Mental Health Council OF TASMANIA

Whatever the Weather

find mental health support that fits

Grant Application Guide

Whatever the Weather

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About Us

The Mental Health Council of Tasmania (MHCT) is the peak body representing the mental health and wellbeing needs of all Tasmanians, and the community organisations that work with and support them. We work closely with government to amplify the voices of our members and Tasmanian communities, to provide input into public policies and programs. We advocate for reform and improvement within the Tasmanian mental health system. Our purpose is to strengthen and advocate for our communities and service providers to support the mental health and wellbeing of all Tasmanians, and our vision is that every Tasmanian has access to the resources and support needed for good mental health and wellbeing.

Whatever the Weather Grant Program

Application Guide: Activities delivered December 2026 to September 2027

About the grant

The Mental Health Council of Tasmania (MHCT) is inviting current MHCT Members to apply for funding to promote and use **Whatever the Weather: find mental health support that fits**. Whatever the Weather is a practical resource that supports conversations about mental health and helps people consider what kind of support may be right for them. The grant program will support Members to use their existing networks, build community connections, promote the resource and contribute to its evaluation.

Funding available

A total funding pool of **$100,000** is available and will be distributed among successful applicants. Applicants may nominate the amount requested and must explain what the funding will be used for, why the amount is reasonable and how the proposal represents value for money. MHCT may offer less than the amount requested or negotiate changes to the proposed scope.

Eligibility

- Applicants must be current financial MHCT Members at the closing date and throughout the delivery period.
- The proposed activity must be delivered in Tasmania between December 2026 and September 2027.
- Applicants must nominate a contact person responsible for delivery, check-ins and reporting.
- Successful applicants must enter into a simple funding agreement with MHCT and agree to engage participants, administer MHCT-provided evaluation surveys and tools, collect the required data and return it to MHCT.
- Activities must use approved Whatever the Weather resources and messages.
- Applicants must meet relevant legal, insurance, safety, child safeguarding, privacy and accessibility requirements.

Members may work with schools, general practices, community groups or other partners. The lead applicant must be an eligible MHCT Member and will remain responsible for delivery, reporting and the funding agreement.

What can be funded

- Engaging local schools, colleges or education wellbeing teams.
- Working with general practices, GPs and other primary health professionals.
- Delivering community information sessions, workshops or small events.
- Using the resource through existing youth, family or community programs.
- Engaging regional, rural or priority communities.
- Sharing approved resources through services and community networks.
- Creating locally relevant promotion using approved campaign materials.
- Engaging participants and administering MHCT-provided evaluation surveys and tools to collect the required data.
- Reasonable staffing, travel, venue, accessibility and delivery costs directly related to the activity.

What will not be funded

- Activities completed before the funding agreement begins.
- General operating costs not directly related to the project.
- Clinical treatment or individual service delivery.
- Major equipment or capital works.
- Fundraising, political campaigning or commercial promotion.
- Activities that duplicate an existing funded commitment.
- Changes to the Whatever the Weather branding, core messages or resources without prior written approval from MHCT.
- Activities that use unsafe, stigmatising or inappropriate mental health communication.

What to include in your application

1. **Organisation details:** organisation name, membership status, key contact and authorised representative.
2. **Funding request:** the amount requested and a clear, itemised budget.
3. **Proposed activity:** what you will deliver, where it will occur and who will be involved.
4. **Audience and need:** who you aim to reach and why the activity is needed.
5. **Networks and reach:** your existing networks and how they will support delivery, such as schools, GP practices, youth services, community organisations, sporting clubs, councils or libraries.
6. **Promotion and use:** how you will promote Whatever the Weather and use it in practical conversations or settings.
7. **Evaluation delivery:** how you will engage participants, administer the surveys and tools provided by MHCT, collect the required data and return it to MHCT within the agreed timeframe.
8. **Capability and risk:** how you will deliver the activity safely, manage key risks and meet the timeframe.
9. **Ongoing use:** whether the resource will continue to be used through your networks after the grant period.

Key performance indicators

Final targets will be agreed with each successful applicant and included in the funding agreement. KPIs will be simple, realistic and proportionate to the grant amount and activity. At a minimum, successful applicants will be expected to:

- deliver the agreed activity between December 2026 and September 2027
- reach the agreed number and type of participants
- engage relevant community partners or network settings
- use or distribute approved Whatever the Weather resources
- participate in scheduled check-ins with the nominated MHCT representative
- administer the evaluation surveys and tools provided by MHCT, collect the required data and return it by the agreed dates
- provide a short final report and financial acquittal.

Applicants should propose measurable targets for the number of activities, participants, locations, partners and resources. Applicants do not need to design evaluation measures or surveys. MHCT will set the required evaluation measures and provide the surveys, tools and instructions.

Evaluation requirements

Evaluation is an essential part of this grant program and must be built into delivery from the beginning. MHCT will design and provide all required evaluation surveys, tools, measures and instructions. Successful applicants will be responsible for engaging participants, administering the supplied surveys and tools, collecting the required data and returning it securely to MHCT by the agreed dates. Applicants may also be asked to provide activity records, examples of how the resource was used and brief implementation observations. MHCT will lead the evaluation design and analysis. Applicants must follow MHCT's instructions and applicable consent, privacy and data-handling requirements.

Selection criteria

This is a competitive grant process. Eligible applications will be assessed against:

- alignment with the purpose and messages of Whatever the Weather
- strength and practicality of the proposed activity
- demonstrated networks, partnerships and reach
- clear audience and participation targets
- clear promotional planning and methods
- capacity and practical plan to engage participants, administer MHCT-provided evaluation surveys and tools, collect the required data and return it to MHCT as instructed
- organisational capability and risk management
- a well-considered budget and value for money
- potential for continued use or wider learning after the grant period
- contribution to a balanced overall mix of organisations, settings and locations.

Meeting the eligibility requirements does not guarantee funding. The full amount requested may not be available and another amount may be offered.

Assessment panel

Applications will be assessed by a panel comprising an MHCT representative, a government representative and a youth representative. Panel members will declare and manage conflicts of interest. The panel may seek clarification from applicants. Final decisions will consider assessment results, available funding and the overall balance of funded activities.

Grant process

1. MHCT opens the applications and distributes the Applications pack to current Members.
2. Applicants review the guide and may submit questions during the enquiry period.
3. Applicants submit the written application and budget by the closing date.
4. MHCT checks applications for eligibility and completeness.
5. The assessment panel considers eligible applications against the published criteria.
6. Applicants are notified of the outcome.
7. Successful applicants finalise their scope, budget, KPIs and funding agreement with MHCT.
8. Funded activities begin in December 2026.
9. Successful applicants take part in regular check-ins, engage participants and administer the evaluation surveys and tools provided by MHCT.
10. Activities, required evaluation data, reporting and financial acquittal are submitted by the agreed dates.

Timeline

Stage	**Indicative timing**
Application opens and Member EOI pack distributed	26 October 2026
Applications close	4:00pm 30 November 2026
Applicants notified	15 December 2026
Funding agreements and planning finalised	December 2026
Activities commence	December 2026
Regular MHCT check-ins	December 2026 to 30th September 2027
Midpoint progress and evaluation check	March or April 2027
Activities and data collection completed	By 30 September 2027
Final report and financial acquittal	October 2027, on a date specified in the agreement

Funding agreement and payments

Successful applicants will enter into a simple funding agreement covering the approved activity and budget, delivery dates, KPIs, administration of MHCT-provided evaluation surveys and tools, data collection and return, reporting, payment arrangements, use of resources and branding, and relevant consent, privacy, safety and insurance obligations. Payment timing may be linked to agreed milestones.

Before you submit

- Check that your organisation is a current MHCT Member and meets all eligibility requirements.
- Include the amount requested and an itemised budget.
- Clearly describe the activity, audience, location, partners and expected reach.
- Explain how you will promote and use Whatever the Weather.
- Confirm that you can engage participants, administer the evaluation surveys and tools provided by MHCT, collect the required data and return it by the agreed dates.
- Consider risks, safeguards, privacy and accessibility.
- Ensure an authorised representative has approved the application.
- Include all required attachments.

Enquiries and submission

Applications must be submitted using the form and instructions in the Member Applications pack. The final pack will confirm the opening and closing dates, submission method, contact details, application form, budget template, assessment criteria and funding agreement terms.

Application form

Please complete all sections. Keep responses concise and provide enough detail for the assessment panel to understand what you propose, who you will reach, how you will deliver the activity and how you will engage participants and collect data using the evaluation surveys and tools supplied by MHCT.

Download application form