 - SMEs, new market access
 - First Nations business
- Please tick one sub-category

- Build capability at major cultural institutions
 - Audiovisual co-production agreement
- Please tick one sub-category

Which countries will activities occur in? * Australia India

Location/s of Activity - Australia

Activity locations must be within Australia and India. Please fill in this section to break down locations and indicate the % of time in each place. Add more lines as required.

Australian State/ Territory	Australian City	Time in Location	Additional Information
Choose from drop down list	What city is the activity?	What % of time in this location?	Add a comment if required.

Location/s of Activity - India

Please fill in each location within India and indicate the % of time in each place. Add more lines as required.

Location in India	Time in Location	Where is the closest DFAT Mission?	Additional Information
What location in India is your activity?	What % of time in this location?	Choose one from the drop down list	Add a comment if required

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Joint or Lead Consortia Partner

Will this activity be undertaken with joint consortia partner/lead organisation?% *

Yes

No

Provide details including names of joint or lead consortium partners.

Joint or Lead Consortium Partner Name	Details	Letter of Support
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Other Supporting Documents (optional)

Please upload any other relevant supporting information (letters of support not included on this section, as uploaded previously in this form). Other supporting information may include: CVs & References that directly support your grant activity.

Upload supporting documents

Attach a file:

Grant Activity Timeline

Activity Timeline

The maximum grant period is three (3) years. You must complete your grant by 30 April 2029.

Please provide a timeline of the major stages involved in delivering your grant activity. Add more rows as required.

Activity Stage	Anticipated Start Date	Anticipated End Date	Explanatory notes if applicable
Name each stage of your activity	Must be a date.	Must be a date.	Briefly expand on detail for this stage

Risk Management

* indicates a required field

Risk Management

Please identify the project's key risks and detail mitigations in the template provided: [Maitri Grants - Risk Register Template.xlsx](#).

You must upload your completed Risk Register below.

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Identified risks should only be relevant to your activity and will be unique to your project, sector or collaboration partners. Risks may include

- Public Risk (Accident, Health and Safety)
- Fraud
- Cybersecurity
- Intellectual property leakage
- Foreign interference
- Co-contribution risk
- Conflict of interest
- Travel restrictions

Upload your Risk Register *

Attach a file:

Upload if applicable

Budget Details

* indicates a required field

Budget instructions

- In the Budgeted Income section, please list all contributors to your project, including contributions by the entity seeking funding (A) and any other contributions by third parties (B). Please include in the comment section an indication of whether each source of funding is confirmed, conditional or pending approval.
- All in-kind contributions should be included and quantified in either section B (if from your entity) or section C (if from a third party).
- The Total Grant Amount section is automated, and it is the sum of the grant program funding sought from the Centre (A), contribution by the entity seeking funding (B), and contributions from third parties (C).
- In the Budgeted Expenditure section, please identify each expenditure clearly.
- The Budget Totals section is automated, it is the sum of total expenditure amount. This should equal the same as the total income (sum of A+B+C).

NOTE: Please provide budget figure amounts EXCLUSIVE of GST.

Ensure you read Sections 5.3 and 5.4 in the [2025-26 Maitri Grant Program Guidelines](#) to understand eligible and non-eligible expenditure.

Funding Amounts

- The minimum grant amount is \$75,000.00
- The maximum grant amount is \$800,000.00

It is anticipated that most grants will be between \$150,000 and \$500,000, but this does not preclude some grants being more or less than this amount.

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Joint or Lead Consortia Partner Contributions

Will you receive joint or lead consortia partner financial or in-kind support? * Yes No

List all joint and lead consortia contributions here. These may be cash or in-kind contributions. Apply a \$ value to in-kind contributions. Applications which include an in-kind or cash co-contribution towards the grant activities will be seen favourably.

Contributor	Amount (\$)	Status	Cash OR In-Kind
Name joint or lead consortia	Must be a dollar amount.	Advise if confirmed, conditional or pending approval	Provide brief details here
	\$		

Additional financial contributions or in-kind support

Will any other financial contributions or in-kind support be provided from other sources? * Yes No

Other Income can include Grants from Australian Federal Government, State Government, Local Government, etc and other income like cash, in-kind, etc. In-kind or cash co-contribution towards the grant activities will be considered favourably.

Other Income	AUD \$	Status	Cash OR In-Kind
Contributor Name	Must be a dollar amount.	Advise if confirmed, conditional or pending approval	Provide brief details here
	\$		

Budgeted Expenditure

Grant funding can only be spent on eligible expenditure you have incurred on eligible grant activities. Ensure you read section 5.3 of the Grant Guidelines for information regarding eligible expenditure.

Itemise your activity budget in the table below. Add more rows as required.

Activity Description	Basis of Calculation	Maitri Funded	Joint or Lead Consortia Partner Funded	Other Source Funding	Total	Comment/Notes
Name the activity	Please itemise	Must be a dollar amount.	Must be a dollar amount.	Must be a dollar amount.	This number/amount is calculated.	Provide brief additional information if required
		\$	\$	\$	\$	

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Total Budgeted Expenditure

Total Maitri Funded Expenditure \$ <input type="text"/> This number/amount is calculated.	Total Joint or Lead Consortia Partner Funded Expenditure \$ <input type="text"/> This number/amount is calculated.	Total Other Source Funding Expenditure \$ <input type="text"/> This number/amount is calculated.	Total Expenditure Amount * \$ <input type="text"/> This number/amount is calculated.
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Assessment Criteria

* indicates a required field

Addressing the 4 Assessment Criteria

You must address all the following 4 assessment criteria in plain English. Note each criteria has a definitive word count for answers.

The amount of detail and supporting evidence you provide in your application should be relative to the size, complexity and grant amount requested.

We will only consider awarding funding to applications that score highly against all assessment criteria.

Criterion 1: How will the grant contribute to the intended outcomes of this opportunity? (40%)

You should clearly and plainly demonstrate how your project will support one or more of the objectives and intended outcomes of the program (outlined in Section 2). You should:

- explain at a high-level what your idea is, what your activity will do and who will benefit
- how does your proposed project align with and seek to build on Australian priorities with India - including but not limited to the Australia-India Economic Roadmap
- explain why your activity is worth funding ahead of other competitive applications
- tell the story of your idea in simple language and avoid detailed technical jargon

*

Word count:

Must be no more than 400 words.

Criterion 2: How effective and efficient will the applicant be in delivering the grant? (20%)

You should:

- demonstrate your previous track record of delivering similar activities and the outcome
- demonstrate your knowledge and literacy of India and possible impacts on delivering your project in India and Australia

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- explain how you will measure success
- detail sophisticated risk management planning for the project

*

Word count:

Must be no more than 250 words.

Criterion 3: How will the activity's impact be maximised and deliver sustainable outcomes beyond funding? (20%)

You should:

- explain how you will leverage your partners to maximise impact
- detail your communications, marketing and media planning
- outline scenario planning beyond the life of the grant agreement
- explain your ability to forge durable institutional linkages over an extended period

Note: demonstrated in-kind or cash co-contributions will be considered favourably.

*

Word count:

Must be no more than 250 words.

Criterion 4: How innovative is the project? (20%)

You should:

- articulate the gaps and opportunities that your project is responding to
- identify any current or recent activities that may appear similar, and clearly articulate how your activity is different
- demonstrate knowledge of the current suite of endeavours to strengthen the Australia-India relationship, and how your activity will complement existing efforts
- articulate the new and/or expanded markets and audiences your activity will reach

*

Word count:

Must be no more than 250 words.

Primary & Secondary Contact & Conflict of Interest

* indicates a required field

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Primary Contact

The primary contact is the main point of communications with the Centre and will receive correspondence regarding the grant until the outcome notification. If successful, applicants can nominate a project lead contact for the grant project.

Name *	Title	First Name	Last Name
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Position *	<input type="text"/>		
Email *	<input type="text"/>		
	Must be an email address.		
Phone Number *	<input type="text"/>		
	Must be a valid phone number.		

Secondary Contact

Please advise a secondary contact for this application. Note the primary contact will receive notifications from SmartyGrants.

Secondary Contact - Name *	<input type="text"/>
	Include "title" "first name" and "last name"
Position *	<input type="text"/>
Email *	<input type="text"/>
	Must be an official email address.
Phone Number *	<input type="text"/>
	Must be a valid phone number.

Conflict of Interest

Please advise if you, your organisations personnel or any person or entity connected to your application;

- Has a professional, commercial or personal relationship with a party who is able to influence the application process?
- Has a relationship with an organisation or foreign government?
- Has a relationship with, or interest in, an organisation from which they may receive or be perceived to receive personal gain from this grant funding?

To the best of your knowledge, are there any potential, perceived or actual Yes No

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conflicts of interest relating to this application? *

Provide details *

Declaration

* indicates a required field

Working with Children or other Vulnerable Persons

Successful grantees will be asked to complete a Working with Vulnerable Persons Statement of Compliance as part of the Standard Grant Agreement.

The Commonwealth considers a child to be a person under the age of 18 years.

Will your project involve working with children and/or other vulnerable persons? * Yes No

List of State and Territory Authorities

Each Australian state and territory has its own "Working with Vulnerable People" (WWVP) scheme, requiring individuals working with vulnerable people to undergo a background check and registration.

Below is a list of issuing authorities:

Australian Capital Territory (ACT): [Access Canberra](#)

New South Wales (NSW): [NSW Office of the Children's Guardian](#)

Northern Territory (NT): [SafeNT](#)

Queensland (QLD): [Blue Card Services](#)

South Australia (SA): [South Australia Police](#)

Tasmania (TAS): [Tasmanian Department of Justice](#)

Victoria (VIC): [Working with Children Check](#) (WWCC) unit

Western Australia (WA): [Department of Communities](#)

Note: It is important to note that the specific requirements and processes for each state and territory may vary. Applicants must consult the relevant agency's website for detailed information.

Confirmation and Declaration

Privacy notice about the collection, use and disclosure of personal information

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The personal information you provide in this report is collected by the Centre for Australia-India Relations (CAIR) within the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) to financially acquit, evaluate and report on the outcomes of your grant in accordance with [Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines](#). Without this information, we may be unable to finalise your grant payment.

We collect any photographs and audio/visual materials you provide to promote and publicise the work of CAIR and DFAT. These materials may be made public through national and local media, annual reports or via the CAIR or DFAT websites and other social media.

Our privacy policy is available at www.dfat.gov.au/privacy.html and contains information about access to, or correction of, your personal information, and how you may complain about a breach of your privacy and how we deal with complaints. Grantees/recipients should also note the provisions of the [Freedom of Information Act 1982](#) apply to documents in DFAT's possession.

I, certify that: I have read and understand the above Privacy notice.

Overseas disclosure:

- I understand that information provided in this report, including photographs and audio-visual materials, may be used for publicity purposes.
- By providing information to DFAT, I consent to the publication of my personal information to overseas entities or on the internet. I acknowledge that if other recipients breach the Australian Privacy Principles, DFAT will not be accountable under the Privacy Act and that I will not be able to seek redress under the Privacy Act.

Information about other people

- I have sought the consent of any individual whose personal information I have included in the report (including collaborators and activity partners), to provide their personal information to CAIR and DFAT to collect, use and disclose in accordance with this Privacy notice.
- I have obtained written consent from each photographed person, where required.

Use and disclosure for secondary purposes

- I consent to information provided in this application being stored on a central database to which other Commonwealth and State or Territory government agencies may have access for assessment or similar purposes.
- I consent to information provided in this application, other than personal information, being used for training and testing purposes by DFAT staff.

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Grant activity

- The statements in this report are true to the best of my knowledge.
- The grant is being used/was used in accordance with the approved budget as detailed in the Funding Agreement/Deed.
- The above financial statement presents fairly the financial transactions in relation to the CAIR grant received from DFAT (if financial acquittal).

If you have a grant amount that needs to be repaid:

- I understand that DFAT will send an invoice to the organisation funded to recover any unspent CAIR funding.
- I confirm that original receipts and other documentation which account for the expenditure will be retained for at least five years from the date of this form and will be available upon request.

Declaration *

- Yes, I have read and agree to the above conditions.

Date of Declaration *

Must be a date.

Name *

Title	First Name	Last Name
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Position *

If you are applying as an individual, state "individual applicant".

Statistical Information

* indicates a required field

Where did you hear about the Centre for Australia-India Relations and this Maitri Research Grant Program? *

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Australian Embassy/Consulate | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Media - Facebook, X, LinkedIn etc |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DFAT State or Territory Offices | <input type="checkbox"/> CAIR Website |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GrantConnect | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="text"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Minister Media Release | |

Do you have any feedback regarding the application process which may be used to improve future grant rounds? (Note: any feedback will be treated confidentially and will not affect the assessment of your application).

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