

Sponsorship program guidelines

For eligible organisations in our community

Version 4.0

Revised: 30 April 2024

This assessment process has been designed to help organisations in our communities to apply for sponsorship funding.

Introduction

Being part of Bendigo Bank is about being part of something bigger. While we provide excellent banking and financial services, we aim to give back to our community. By banking with us, our customers are also helping to support their communities through our sponsorship program.

Our community sponsorship program facilitates mutually beneficial partnerships with eligible organisations in our community.

What is a sponsorship?

A sponsorship is an arrangement with Community Bank Drouin & District to support an event, activity, individual or organisation through the provision of money, goods or services.

Our sponsorships typically provide a tangible benefit to both the recipient (which benefits through receiving material support) and the sponsor (which benefits via enhanced public image and access to a wider audience). The recipient is required to provide some service back to the sponsor, such as advertising or tickets.

Note:

- Charitable donations are not sponsorships. Please talk to us about whether these may qualify via our grants program.
- Direct advertising is not considered a sponsorship.

Sponsorship program objectives

The objectives of our sponsorship program are to:

- Continue to grow the knowledge and reputation of Community Bank Drouin & District within the community and to support/grow the business of the branch
- Increase the awareness of the Community Bank brand and provide a financial return on investment to Community Bank Drouin & District by increasing the customer and business base
- Enhance our key message as a community-based organisation and improve our image within the broader community
- To enhance, maintain and develop further relations with communities and groups

Key dates

Check the website to determine whether sponsorship rounds have opening dates or all accepted all year around.

You must submit your sponsorship applications at least eight weeks before the event or activity is scheduled to allow it to be effectively activated/leveraged.

Due to meeting times, for items to be held in February, submissions must be received by the November cut-off submission date.

All successful applicants must return their signed sponsorship agreement and attend a funds presentation event before they can receive their funding. Our sponsorship rounds are as follows:

- Round 1 – Applications close midnight, second last Monday in February with a fund's presentation event held in March/April (depending on Easter school holidays)

- Round 2 – Applications close midnight, second last Monday in May with a fund’s presentation event held in June.
- Round 3 – Applications close midnight, second last Monday in August with a fund’s presentation event held in September/October (depending on school holidays)
- Round 4 – Applications close midnight, second last Monday in November with a fund’s presentation event held in December.

Eligibility

You must meet the eligibility criteria for our sponsorship program:

- Be an Australian organisation/Australian citizen with a valid Australian bank account.
- Be a current Community Bank Drouin & District customer, or willing to become a Community Bank Drouin & District customer.
- Not have any other sponsors who are financial institutions. This includes banks, brokers, insurance providers etc.
- Sponsored initiatives must be located in Drouin, Longwarry, Warragul or surrounding area
- Sponsored initiatives must deliver clear business acquisition outcomes for Community Bank Drouin & District

Ineligible entities

The following entities are ineligible for funding:

- Applicant organisations which have an unsatisfactory result to an ‘Anti Money Laundering/Know Your Customer’ search.

Ineligible projects

We won’t sponsor organisations or projects that:

- are also sponsored by a competitor financial institution e.g. banks, brokers, insurance providers
- do not deliver clear business acquisition outcomes for our Community Bank.

We will not sponsor any initiatives which:

- take place outside of or is managed outside Drouin, Longwarry, Warragul or surrounding area
- are illegal, attempt to change the law or direct political donations
- claim retrospective funding – paying for costs already incurred
- involve gambling
- exclude or offend any part of the community
- encourage violence or involve the use of weapons
- mistreat, exploit, or harm animals
- create environmental hazards
- present a danger to public health or safety
- contribute to modern slavery
- take place solely outside of Australia.

Assessment

We will assess your application against our sponsorship criteria.

Objectives (10%)

- The extent to which the proposed initiative aligns with the Community Bank's vision, values and objectives.
- The potential for community benefit.

Feasibility (40%)

- There is adequate lead time for the sponsorship to be effectively activated/leveraged.
- The initiative is realistic and achievable (eg timeframes).
- The required permits/insurances are in place.
- The extent that the applicant has demonstrated clear, realistic and measurable project goals and objectives for the defined audience.
- The extent that the applicant has demonstrated capacity to deliver the proposed initiative (e.g. track record delivering similar projects, adequate resources and staff).

Program activation potential (40%)

- Potential for the sponsorship to deliver business acquisition outcomes.
- Potential for the sponsorship to deliver increased brand awareness/recognition.
- The extent to which the proposed initiative aligns with our marketing objectives.
- Opportunities for our involvement in project/event.
- A clear demonstration of who the proposed initiative will reach.

Value for money (10%)

- Sponsorship support requested versus benefits offered by applicant.

How to apply

You should read and understand these guidelines before beginning your application.

You must use our application hub to complete and submit your online application.

Access our application hub here [Home Page - Community Bank Drouin & District \(smartygrants.com.au\)](http://smartygrants.com.au)

You must submit your sponsorship application at least eight weeks prior to any proposed events. For items to be held in February, submissions must be received by the November cut-off submission date.

We will confirm receipt of your application submission via an email to your registered email address.

We may contact you during the assessment process to request more information, evidence or to clarify information provided in your grant application.

Supporting documentation

You may be asked to provide the following supporting documentation in your application:

- A current bank statement for your organisation.
- Information/demographics about the proposed target audience and number of expected attendees/participants, including the results of any research undertaken to date (if applicable).

- Confirmation of all necessary licences, permits and insurances which will enable you to run your project/event (e.g. public liability insurance, local council permits).
- For projects involving children, confirmation that relevant personnel have Working with Children Checks.
- Project budget details which clearly show how you will spend the funds.
- Financial details about your organisation e.g. recent annual report, audited financials, bank statements.

Decisions on applications

Timing of notifications will vary; however, applicants are usually notified of the outcome of their application by email within two weeks of the program closing date.

Managing your sponsorship

Keeping us informed

You must notify us about anything which is likely to impact your organisation or its ability to deliver your project. This may include, but is not limited to, changes to your organisation's name, address, financial situation, senior staffing arrangements, or significant changes to the project initiative.

You must also notify us if:

- any other parties become sponsors of the event
- you are planning any other initiatives in addition to the sponsored event
- if you become aware of any incident that has the potential to damage the reputation or image of the Sponsored Party, the Sponsored Events, the Sponsor, any Related Company of the Sponsor or Sponsored Party (Notifiable Conduct). More information is provided in our funding agreements.

Sponsorship agreement variations

We understand that circumstances change, and things don't always go to according to plan. If there has been a change that will impact your project, you must request a variation to your sponsorship agreement by contacting us.

We will consider your request, and if we decide to accept your proposed changes, we will issue a deed of variation for your signature.

Reporting requirements

You will be required to complete a sponsorship acquittal form within eight weeks of your nominated project end date. The acquittal report must be submitted electronically through the application hub.

The report includes information about how the funds were spent, the benefits delivered, participant/recipient information, achievements of the project, and any lessons learned.

You should identify key internal stakeholders who will be responsible for collecting and reporting data from before, during and after your initiative.

Privacy information

[View our privacy policy.](#)

Enquiries

Application queries

Community Bank Drouin & District

Phone: 03 5625 9165 or 0477 159 810

Email: admin@drouinddfs.com.au

For technical support with application hub

SmartyGrants–Our Community

Phone: 03 9320 6888

Email: service@smartygrants.com.au