

Nature Based Tourism Small Grants Application Form 2026

Form Preview

Eligibility

* indicates a required field

Note to Applicants

Before completing this form, please read the guidelines on the [Nature-Based Tourism website](#). Your application will be assessed solely on the information provided in this form. Incomplete or late submissions will not be considered. This section determines your eligibility and helps ensure your application meets the criteria. Answer these questions first to avoid investing time in an ineligible application.

If you have any questions about the criteria, email naturebasedtourism@goldcoast.qld.gov.au.

Introduction

The NBT Small Grants program is designed for quick activation projects that:

- Require funding between \$1,000 - \$100,000 to support the following:
 - Purchase of equipment required to operate a new tour or experience.
 - Marketing activities for new products or attractions (e.g., website, content creation).
 - Development of tourism product located on private property.
 - Professional services for product and experience development assistance.
 - Staff training programs to support the development of appealing nature-based experiences.
- Do not require new permits, lease or licensing agreements from the City of Gold Coast.
- Do not have any planning, building, site specific or operational constraints.
- Be ready for activation and commence by 30 June 2027.

Delivery Information

If you are a successful Grant Applicant, you will be notified by letter of your success during September - November 2026. Following receipt of this letter, you will be issued a legal funding agreement for review and consideration.

Timing and Key Dates

- **1 May to 30 June 2026** - Grants Program application period open
- **September 2026** - Successful applicants announced

Confirmation of Eligibility

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Before you continue, please confirm:

- You have read and understood the program guidelines.
- You agree to subscribe to our Nature Based Tourism updates to keep you informed.

You must confirm that all statements above are true and correct. *

Yes

Contact Details

* indicates a required field

Privacy Notice

We promise to protect your privacy according to Australian laws. To read our privacy statement, go to <https://www.goldcoast.qld.gov.au/Privacy>

Applicant Details

Applicant *

Individual Organisation

Organisation Name

Title First Name Last Name

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Make sure you provide the same name that is listed in official documentation.

Applicant primary address

Address

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

Applicant primary phone number *

Must be an Australian phone number.

Applicant email address *

Must be an email address.

Applicant website

Must be a URL.

Applicant ABN *

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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	

Project Details

* indicates a required field

Project Title *

Must be no more than 100 characters.

Provide a name for your project/program/initiative. Your title should be short but descriptive.

Please provide a short summary of your initiative *

Word count:

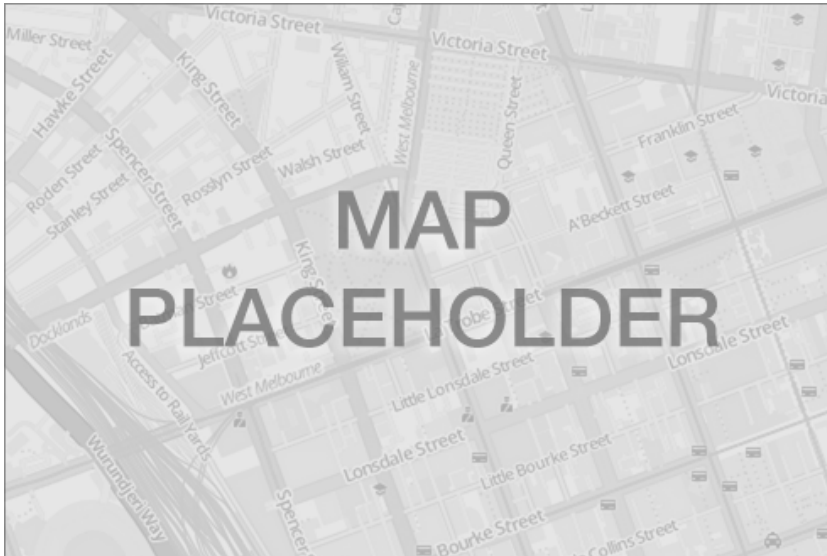
Must be no more than 200 words.

Primary Project Location (Must be in the Gold Coast Local Government Area) *

Address

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Primary location does not need to be a specific address and can be postcode, suburb, area, etc. If delivered online, please specify the area of focus for delivery.

Land tenure: *

- Private Land
- Council-Owned Land
- Trust Land
- State-Owned Land

Please upload any relevant permits, licenses, consents here:

Attach a file:

These may include local council permits, leases, licences or development applications etc.

Anticipated start date *

We will notify successful applicants from September 2026. Please select a start date from September 2026 onwards.

Anticipated completion date *

Must be completed by 30 June 2027

Jobs created (FTE) *

Please provide an estimate on how many jobs (Full Time Equivalent) will be created after project completion.

Have you previously submitted an application for funding from the City of Gold Coast in relation to this project or have you received alternative grant funding for this project? *

- Yes
- No

Constraints and Risk

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Please describe how you have assessed and planned for potential natural events that could impact your proposed nature-based tourism project. Please provide details on the specific risks identified, mitigation strategies, and any contingency plans in place. *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

This should include navigating environmental risk factors that are relevant to the project site, e.g., storms and other extreme weather events, bushfires, landslides, and flooding. Mitigation strategies include an evacuation management plan. See <https://www.getready.qld.gov.au/get-prepared/business> for further advice.

Grant Funding Request

Total Project Cost *

Must be a dollar amount.

What is the total budgeted cost (dollars) of your project?

Total Amount Requested *

Must be a dollar amount.

What is the total financial support you are requesting in this application?

Co-Contribution Ratio in %

This number/amount is calculated.

Applicants must provide a minimum co-contribution of 20% of the total project cost. Applications that do not meet this requirement are not eligible for funding. Your funding request must be adjusted to clearly reflect this minimum co-contribution.

Would you accept a partial funding? *

- Yes
 No

Please provide a detailed breakdown of how the requested funds will be allocated and utilised- Must match the TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED.

Please note, that Grant funding can't be used for operational expenses (e.g. wages, leases, utilities, etc.)

Expenditure description	Expenditure amount
Provide clear descriptions on spending item	Must be a dollar amount.

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Forecast

Please describe the UPLIFT, that the proposed project - if fully funded- will make for your business.

Year 1

Number of new visitors *

Must be a number.

Year 2

Number of new customers *

Must be a number.

Year 3

Number of new customers *

Must be a number.

Year 4

Number of new customers *

Must be a number.

Additional Revenue *

Must be a dollar amount.

Additional Revenue *

Must be a dollar amount.

Additional Revenue *

Must be a dollar amount.

Additional Revenue *

Must be a dollar amount.

Financial sustainability/ Break even

When do you expect the break even for your project ? At what time in the future, your project will become financially sustainable?

Year 0-2

Year 4-6

Year 8-10

Year 2-4

Year 6-8

Year 10+

Project Alignment

*** indicates a required field**

Objective 1 (Weight: 45%): Increase the profile of the Gold Coast's natural environment and nature based tourism attractions

Innovation & Uniqueness: Please explain how your idea is new, unique, or innovative (Weight: 12.5%). Please consider the following questions: What problem are you solving? How does your solution address this problem effectively? What is new, unique, or innovative about your project? Why will customers or visitors choose your offering? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Innovation & Uniqueness: Please explain how your project is immersive and transformative, helping visitors feel deeply connected to nature (Weight: 12.5%). Please consider the following questions: How does your idea create an immersive or transformative experience? Who is the competition? What makes your idea stand out from existing solutions? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

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Economic Benefit: Please describe the estimated financial ROI from the project (Weight: 10%). Please consider the following questions: What is your revenue model or ROI projection? How will you make money? How will you sustain or grow the project beyond initial funding? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Economic Benefit: Please describe the increase in visitor spending and length of stay as a result of the project (Weight: 10%). Please consider the following questions: What measurable outcomes do you expect (social, environmental, economic)? Who is your target audience, and how will you reach them? What is the size and potential of your market? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Objective 2 (Weight: 30%): Support the development of nature based tourism concepts

Community Benefit: Please describe the locality of the business and how it will create new local job opportunities and retain existing ones (Weight: 10%). *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Community Benefit: Please explain how everyone in the community, both visitors and locals, can access and benefit from the project (Weight: 10%). *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Capability & Experience: Please tell us about your experience and skills to establish and operate the project (Weight: 10%). What resources or partnerships will support delivery? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Objective 3 (Weight 25%): Facilitate the delivery of environmental and culturally aligned nature based tourism projects

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Environmental Stewardship: Please explain why this project is appropriate for the site and how it will protect and improve the natural features (Weight: 5%). *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Environmental Stewardship: Please explain how you will make sure the project has a low environmental impact/footprint to build and implement the project (Weight: 5%). *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Environmental Stewardship: Can you explain the environmental benefits that will be created for the community as a result of the project? Eg., restoring critical nature corridors (Weight: 5%). *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Cultural Appreciation (if applicable): Can you explain how the project respects First Nations cultural values for the particular site (Weight: 5%)?

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Cultural Appreciation (if applicable): Can you explain how much the Traditional Owners are involved and included in the project (Weight: 5%)?

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Additional information

* indicates a required field

Do you have the licences and permits you need to begin and operate the project?

*

- Yes
 No

Please upload any permissions, certificates, approvals and existing licences.

Attach a file:

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For example - operating licence, building approvals, development approvals, etc.

Please upload supporting visualisations, sketches, renderings, pitch decks or other related documents.

Attach a file:

Would you like to upload an optional Cinefly video? Please note: Visual evidence must support and not replace the written response. *

- Yes
 No

A Cinefly video is a short, cinematic-style video produced using the Cinefly platform, designed to deliver high-quality, visually engaging storytelling for marketing, education, or promotional purposes. Please refer to <https://neo.cinefly.io/privacy.html> for Cinefly's privacy policy.

[Please click this link to download instructions on how to create and upload a CINEFLY video.](#)

Please indicate how you became aware of the City of Gold Coast's Nature Based Tourism Program.

- City of Gold Coast Website
 Social media (LinkedIn, Instagram, Facebook)
 Online search (Google, Bing, etc.)
 Digital advertisement
 Word of mouth
 Other:

Certification

* indicates a required field

Certification

I certify that to the best of my knowledge the statements made within this application are true and correct, and I understand that if the application is approved for this grant, we will be required to accept the terms and conditions as outlined in the letter of approval.

I agree *

Yes

Name *

First Name

Last Name

Position *

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Date *

Must be a date.