

Burke Shire Council RADF Guidelines

Council Contact Details

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Background Information

The Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) promotes the importance of arts, culture, and heritage as vital elements of diverse and inclusive communities. RADF is a flexible funding source that allows local councils across Queensland to invest in arts and cultural priorities identified by their communities. The Queensland Government recognizes local councils as key partners and co-investors in Queensland's arts and culture.

Delivered in partnership between the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland (AQ), and eligible local councils across the state, RADF aims to:

- Provide public value for Queensland communities.
- Build local cultural capacity, innovation and community well-being.
- Deliver the Queensland Government's objectives for the community.

AQ provides partnership investment that enables local councils across the State to deliver artistic outcomes, grow employment opportunities for creative and cultural workers, and engage communities to deliver on the priorities as described in *Creative Together: 2020-2030*:

- Elevating First Nations arts.
- Activating local places and global digital spaces.
- Driving social change across the state.
- Strengthening Queensland communities.
- Celebrating our stories and storytellers.

Council's local priorities for RADF are:

1. Support skills development and capacity building for individuals and community groups in the arts, cultural and heritage sectors within Burke Shire.
2. Foster opportunities local opportunities and development in the arts sector.
3. Encourage social connection, community resilience and improved well-being.
4. Deliver aligned projects that meet Burke Shire Council's strategic direction.
5. Promote partnerships and collaboration across the arts, cultural, and heritage sectors.

1) Application Process

Funding Rounds	For the 2026 - 27 financial year, there will be one RADF grant round. Applications will open on 13 th April 2026 and close at 11:59 PM (AEST) on 22 nd May 2026.
Project Commencement Date	Successful grant applicants must sign a funding agreement before funds are released. Projects must be ready to commence after July 1 st 2026.
Project Completion Date	Projects must be completed and funds expended by 30 th June 2027
Project Acquittal	Acquittals for successful projects are due 30 days after the project completion date.

2) Eligibility

To be eligible, applicants must

- Be based in the local council area or demonstrate how the project will directly benefit arts and culture in the local area.
- Be an Individual with an active ABN; or be a Businesses with an active ABN; or a registered not-for-profit organisation; or a Burke Shire Community Organisations (any organisation engaged in charitable or other community-based activity operating under Australia law and not established for the purpose of making profit. The eligible status of organisations under this policy will be determined by Council having regard to the purpose of the organisation).

Applications will be deemed ineligible if:

- Submitted after the closing date.
- Incomplete or lacking relevant support material.
- The application form is not fully completed.
- Seeking funds for activities occurring outside the specified delivery dates.
- The applicant has outstanding acquittals from previous RADF projects.

3) What will not be funded?

- Entertainment for events without a specific developmental outcome for artists
- Projects that fund a competition, prizes, or eisteddfods
- Projects where the majority of funding is for publishing and/or printing costs.
- Projects that seek costs of purchase of capital items e.g. equipment, buildings or vehicles
- Payment of ongoing operational expenses.

4) What funding is available?

- Up to \$7,500.00 ex GST.
- All applicants must not have any outstanding debts owed to Burke Shire Council.

5) Assessment Criteria

1. Quality

- Produces or contributes to high-quality arts and cultural initiatives.
- Proven capacity to effectively support and deliver arts and cultural services.

2. Reach

- Provides access to, and engagement in, arts and culture for diverse communities and audiences
- Evidence of local demand for proposed programs.

3. Impact

- Demonstrates cultural, artistic, social or economic returns on investment.
- Supports one or more Queensland Government objectives for the community e.g. safeguarding our health, supporting jobs, backing small business, making it for

Queensland, building Queensland, growing our regions, investing in skills, backing our frontline services, protecting the environment.

4. Viability

- Evidence of good planning for governance and management of RADF at a local level.
- Evidence of partnership capacity with business and government.

Applicants may be requested to provide additional follow-up information as part of the assessment process.

3) Support Material

A complete application should include the application form and relevant support material, such as:

- Project plans, financial statements, quotes from suppliers, sponsorship arrangements, outcomes from previous projects, CVs or profiles of key personnel.
- Letters of support for the proposed program.
- Evidence of financial partnerships (e.g., MOUs, contracts, letters of offer).
- Evidence of demand and support for activities involving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, confirming that appropriate protocols have been followed.

4) Assessment Process

1. Applications open 13th April 2026
2. Applications must be submitted by 22nd May 2026
3. The RADF Liaison Officer will check applications for eligibility; ineligible applications will not be assessed.
4. Eligible applications will be assessed by Council against the assessment criteria.
5. A formal decision on successful applicants will be made at a Council meeting.
6. The RADF liaison officer will notify successful applicants.