

New Approaches Grant Pack

About this pack

This pack is designed to help you prepare for a New Approaches grant from the Seaton Foundation:

- A walk-through of the Application form, including guidance and examples on the type of information we are looking for.
- Additional guidance on describing your initiative's intended outcomes and how you plan to track progress towards these outcomes.

New Approaches Grant – Overview

Timing	Applications open for a four-week period each October.
Purpose	This pathway supports new approaches and innovative ways of working within our Focus Areas. This may include pilots, feasibility studies, or initiatives that test a different way of addressing a challenge or opportunity. We are particularly keen to hear from emerging organisations.
Funding available	Up to \$50,000 is allocated annually for New Approaches grants. Most grants are expected to be up to approximately \$10,000.
Application Process	• Submit a full application via our website during the open period • Applicants may be contacted for additional information • If you would feel more comfortable submitting your application via video rather than in writing, please contact us in advance and we will guide you through the process
Decision timeline	From application submission to notification, the process typically takes around eight weeks. We will notify all applicants of the outcome and provide feedback to those not funded, recognising the time and effort involved in preparing an application.

The Application Form

About the Full Application

The Application form gives us the details we need to make a funding decision. The form is designed to help you clearly share your initiative: what you'll do, who it's for, what changes you hope to see, and how you'll know it's working.

Application Form Walk-through

Section 1: Contact Details

1.1 Primary contact person for this application	
1.2 Position/role	
1.3 Email	
1.4 Phone	

Section 2: Your Organisation

2.1 Organisation name	
2.2 Australian Business Number (ABN)	
2.3 Are you endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) Item 1 by the Australian Taxation Office?	☐ Yes, our organisation holds DGR Item 1 endorsement ☐ No, but we are applying through an auspice organisation that holds DGR Item 1 endorsement ☐ No
If applying through an auspice:	
2.4 Auspice organisation name	<i>Tip: For more detailed information on auspice arrangements, refer to our Grant Information Pack (Eligibility and Auspicing section)</i>
2.5 Auspice organisation ABN	
2.6 Tell us briefly about your organisation [150 words]	<i>This doesn't need to be a formal history - just help us understand who you are and why you're well-placed to deliver this initiative.</i>

Section 3: About This Initiative

3.1 Initiative name	<i>A simple working title is fine</i>
3.2 Where will this initiative take place?	<i>Example: Byron Bay</i>
3.3 When do you plan to deliver this initiative?	<i>Example: March - June 2026 or Starting April 2026, running for 10 months</i>
3.4 What need or opportunity are you responding to [150 words max]	<i>Tell us about the need or opportunity your initiative addresses.</i>
3.5 Which of our Focus Areas does this initiative address?	[Checkboxes - pre-filled from EOI, allow editing] • ☐ Health, Wellbeing & Dignity • ☐ Disaster Response • ☐ Youth & Education Equity • ☐ Housing & Homelessness • ☐ Animal Welfare & Wildlife Support • ☐ Environment & Cultural Heritage
3.6 Who will this initiative benefit? [150 words]	<i>Tell us about the people, animals, places, or environments that will benefit. Be as specific as you can about who the participants or beneficiaries are.</i> <i>Example: Native wildlife across the Northern Rivers — particularly animals injured in vehicle strikes or displaced by weather events — and the licensed rehabilitation centres currently managing first response without community support.</i>

Section 4: What You'll Do

4.1 What activities will you deliver? [300 words]	<i>Describe what you'll actually do. Be specific about activities, frequency, duration.</i> <i>Example: We will recruit 20 local volunteers across three Northern Rivers communities and deliver two full-day training workshops in basic wildlife triage, short-term care, and safe handling. Trained volunteers will be on-call for community referrals via a simple phone and text system, with each response logged to track animal outcomes. A licensed wildlife rehabilitator will provide ongoing mentoring and quality oversight throughout the six-month pilot.</i>
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4.2 What makes your approach new or different? [150 words]	<i>Tell us what's innovative or different about what you're proposing — this might be a new model, a different way of working, or an approach that hasn't been tried in this context before.</i> <i>Example: Current wildlife first response in the Northern Rivers relies almost entirely on a small network of licensed rehabilitators who are often overwhelmed, particularly after weather events. This pilot tests whether a distributed community layer — trained volunteers providing immediate triage and short-term care — can improve response times and animal survival rates while reducing pressure on existing carers.</i>
4.3 Will you be working with other organisations or groups to deliver this initiative? [150 words]	<i>If you're partnering or collaborating with others, tell us who they are and what their role will be. If not, you can leave this blank.</i>

Section 5: Outcomes You Are Hoping to Achieve

5.1 What positive change /s (outcomes) do you hope to see as a result of this initiative? [200 words]	<i>This is about outcomes - the positive changes you hope to see as a result of your work. For a new approach, these may be hoped-for rather than expected — and that's fine.</i> <i>Think about: What will be different for the people, animals, places, or issue you're addressing if this approach works?</i> <i>Examples: Injured and sick wildlife in the Northern Rivers will receive faster initial care, improving survival rates before animals reach licensed rehabilitation centres. Existing wildlife rehabilitators will experience reduced pressure, particularly during high-demand periods such as floods or fires.</i>
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5.2 What do you expect to learn from this initiative, regardless of whether change/s (outcomes) are achieved?	<i>Innovation involves testing assumptions — and what you learn is valuable even if the initiative doesn't go as planned.</i> <i>Tell us what questions this initiative will help you answer.</i> <i>Example: We expect to learn whether community volunteers can be trained to provide effective basic triage, what level of ongoing support and oversight is needed to maintain quality, and whether this model is scalable to other communities in the region.</i>
5.3 How will you know if you're making progress toward the changes you hope to see? [250 words]	<i>For new approaches, tracking what you're learning is just as important as tracking outcomes.</i> <i>Think about: What information will you collect to understand whether you're making progress toward the outcomes you described earlier? We're not asking for a formal evaluation framework – just your approach to understanding whether your initiative is making a difference.</i>

GUIDANCE: MEASURING PROGRESS TOWARD POSITIVE CHANGE (OUTCOMES)

‘Measuring’ or tracking progress towards outcomes doesn't have to be complex or require specialist evaluation skills. Simple approaches are often the most appropriate and useful.

Three simple questions can help to guide your thinking on how you might track and measure progress:

1. How much did we do?

- How many sessions/workshops/interventions?
- How many people/animals/hectares supported?

Example: The number of training workshops delivered, volunteers trained, and wildlife callouts responded to during the pilot period.

2. How well did we do it?

- Did participants/volunteers engage consistently?
- What feedback did we receive?

Example: Volunteer feedback survey after training workshops to assess whether participants felt confident and well-prepared to respond.

3. Did it make a difference?

- What changed for the animals, people, or places you were working with?
- What did you learn about whether this approach works, and what you'd do differently?

Example: Tracking animal outcomes (survival to handover with a licensed rehabilitator) and debrief conversations with volunteers and rehabilitators to understand what worked, what didn't, and whether the model is worth scaling.

Remember:

- Keep your approach proportionate to the size and complexity of your initiative — small grants may only require a brief reflection on what happened and what you learned, rather than formal measures.
- Choose measures that are realistic to collect with your resources, and don't let measurement become a burden that gets in the way of your initiative
- Focus on the most important changes, not measuring everything
- Simple is often better - Qualitative feedback (what people tell you) is just as valuable as numbers

Section 6: Budget

6.1 How will the grant funds be used?

Complete the budget table below to show how you'll allocate the funds. Be specific about what each line item covers (All figures should be GST-free)

What will the grant fund?	Amount
<i>Item</i>	\$
Item	\$
<i>Item</i>	\$
TOTAL GRANT REQUEST	\$

6.2 Project funding summary

	Amount
Total project cost	<i>Total project cost should equal Seaton Foundation request + any other funding + in-kind contributions.</i>
Amount requested from Seaton Foundation	\$

Other confirmed funding (if applicable)	\$
Other pending funding (if applicable)	\$
In-kind contributions (if applicable)	\$

6.3 If you have other funding (confirmed, pending, or in-kind), please provide details:	<i>Tell us the source and status of other funding or contributions to the initiative.</i> <i>Example: Northern Rivers Community Foundation: \$5,000 confirmed and/or Local business sponsorship: \$2,000 in-kind (venue)</i>
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GUIDANCE: BUDGET

What is a project budget?

A project budget shows the costs specifically for this initiative - not your whole organisation's budget. It helps us understand what you need to deliver the activities you've described. Your budget doesn't need to be complex — it just needs to reflect your actual costs

What should I include?

Include all costs specifically related to delivering this initiative including:

- Salaries/fees for staff or contractors
- Materials, equipment, or supplies
- Venue hire or facility costs
- Travel or transport
- Evaluation or reporting costs
- Any other direct costs

What about in-kind contributions?

In-kind contributions are resources you're receiving without cash payment - like donated venue space, volunteer time, or pro-bono professional services. You can include these to show the full value of the project.

Example: If volunteers contribute 40 hours @ \$30/hour, that's \$1,200 in-kind.

What if I'm only requesting part of the total cost?

That's fine - many initiatives have multiple funding sources. Just show us:

- The total cost of the initiative
- How much you are requesting from the Seaton Foundation
- Where the rest is coming from (confirmed, pending, or in-kind)

Example: Simple budget

What will the grant fund?	Amount
<i>Facilitator fees — licensed rehabilitator (2 training days @ \$800)</i>	<i>\$1,600</i>
<i>Training materials and wildlife handling equipment</i>	<i>\$1,500</i>
<i>Travel and transport</i>	<i>\$1,500</i>
<i>Pilot documentation and evaluation</i>	<i>\$700</i>
TOTAL GRANT REQUEST	\$5,300
Project funding summary	Amount
<i>Total project cost</i>	<i>\$10,000</i>
<i>Seaton Foundation request</i>	<i>\$5,300</i>
<i>XX Foundation (confirmed grant)</i>	<i>\$3,500</i>
<i>Volunteers (in-kind) \$40 hours @ \$30/hour</i>	<i>\$1,200</i>

Section 7: Challenges and How You'll Manage Them

7.1 What might be challenging about delivering this initiative, and how will you approach those challenges? [200 words]	<i>Every initiative faces challenges - whether that's timing, weather, recruitment, resources, or something else. Tell us what you anticipate might be difficult and how you'll manage it.</i> <i>Example Challenge: Volunteers may lose confidence or disengage between callouts, particularly during quieter periods. Approach: We'll establish a WhatsApp group for the volunteer network to share experiences and maintain connection, and schedule a mid-pilot check-in with the licensed rehabilitator to address any concerns and reinforce skills.</i>
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Section 8: Anything Else?

8.1 Is there anything else we should know about this initiative? [optional]	<i>This is an opportunity to share anything important that doesn't fit elsewhere - context, connections, or anything that helps us understand your initiative better.</i>
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Section 9: Declaration

I confirm that I am authorised to submit this Application on behalf of the organisation named above

Name:	
Position:	
Date:	

What happens next?

After you submit your application (all applicants):

1. We'll review your application
2. We may contact you if we need any additional information
3. All applications are reviewed by the Seaton Foundation Board
4. You'll be notified of the outcome (typically within 8 weeks of submission)
5. We'll provide feedback, recognising the time and effort involved in applying
6. We welcome your feedback on the application process.

If your application is successful:

- We'll contact you by phone to discuss next steps
- You'll receive a Collaboration Agreement outlining the grant terms
- We'll work with you to arrange payment and reporting timeframe

If your application is not funded:

- You're welcome to apply again in future — whether with the same initiative or something new

Questions?

If you have questions about completing this application, please contact us:

Email: info@seatonfoundation.org.au Web: seatonfoundation.org.au
