

Stories Matter NSW Literary Fellowships

Form Preview

Eligibility

* indicates a required field

Eligibility Questions

To check if you are eligible to apply for this funding round, complete the questions below:

Are you an individual aged 18 or above at the time of application closing date? *

- Yes No

The application closing date is 27/07/2026.

Are you an Australian citizen or permanent resident that has lived in New South Wales for at least 12 months prior to the application closing date, and intend to remain ordinarily resident in NSW for the duration of the fellowship period? *

- Yes No

The closing date is 27/07/2026. The duration of the internship is between 1 November 2026 and 31 October 2027.

Can you either provide an active Australian Business Number (ABN) that matches your individual applicant name or be administered by an arts or cultural funds administrator (auspicing organisation)? *

- Yes No

Do you have an account with an Australian financial institution? *

- Yes No

Are you a writer, illustrator or playwright with creative work that fits one of our three career stages: emerging, mid-career or established? *

- Yes No

Artform-Specific Career Stage categories can be found in the program guidelines or the [Artform-Specific Career Stage Guidance document](#). Additional FAQs relating to Artforms and career stages can be found [here](#).

Will you commit to developing a significant new creative work during the fellowship period from 1 November 2026 to 31 October 2027? *

- Yes No

Is this your first application to Stories Matter NSW Literary Fellowships? *

- Yes No

One application per applicant will be assessed. If more than one application is submitted, the first application received will be accepted and all other applications will be withdrawn from consideration.

Unable to continue

Based on your response to the above eligibility question, you are unable to continue. Refer to the Guidelines for more details.

Eligibility Confirmation

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Please declare that this application meets the eligibility criteria:

I confirm that I've read the guidelines and the information supporting my eligibility is accurate. *

Yes

Applicant Details

* indicates a required field

Applicant Details

Applicant Name *

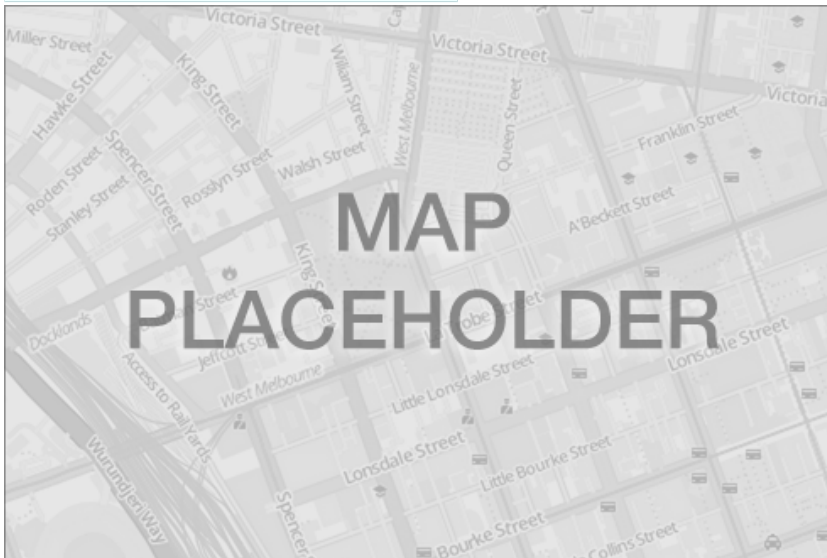
Title First Name Last Name

| | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|

Applicant Primary Address *

Address

| |
|----------------------|
| <input type="text"/> |
| <input type="text"/> |



| | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
|----------------------|----------------------|

Address Line 1, Suburb/Town, State/Province, Postcode, and Country are required. Coordinates Required. Country must be Australia

Applicant Postal Address

Address

| |
|----------------------|
| <input type="text"/> |
| <input type="text"/> |

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Applicant Primary Phone Number *

Must be an Australian phone number.
Country code not required, area code for landlines is required.

Applicant Other Phone Number

Must be an Australian phone number.
Country code not required, area code for landlines is required.

Applicant Email Address *

Must be an email address.

Applicant Website

Must be a URL.

Australian Business Number (ABN) Details

You must provide:

- Your active ABN (Australian Business Number) either an Individual/Sole Trader or private company (only if you're the sole director and shareholder)

Or

- The ABN of an arts or cultural funds administrator (auspicing organisation) that will be assisting you.

Which ABN are you providing? *

- My active ABN
- The ABN of a Funds Administrator

Applicant ABN

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 |

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| | |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ATO Charity Type | More information |
| ACNC Registration | |
| Tax Concessions | |
| Main business location | |

Must be an ABN.

Have you provided a private company ABN? *

Yes No

If the ABN Entity type you have provided is a private company, please select Yes

Funds Administrator Details

Administrator Name *

Organisation Name

Administrator 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.

Street Address *

Address

Postal Address *

Address

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Phone Number *

Must be an Australian phone number.

Email *

Must be an email address.

Funds Administrator Contact Person

Name *

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

Position ***Phone Number ***

Must be an Australian phone number.

Email *

Must be an email address.

Please upload a recent ASIC extract which shows the current directors and shareholders of the company. *

Attach a file:

A maximum of 1 file may be attached.

Applicant must be the sole director and shareholder.

Funding and Support Disclosure

Applicants must disclose all current and pending grants, residencies and fellowships occurring during the fellowship period, or relevant to the same work. Successful fellows must update Writing NSW in writing if their funding status changes during the fellowship period.

Do you have current or pending support to disclose? *

Yes No

Note on concurrent funding. Applicants may hold concurrent funding from another source (for example, Creative Australia, philanthropic, or other grants) provided each funding stream pays for different activities, time, costs or outputs. For example, separate production funding, research travel or residency accommodation that supports the same overall project but funds distinct items or periods of work is permitted; using both the fellowship and another grant to cover the same writing time or the same publication costs is not. All current and pending funding must be disclosed at application.

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Note: This table can be maximised and minimised in the top right corner of the grid. Additional lines can be added if needed.

| Funding Source/ Supporting Organisation | Date the support starts | Date the supported ends | Is the support confirmed? | Funding Amount | Details of what the Funding/ Support covers |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|--|
| Must be no more than 20 words. | Must be a date. | Must be a date. | | Must be a whole dollar amount (no cents). | Must be no more than 50 words. |
| | | | | | |

Application Details

* indicates a required field

Title *

Word count:

Provide a working title for the creative work you plan to develop during the fellowship. This can change as the work evolves (no more than 15 words).

Brief description *

Word count:

In no more than 50 words, give us a short summary of the work you plan to create during the fellowship. Think of this like a back-cover blurb or logline: what kind of work is it, what's it about, and who is it for.

Anticipated start date *

Must be a date and equal to 1/11/2026.

This is the Fellowship start date.

Anticipated end date *

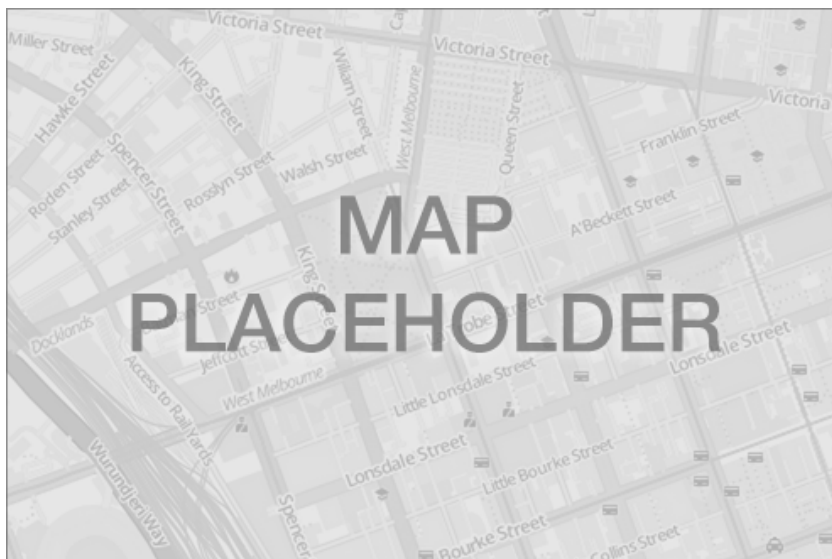
Must be a date and equal to 31/10/2027.

This is the Fellowship end date.

Primary location of your initiative *

Address

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Address Line 1, Suburb/Town, State/Province, Postcode, and Country are required. Coordinates Required. Country must be Australia
Primary location must be standard Australian address, which includes Street number and name, Suburb, State and Postcode.

Total Amount Requested

*

The total amount requested must equal \$50,000

Please update the amount requested

You have indicated that the total amount requested is not \$50,000.

Please update the details to ensure that you are requesting \$50,000.

First Nations acknowledgement

Create NSW and Writing NSW acknowledge and respect First Nations peoples as the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we walk, live, and work. We value their enduring connection to these lands and their rich cultural heritage. Create NSW and Writing NSW encourage you to consider how your project connects to and honours the oldest continuing culture in human history. Reflect on the ways your fellowship can engage with and support First Nations communities and their cultural practices.

Where is your fellowship taking place? *

Please select all that apply. If your activities do not take place within Australia, select the First Nations Country that you are located on.

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Disclaimer and Respectful Notice:

This list is a general guide to larger communities. It may not include smaller First Nations groups, dialects, or languages.

Please explore the [AIATSIS map](#) of Indigenous Australia to find First Nations countries. For more information please see the [glossary](#).

Artform and Career Stage

* indicates a required field

Please ensure you have reviewed the [Artform-Specific Career Stage Guidance document](#) prior to making your selection.

What is your primary artform? *

- Writer Illustrator Playwright

Which career stage best fits your practice? *

- Emerging Mid-career Established

Note: Applicants whose practice spans more than one artform (for example, a writer-illustrator or novelist-playwright) nominate one primary artform for the fellowship. They are encouraged to describe their full practice in their application as additional context.

Assessment Criterion 1 - Artistic merit (50%)

* indicates a required field

How would you like to submit your criteria responses?

*

- I would like to submit text responses or
 I would like to submit video or audio responses by uploading a file

Choose the format that best suits your communication style, cultural practice or accessibility needs. You must respond to all questions in the format you select. All formats are assessed equally.

Artistic merit (50%)

Quality of the applicant's creative practice and the proposed work. The assessment panel will consider whether the application:

- demonstrates a distinctive and well-developed voice
- shows technical command of the form through the work sample
- presents an original and ambitious proposed work
- articulates a viable artistic vision for the fellowship year.

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Describe the proposed work. *

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

Describe the proposed work by uploading an audio or video file. *

Attach a file:

A maximum of 1 file may be attached.

Upload an audio or video file with the maximum length of 2 minutes 30 Seconds.

Work Samples

The work sample must be drawn from the proposed work. This may include draft chapters, an early excerpt, a treatment with sample scenes, or other in-progress material that demonstrates the proposed work in its current form. Samples that are not from the proposed work will not be assessed.

Samples may include draft chapters, an early excerpt, a treatment with sample scenes, or other in-progress material that demonstrates the proposed work in its current form. Optional framing notes should be no more than one paragraph.

Written work samples:

- - **Writers**
 - For prose (fiction, narrative non-fiction): up to 5,000 words or 20 pages, whichever is shorter. Single or extracted chapters, with a brief framing note optional
 - For poetry: up to 10 poems or 15 pages, whichever is shorter.
 - **Illustrators**
 - Up to 8 finished pieces. Brief contextual note per piece optional. Provided as one PDF file.
 - **Playwrights**
 - Up to 20 pages of script with a brief framing note optional.

Audio or Video work samples:

If your practice is performance-based, or your proposed work is intended for spoken or theatrical delivery, you may submit an audio or video recording as your work sample in place of (not in addition to) the written sample. The recording must be drawn from the proposed work.

- - **Writers (prose)**
 - up to 15 minutes of recorded reading or performance, with a brief framing note.
 - **Writers (poetry, spoken word, oral storytelling)**
 - up to 15 minutes of recorded performance, with a running order or set list.
 - **Playwrights**

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- up to 20 minutes from a recorded reading, workshop excerpt, or production excerpt of the proposed work, with a brief framing note.

Audio or video work samples are not applicable to the illustrators stream, which supports work for print or other still-image formats.

How would you like to provide your work sample? *

- Links/URLs
- Uploading files
- Both of the above

Link/URL Upload

Provide links and passwords to any externally hosted work samples that best reflect your experience and the proposed project.

Note: Make sure the link/URL works and passwords are correct and remain accessible for the next 6 months during the assessment period. Please ensure links are accessible and do not require a login or account to access. For example Instagram, Facebook or Google documents.

This table can be maximised and minimised in the top right corner of the grid. Additional lines can be added if needed.

| Link/URL | Password | Description |
|----------------|----------|-------------|
| Must be a URL. | | |
| | | |

Work sample file upload

Attach your samples of work here *

Attach a file:

A maximum of 3 files may be attached.

Assessment Criterion 2 - Impact and contribution (25%)

* indicates a required field

Impact and contribution (25%)

The impact the fellowship will have on the applicant's career, the new work, and its contribution to the literary sector and the communities and places it engages with.

Impact may take many forms, for example:

- significantly advancing the applicant's career and creative practice
- opening pathways for others in the literary sector
- deepening connection to a particular community or place
- building inclusive participation in the literary sector, or reaching new audiences

The assessment panel will consider whether the application:

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- shows clear and meaningful impact on the applicant's career and the new work
- contributes to the literary sector and the communities and places it engages with
- demonstrates substantive engagement with the NSW Government's strategic priority areas: First Nations storytelling, broad and inclusive content, Regional NSW, Western Sydney, accessibility and equity, and the next generation of creatives and audiences
- frames impact substantively, on what the fellowship and the work will do.

Describe the impact the fellowship will have on you and your creative practice. *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Describe the contribution the work will make to the literary sector and the communities and places it engages with. *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Describe the impact the fellowship will have on you and your artistic practice by uploading an audio or video file *

Attach a file:

A maximum of 1 file may be attached.

Upload an audio or video file with the maximum length of 1 minutes 50 seconds.

Describe the contribution the work will make to the literary sector and the communities and places it engages with by uploading an audio or video file. *

Attach a file:

A maximum of 1 file may be attached.

Upload an audio or video file with the maximum length of 1 minutes 50 seconds.

Strategic Priority Areas

The NSW Government is committed to ensuring fair access by all communities and individuals across the state.

The definitions for the strategic priority areas can be located [here](#).

Are you engaging with any people from the priority areas?

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Note: it is not compulsory that your fellowship engages with people from the following strategic priority areas. Assessors will be looking for genuine and respectful engagement.

First Nations stories and communities *

Yes No

Western Sydney *

Yes No

Broad and inclusive communities and content *

Yes No

Accessibility and equity *

Yes No

Regional NSW *

Yes No

Next generation of creatives and audiences *

Yes No

Assessment Criterion 3 - Capacity to deliver (25%)

* indicates a required field

Capacity to deliver (25%)

The viability of the proposed work and the applicant's capacity to deliver it. The assessment panel will consider whether the application:

- evidences prior work completed at a standard appropriate to the nominated tier
- sets out a realistic plan for the fellowship period, including milestones, an outline of how the fellowship funds will support your work (for example, protected writing time, research, materials, or other costs directly related to developing the proposed work), and intended outcomes
- demonstrates skills, capacity, and any necessary consultation with collaborators or community
- for First Nations content or stories that are not the applicant's own, evidences appropriate cultural protocols and consultation.

Milestones

Please detail the activities expected to be completed as a result of the fellowship including any milestones.

Note: This table can be maximised and minimised in the top right corner of the grid. Additional lines can be added if needed.

| Milestone | Start date | End date | How will the fellowship fund contribute to this activity? | What are the expected Outcomes? |
|--|--|--|---|---------------------------------|
| One per row. Add more rows if you want to list additional milestones. Must be no more than 50 words. | Must be a date and between 1/11/2026 and 31/10/2027. | Must be a date and between 1/11/2026 and 31/10/2027. | Add notes if you need to provide more context. Must be no more than 20 words. | Must be no more than 50 words. |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

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Use of Fellowship Funds

Please include all expenditure items for how the fellowship funds will be spent.

Please note, these items must be eligible under the grant as according to the guidelines.

This table can be maximised and minimised in the top right corner of the grid. Additional lines can be added if needed.

| Type | Amount | Expenditure Description |
|------|---|--------------------------------|
| | Must be a whole dollar amount (no cents). | Must be no more than 50 words. |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Total Expenditure Amount

This number/amount is calculated.

The total expenditure amount must equal \$50,000

Creative CV

Please provide your Creative CV or equivalent track record summary demonstrating sustained engagement with your artform.

How would you like to submit your support material? *

- Uploading Files
- Links/URLs
- Both of the above

Link/URL Upload

Provide links and passwords to any externally hosted work samples that best reflect your experience and the proposed project.

Note: Make sure the link/URL works and passwords are correct and remain accessible for the next 6 months during the assessment period.

| Link/URL | Password | Description |
|----------------|----------|-------------|
| Must be a URL. | | |

File Upload

Restrictions on Attachments

- Each file uploaded must not exceed 25MB
- Please provide attachments in .pdf format where possible

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- Zip files cannot be accepted

File Upload *

Attach a file:

A maximum of 2 files may be attached.

Evaluation

Diversity Data

The following questions are voluntary and will only be used for monitoring and evaluating the Stories Matter: NSW Literary Fellowships program. Create NSW is committed to promoting equity and diversity in the arts industry.

The data will be used by Writing NSW and Create NSW to help us understand the industry and support future diversity initiatives. For more information, please refer to the Create NSW Privacy Notice available [here](#).

Do you identify with one or more of the diversity areas below?

First Nations

Yes No

Live and/or work in Regional NSW

Yes No

LGBTIQA+

Yes No Other:

Live and/or work in Western Sydney

Yes No

Young and emerging practitioner

Yes No

Person with a Disability and/or who is d/Deaf

Yes No

Culturally and linguistically diverse communities

Yes No

Do you identify as:

- Man or male
- Woman or female
- Non-Binary
- Prefer not to disclose
- Other:

Creative Time

In the past 12 months, about how many hours per week, on average, have you spent developing new creative work in your nominated artform?

Must be a number.

Declaration and Authorisation

* indicates a required field

Disclaimer

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You understand and agree that:

- Create NSW or Writing NSW can ask questions about any information in this application and/or ask for more information. This only happens if it is necessary to help assess your application or manage the funding program.
- Create NSW or Writing NSW may re-open your application after the closing date. This only happens if it is fair to all other applicants.
- the submission of this application does not guarantee funding will be granted.
- Create NSW and Writing NSW expressly reserves their right to accept or reject this application at its discretion.
- you must bear the costs of preparing and submitting this application and Create NSW nor Writing NSW accept any liability for such costs, whether or not this application is ultimately accepted or rejected.
- you have read the Funding Guidelines for the Program and have fully informed yourself of the relevant program requirements.
- applications and any additional materials cannot be submitted after the advertised closing date and time.
- applications cannot be modified after being submitted.
- Writing NSW staff can assist with general queries during the grant round but are not able to provide advice on content or choices required with the application.

Privacy Notice

Create NSW (part of the Department of Creative Industries, Tourism, Hospitality and Sport) is collecting your personal information. Personal information collected is managed in accordance with the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act*.

Create NSW collect your personal information for the purpose of:

- assessing your application against the eligibility criteria for the Stories Matter: NSW Literary Fellowship (**Program**) and contacting you to discuss your application;
- if your application is deemed eligible, to manage and administer the Program;
- to monitor and evaluate the Program.

Providing us with your personal information is not required by law. However, if you choose not to provide us with the requested information, Create NSW will be unable to assess your eligibility for the Program.

Your personal information may be disclosed by Create NSW:

- in accordance with the requirements of the NSW Government's Grants Administration Guide;
- to comply with our obligations under the *Government Information (Public Access) Act*;
- to comply with an order for the production of documents to Parliament under Standing Order 52.

Otherwise, your personal information will not be provided to a third party other than Writing NSW without your consent or unless it is authorised by law.

To access or seek amendment of your personal information, or for more information on our privacy obligations, contact the Department's Privacy Officer

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at information@dciths.nsw.gov.au. For more information about how Create NSW complies with its privacy obligations visit its [website](#).

Use of Information

The [NSW Government's Grants Administration Guide](#) requires the publishing of, at minimum, the following information for all successful grant recipients: the grant amount, the project name, the project location, the grant recipient name, and the grant recipient location or contact address, unless an exemption applies.

Media and Communications

If your application is successful, Create NSW and Writing NSW may publish the title and description of your work for media and communication purposes.

Do you agree for Writing NSW and/or Create NSW and/or NSW Government to publish your name or organisation name, project title, project summary, location and amount of funding for media and communication purposes? *

Yes No

Not agreeing to publication for media and communication purposes will not affect your application's assessment. This does not impact the requirements of the [NSW Governments Grants Administration Guide](#) publish your information.

Emails from Create NSW

Do you agree to get emails about other grant opportunities, initiatives or events from Create NSW? *

Yes No

Your response will not affect your application.

Do you agree to get a regular email newsletter from Create NSW? *

Yes No

Your response will not affect your application.

Declaration

Before you can complete and submit this application, you must accept the following conditions by declaring:

- if an entity is the applicant, I have the authority to complete and submit this application on the entity's behalf.
- all information supplied as part of this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

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- all activities proposed by this application will be conducted in accordance with applicable law, including but not limited to, complying with Working with Children legislation.

I acknowledge:

- funding will not be granted or released if the applicant has outstanding acquittals for this or other projects/programs across Create NSW or the Department of Creative Industries, Tourism, Hospitality and Sport (DCITHS);
- Create NSW may withdraw any offer of funding or demand the return of funds already paid if this declaration is found to be incorrect or misleading; and
- Create NSW and DCITHS may disclose any information in this application as described in the NSW Government's *Grants Administration Guide*, or according to applicable law.

Authorisation instructions

Name of authorised person: Please enter the name of the person completing this form.

Position: Please enter 'applicant'.

Authorisation

I agree *

Yes

Name of authorised person *

Title First Name Last Name

| | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|

Must be a senior staff member, board member or appropriately authorised volunteer

Position *

Position held in applicant organisation (e.g. CEO, Treasurer)

Phone number *

Must be an Australian phone number.

We may contact you to verify that this application is authorised by the applicant organisation

Email *

Must be an email address.

GMS-SGI/Locn/2025 v2.0