

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES AT A GLANCE

Place-Based, Community Programs, Pathfinder comparison



Feature	WE SWIM Place-based Partnerships	WE SWIM Community Programs	WE SWIM Pathfinder - Refugee Settlement	WE SWIM Pathfinder - Ambassadors
Purpose	Multi-partner place-based delivery embedding WE SWIM pillars across a coalition-led local or regional system.	Community-scale delivery via a single organisation and aquatic-provider partnership in one local area.	Integrate subsidised water safety into early settlement pathways for refugees and humanitarian entrants.	Support trusted community voices to share approved WE SWIM messages through communications and engagement.
Indicative funding	Up to \$100,000 per partnership (excl. GST)	Up to \$50,000 per program	Up to \$100,000 per pathfinder partnership	Organisations: up to \$10,000 Individuals: up to \$3,000
Funding available	Approximately \$1,500,000 (excl. GST)	Approximately \$1,200,000 (excl. GST)	Approximately \$300,000 (excl. GST)	Approximately \$150,000 (excl. GST)
Number of partnerships	Around 10	Around 60	Around 3	Around 15-20
Application type	Open grant	Open grant	Targeted expression of interest	Open grant or targeted invitation
Geographic scale	Diverse LGA, multi-LGA or regional corridor/hub	Single LGA, defined local community, or tightly focused catchment	2–4 high-need settlement regions, metropolitan and/or regional	No fixed geographic scale — defined by trusted-voice reach into community
Minimum consortium	Lead organisation, + ≥2 multicultural /settlement / community partners + ≥1 council and ≥1 water safety organisation and/or aquatic provider	Lead organisation and ≥1 community-based organisation + ≥1 water safety organisation and/or aquatic provider	Lead organisation and ≥1 settlement/humanitarian service provider + ≥1 water safety organisation and/or aquatic provider, plus other local partners as suited	Single applicant — organisation or individual — with demonstrated trusted-voice credibility
Limit per lead	2 per lead organisation	Up to 3 per lead organisation	1 per lead organisation	1 per organisation or individual.
Primary beneficiaries	Multicultural communities across a defined place-based footprint	Local community and catchment residents	Refugees and humanitarian entrants; recently arrived migrants and families; emphasis on school-aged children, youth 15–24, parents/caregivers	Priority communities reached via trusted voices — refugees, recent migrants, broader multicultural communities
Governance	Mandatory Local Community Coalition (Steering Group), meets ≥monthly	Formal steering group not required; strong local partnership arrangements expected instead	Shared trauma-informed, culturally safe governance; GSPO-compliant venues; refugee/migrant co-design	Participation in Royal Life Saving orientation/ briefing; no steering group requirement
Primary pillar focus	All four pillars — WE CONNECT, WE WELCOME, WE PROMOTE, WE LEARN	All four pillars, scaled to community level	All four pillars, applied to settlement pathways	WE PROMOTE (primary); WE CONNECT and WE WELCOME as supporting links
Use of funds	≤20% coordination; strong in-water component required	≤20% coordination; dry-side and in-water both eligible if linked to access/trust	Staffing, venue, subsidised lessons, bilingual/interpreter support, transport and swimwear access, MEL	Communications, outreach, networking, advocacy and brief training — not in-water delivery
Co-investment	Matched or higher cash and in-kind strongly expected	Cash and/or in-kind expected	Local co-investment expected — cash and/or in-kind (venue, staff time, outreach, bilingual support)	Cash and/or in-kind expected
Assessment weighting	Community need and local fit - 20%, Partnership strength, delivery capability and sustainability - 30%, Alignment to WE SWIM pillars and outcome pathway - 20%, Value for money and co-investment - 20%, Monitoring, evaluation and learning readiness - 10%	Community need and local fit 20%, Partnership strength, delivery capability and sustainability 30%, Alignment to WE SWIM pillars and outcome pathway 20%, Value for money and co-investment 20%, Monitoring, evaluation and learning readiness 10%	Community need and local fit 20%, Partnership strength, delivery capability and sustainability 30%, Alignment to WE SWIM pillars and outcome pathway 20%, Value for money and co-investment 20%, Monitoring, evaluation and learning readiness 10%	Community need and local fit 20%, Partnership strength, delivery capability and sustainability 30%, Alignment to WE SWIM pillars and outcome pathway 20%, Value for money and co-investment 20%, Monitoring, evaluation and learning readiness 10%
Reporting	Monthly progress reports + mid-point + final report	Mid-point + final report (no monthly requirement)	Core participant/attendance/skills data; feedback; cross-site learning contribution	Proportionate, practical — short activity report, basic reach data, reflections
Not eligible	State/Territory/Commonwealth agencies, non-incorporated orgs, for-profit orgs, single orgs without genuine consortium, community-scale-only proposals, unresolved reporting obligations	State/Territory/Commonwealth agencies, non-incorporated orgs, for-profit orgs, unresolved reporting obligations, proposals lacking genuine community + aquatic partner combo, broad multi-LGA proposals	Government agencies, non-incorporated orgs, for-profit orgs, unresolved reporting obligations, proposals without genuine settlement-integration model or that are primarily broad community delivery	For-profit organisations, applicants without clear community reach or trusted-voice role, proposals that are primarily in-water delivery, unresolved reporting obligations