

## **NAIDOC Week Grants for Smaller Communities**

### **Grant Guidelines**

Western NSW Primary Health Network

May 2026

## Acknowledgement of Country

Western NSW Primary Health Network (WNSW PHN) respectfully acknowledges First Nations people as the Traditional Custodians of the nations and countries on which we work, and commit to building relationships, respect and opportunities with all First Nations Peoples in our region. We pay respect to Elders past and present and extend recognition to all First Nations people reading this message. We respectfully acknowledge the following nations:

**Wiradjuri**

**Gamilaraay / Gamilaroi / Kamilaroi**

**Wailwun**

**Wongaibon**

**Ngemba / Nyemba / Ngiyampaa**

**Murrawarri**

**Barkindji**

**Barindji**

**Barundji**

**Nyirra**

**Karengapa**

**Wadigali**

**Wilyakali / Wiljali**

**Wandjiwalgu**

**Danggali**

**Muthi-Muthi**

**Kureinji**

**Gunu**

**Barranbinya**

**Bandjigali**

**Malyangaba**

**Dadi Dadi**

We acknowledge Elders who are the knowledge holders, teachers and pioneers, the youth who are the hope for a brighter future and who will be the future leaders. We acknowledge and pay our respect to First Nations people who have gone before us and recognise their contribution to First Nations people and community.

## WNSW PHN's Commitment to Reconciliation

WNSW PHN is committed to reconciliation and demonstrates its commitment by building meaningful, sustainable initiatives in partnership with First Nations communities that close the gap and achieve equitable health outcomes First Nations people. WNSW PHN is committed to leading this journey through its Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP), which is built on respect, relationships and opportunities. This reconciliation journey is grounded in truth telling, listening, learning, and partnering with First Nations communities.

You can find out more about WNSW PHN's commitment to reconciliation in its Innovate RAP [HERE](#).

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## 1. About the Western NSW Primary Health Network

The Western NSW Primary Health Network (WNSW PHN), is one of 31 Primary Health Networks across Australia, established to support frontline health services and increase the efficiency and effectiveness of primary health care. Our focus is people who are at risk of poor health outcomes and working to improve the coordination of their care, so they receive the right care in the right place at the right time. We work closely with key stakeholders including general practice, other health care providers, Local Health Districts, hospitals and the broader community to align services with the health needs of the region.

WNSW PHN is a not-for-profit organisation primarily funded by the Australian Government.

WNSW PHN covers both Far West and Western NSW Local Health Districts across a total area of 433,379 square kilometers, making it the largest PHN in NSW (at 53.5%). The total population is estimated to be over 312,000 people, with 20.3% over the age of 65 years. Approximately 11.36% of people in the WNSW PHN region identify as First Nations (ABS, 2021).

The geographic region covered by WNSW PHN is captured in Figure 1 below. You can also check to see if you fall within the WNSW PHN region, using the PHN Location Map found [HERE](#)

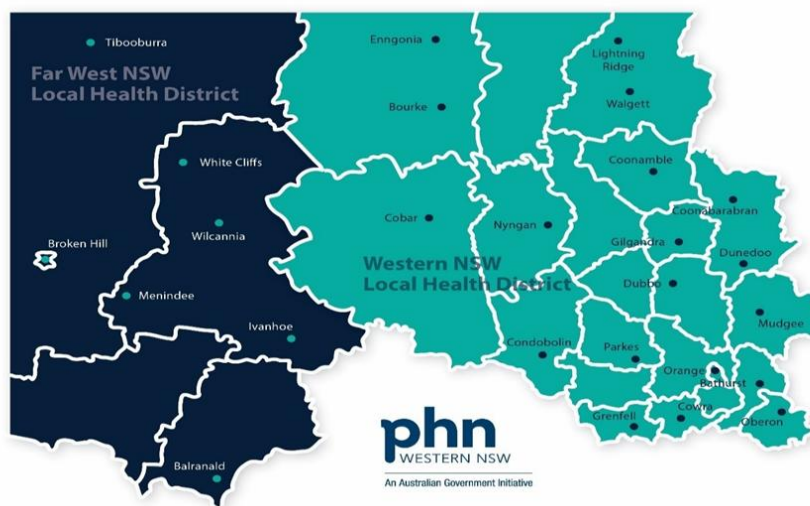


Figure 1 – NSW PHN Geographical Footprint

## 2. Background - NAIDOC Week Grants for Smaller Communities

Western NSW Primary Health Network (WNSW PHN) is offering one-off community grants to support NAIDOC Week celebrations across regions with populations under 16,000 people. This initiative aims to strengthen relationships with stakeholders and Aboriginal communities by supporting locally led activities that celebrate the history, culture, and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

This one-off funding initiative recognises the importance of honouring the rich heritage and contributions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The program will provide grants to empower communities to lead and deliver meaningful NAIDOC Week activities that foster cultural pride, inclusion, and connection.

## 3. Key Grants Details

Grant funding is intended to support NAIDOC Week celebrations. A maximum of 25 grants will be awarded to smaller communities with populations under 16,000 people. This may include, but is not limited to, activities such as those listed below:

- Cultural Events and Celebrations
  - Hosting community BBQs, lunches, or morning teas to bring people together.
  - Organising NAIDOC flag-raising ceremonies to mark the occasion.
  - Coordinating cultural dance or music performances featuring local artists.
  - Conducting smoking ceremonies or Welcome to Country led by Elders or Traditional Custodians.
- Workshops and learning activities
  - Facilitating art, weaving, or cultural craft workshops for all ages.
  - Hosting storytelling sessions with Elders to share local history and traditions.
  - Delivering language and cultural education sessions to promote knowledge and pride.
- Community Engagement Activities
  - Organising cultural sports or games that encourage participation and connection.
- Materials and Support Costs
  - Providing catering and refreshments for attendees.
  - Hiring equipment needed for events or workshops.
  - Producing promotional materials such as banners, flyers, or T-shirts.
  - Supplying decorations, signage, or cultural displays to enhance the event environment.

## 4. Grant Funding Details

Up to \$500 per eligible organisation (excl GST).

## Project Timeline

Grant Applications Open:	20 May 2026
Grant Applications Close:	11 June 2026
Grants Awarded**:	18 June 2026
Activity Completion:	31 December 2026

*\*\* The above grant awarding date is indicative only and may be subject to change due to operational requirements of the grant.*

## Funds can be used for

- Direct costs associated with the delivery of NAIDOC Week activities, including culturally appropriate events and celebrations such as community gatherings, ceremonies, cultural performances, and workshops.
- Event-related expenses, including catering, refreshments, venue hire, equipment hire, cultural performers, decorations, signage, and promotional materials (e.g. banners, flyers).
- Purchase or hire of minor equipment or resources required to support the delivery of the approved activity, where the items are reasonable, directly related to the event, and represent value for money.

## What this grant cannot be used for

- Costs related to personal travel or accommodation.
- Purchase of equipment.
- Salaries and wages.
- The preparation of this Grant application.

## 5. Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for funding, applicants must meet the following criteria:

1. Be an Aboriginal organisation or business with an Australian Business Number (ABN).  
**or**
2. Be a NAIDOC Committee without an ABN that is auspiced by an organisation with an ABN. NAIDOC Committees that are not incorporated can apply if they have an agreement with an eligible incorporated organisation to auspice the funding. An eligible applicant may act as an auspice for one other applicant.  
**or**
3. Be a non-Aboriginal entity with a letter of endorsement from an Aboriginal Community Group or Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation.  
**and**
4. Be able to demonstrate planned involvement in NAIDOC Week celebrations within eligible location across the Western NSW PHN region.  
**and**
5. Hold and maintain public liability insurance coverage (minimum coverage of \$10 million).

## 6. Deliverables

### Activity Deliverables

- Delivery of NAIDOC activities as proposed and detailed in the Grant Agreement

### Reporting Requirements

- Evidence of appropriate insurance coverage
- Activity Summary Report

## 7. Grant Conditions

1. WNSW PHN reserves the right to award all, part, or none of the grant.
2. Successful applicants will be required to enter into a Grant Agreement with WNSW PHN.
3. Must be delivered at no cost to the community.
4. Must disclose potential or perceived conflicts of interest.
5. Breaches of terms may result in Grant recovery.
6. Successful Grants may be publicly listed on the WNSW PHN website.
7. Ensure compliance with working with children checks.
8. Acknowledge WNSW PHN in promotions.

## 8. Assessment Criteria

Applications will be evaluated based on:

1. Submission of fully completed application.
2. Fulfill the eligibility criteria outlined in Section 5.
3. Capacity to meet the expected deliverables.

**Please Note:** Applications will be assessed as they are received and until funds are exhausted


## 9. Grant Application

To apply for grant funding:

1. Review and accept all conditions.
2. Complete the Application Form: [HERE](#) or use the QR Code:



## 10. Further Information

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