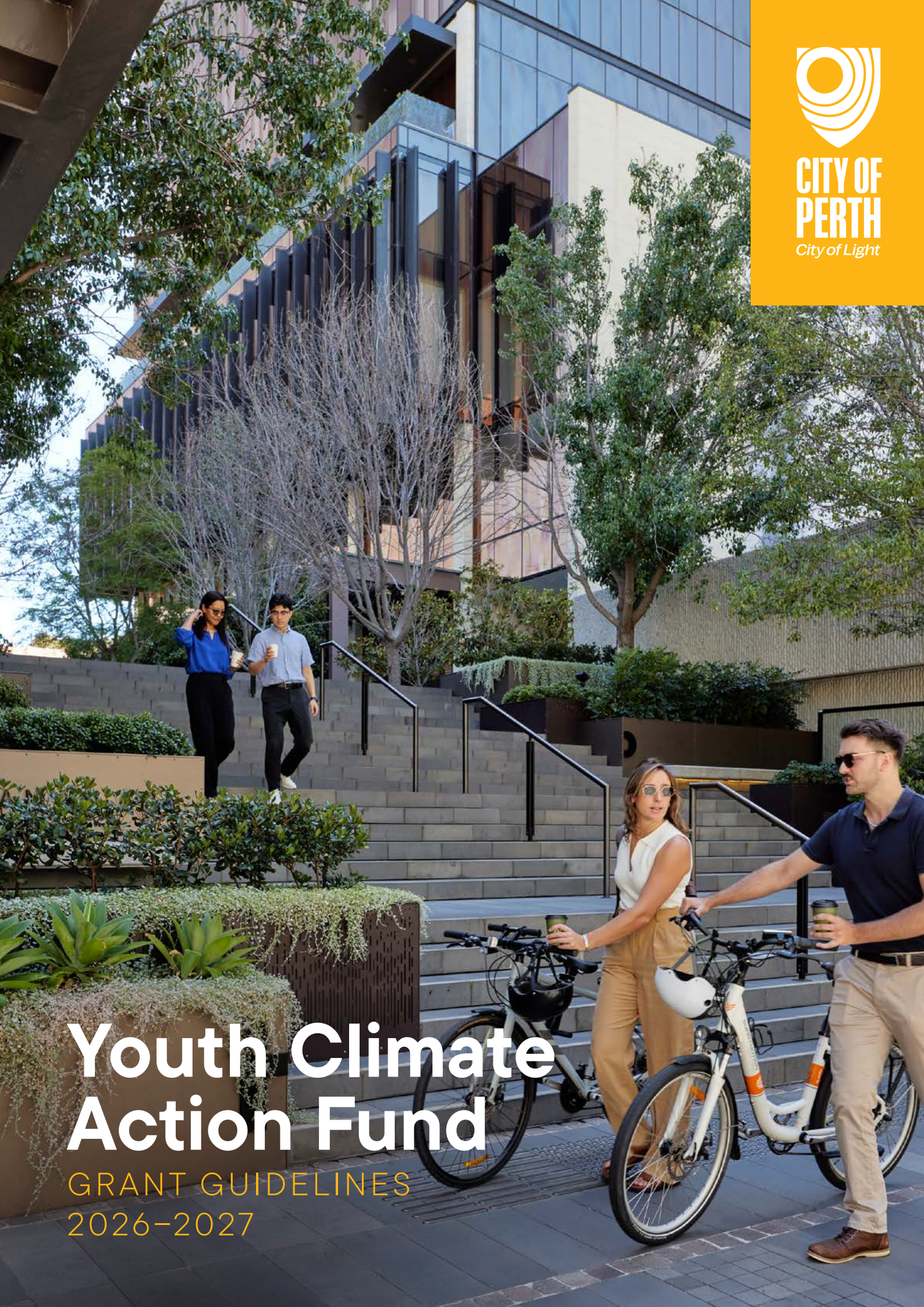
CITY OF PERTH
City of Light



Youth Climate Action Fund

GRANT GUIDELINES 2026–2027

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS

The City of Perth acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land that we are situated on, the Whadjuk people of the Nyoongar nation and Aboriginal people from other lands.
We celebrate the continuing traditions, living culture, and the spiritual connection to Boorloo (Perth) and the Derbarl Yerrigan (Swan River).
We offer our respects to Elders past and present.

The City's Aspiration

The City of Perth is committed to supporting initiatives that contribute to our aspiration for Perth – Liveable, Green and Prosperous. Through sponsorship and grants, we support stakeholders to build a sense of vibrancy, celebrate our diverse culture, and contribute to economic growth, creating a city that is a great place to live, work and visit.

Liveable

Green

Prosperous

Introduction

The Youth Climate Action Fund (YCAF) empowers young people aged 15–24 to lead meaningful climate action and contribute to a more sustainable and resilient Perth. The program supports youth leadership, innovation, and practical solutions that benefit people and the planet.

Program

Think Global, Act Local. This funding program is delivered by the City of Perth (the City) and supported by a global funding initiative from Bloomberg Philanthropy.

What You Get

Funding between $1,500 and $7,000 (excluding GST) for eligible climate action projects led by young people aged 15–24 and supported by organisations that work with young people.

Important Dates

Applications open	24 August 2026
Applications close	2 October 2026

This grant is exhaustive funding and may close sooner where the budget is expended.

Applicants will be notified of a decision up to 6 weeks from the closing date.

Successful applicants are expected to commence their project no sooner than 13 November 2026 and complete their project by 15 April 2027.

Outcomes

Through youth-led action and collaboration, the City aims to deliver lasting environmental, social, and economic outcomes in alignment with the City's Sustainability Strategy 2022 – 2032 and overarching Perth Capital City Plan – Towards 2036 and Beyond.

To support this outcome, projects must align with one or more of the City of Perth climate priorities.

Climate Priorities

Mitigation and Resilience – actions to reduce emissions or to strengthen our community, natural, and built environments to withstand impacts of climate change

Circularity – keeping materials and resources in use for as long as possible, minimising waste and protecting our environment, waterways and natural systems

Inclusivity – ensuring everyone has a voice in and benefits from climate action, including First Nations peoples and those facing cultural, economic, or other barriers

Governance – building the networks, trust, and engagement needed to accelerate meaningful climate action and enable the conditions for lasting behaviour change

Types of Activities

Projects may include a range of activities. Here are some examples to help frame the scope of your project.

Learn – build knowledge, curiosity, and a culture of climate action and sustainability

Skills – develop practical skills and capacity to turn climate intention into action

Connect – meet, share, and collaborate with others to help drive climate action

Create – use art, media, or storytelling to inspire and engage others in climate action

Activate – run local events or challenges that get people involved in climate action

Explore – pilot new climate action innovations or approaches in your community

What We Will Fund

- events and workshop costs including venue hire and basic catering;
- marketing and promotional materials including printing and photography;
- training and mentor fees for youth-focused workshops and skills development;
- project supplies such as equipment, tools, materials and technology;
- permit or approval fees required to deliver the project; and
- Auspice fees to a maximum of 10 percent of the project cost.

What We Will Not Fund

- events not related to youth led climate action;
- in-kind contributions such as volunteer hours;
- operation costs such as rent, utilities, fees and insurances;
- speaker fees or honorariums;
- scholarships;
- direct support to individuals or families;
- commercial or profit-making activities;
- large capital campaigns or endowments;
- projects where the City considers the primary purpose to be political;
- projects that the City considers denigrate or exclude parts of the community or have an adverse effect on public health, safety, the environment or heritage;
- projects that request reimbursement of funds already spent;
- projects that are for debt reduction or operational deficits; and
- project legal expenses.

Assessment Criteria

All applications will be assessed on the following criteria.

Your Idea
What inspired your idea, and why does it matter to you

Your Plan
How will you deliver the project, and how will you spend the money

Your Team
Who is leading the project, and who is helping you make it happen

Your Impact
What does success look like, and how will you measure it

Eligibility Criteria

Key Inclusions

All applications must meet the following eligibility criteria:

1. offer a project within the City's local government area or a project that will result in a direct impact on the City*;
2. be a legally constituted entity with an Australian Business Number (ABN) and have a bank account in the organisations name;
3. be recognised as a not-for-profit or charitable organisation (ACNC) under Australian laws;
4. have appropriate insurances where required, as outlined under the City's Activity Approvals or other relevant policies and procedures;
5. have submitted the application prior to the project commencement date with sufficient time to enable consideration by the City;
6. demonstrate financial viability without the City's funding (an individual event or project may not be viable without the City's support, however the organisation must be);
7. the organisation has applied for no more than three different projects led by young people within this funding period; and
8. the project is led by young people aged 15–24 and supported by organisations that work with young people.

*as determined by the City

Key Exclusions

The City will not consider applications from:

- Commonwealth or State Government Departments;
- a political party;
- an applicant that the City considers to support, promote or facilitate violence, intolerance or discrimination;
- an employee or elected member of the City, or their immediate family, however this does not include an application from an organisation that an employee, elected member or their immediate family member may be part of;
- an application from an entity in which an employee or elected member has an ownership stake;
- an applicant that has outstanding debts to the City;
- an applicant who is in legal conflict with the City;
- an applicant that has failed to provide satisfactory acquittal reporting for any previous City funding;
- an applicant that has already received City funding (including in-kind) for the same project within the same financial year;
- an applicant that has already applied for City funding (including in-kind) for the same project within the same financial year and been refused; or
- an applicant that conducts, or has conducted, themselves in a way that the City considers to be injurious or prejudicial to the character or interests of the City.

The City will **not** support recurrent operational funding, including, but not limited to wages, salaries, or administrative overheads. Additional details on eligibility and requirements are set out in **Council Policy 4.3 Outgoing Sponsorship and Grants.**

To the extent of any inconsistency, the Policy takes precedence over this document.

How to Apply

YCAF Program Lead

Before applying, we encourage you to reach out to the City's Youth Climate Action Fund (YCAF) Program Lead who is here to help guide and support you.

Email: YCAF@cityofperth.wa.gov.au
Mobile: 0497 414 257

SmartyGrants

Applications for Youth Climate Action Fund must be submitted through the City's approved online management portal, **SmartyGrants**.

Mercedes College visit and presentation - Council House Chambers

General Information

Assessment Process

Applications are assessed by a minimum three-person assessment panel to the decision-making authority. The recommendation is carefully considered with the view of maintaining the integrity of the proposal.

The City reserves the right to request further information in considering any application, as well as the right to reject any application that does not meet the eligibility criteria.

Decisions and Notifications

Applications may be accepted or rejected or part-funding approved, and the decision is final and not subject to any further appeal within the City. Applications will be approved by the City's administration.

Funding Agreements

Successful applicants must enter into a written funding agreement with the City before any funding is provided to the successful applicant. The City will not be under any obligations in relation to a successful applicant until the parties execute an agreement.

Successful applicants will be required to provide evidence of appropriate insurances at time of Agreement execution unless provided at point of submission.

A funding agreement template can be viewed on the Sponsorships and Grants page.

Acquittal Process

Subject to the terms of the Agreement, successful applicants will be required to submit an acquittal report through SmartyGrants by Friday 30 April 2027.

All successful applicants will be required to report on outputs and outcomes as part of the acquittal report process. All projects must be acquitted prior to payment being made to subsequent approved funding applications.

Acquittal reports will be considered as part of future funding applications.

Lobbying of Elected Members and Administrative Staff

Applicants or anyone representing the interests of applicants must not lobby or seek to influence the decision-making of Elected Members and administrative staff. If, during the period between submitting a funding application and a determination by the CEO, an applicant or any member of the public seeks to lobby any Elected Member or administrative staff, or attempts to provide additional information, either directly or indirectly, on any matter relating to the funding application, the person/organisation will be disqualified and the project excluded from being considered for approval.

Collection Notice

The City collects your personal information to meet legal requirements including for:

- the *City of Perth Act 2016*;
- the *Local Government Act 1995* and regulations;
- the *Privacy and Responsible Information Sharing Act 2024* and regulations;
- other legislation such as the *Electronic Transactions Act 1999* (Cth), and financial arrangements and regulations; and
- requirements for reports to and acquittal of monies for grant funders.

Additional details are set out in the City's Collection Notice on the website **here**.

Contact Us

This publication can be requested in alternative formats: audio, braille, Word or accessible PDF.

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