



Foundation for the WA Museum Grant Program Guidelines

Introduction

The Foundation's mission is to enhance the cultural and social impact of stakeholder support while ensuring the WA Museum's long-term financial sustainability. A key strategy in achieving this is our ambitious and meaningful grant distribution program. Each year, we commit to distributing a minimum grant amount, calculated annually based on the total net asset value of our investment portfolio as of June 30. This amount is exclusive of any restricted endowment or project-specific funding.

The Foundation currently raises funds to support the WA Museum that are both restricted and unrestricted.

Restricted Funds

Restricted funds come with specific conditions for distribution, which the Foundation is responsible for upholding. If the full amount of a restricted donation or partnership for a specific project is not required by the WA Museum, the remaining balance is either reallocated to unrestricted funds in our Discovery Endowment or returned to the donor or partners upon request.

There are two types of restricted funding: Restricted Endowment Funds and Restricted Project Funds. Each fund is classified on a case-by-case basis, based on its conditions, requirements, and timeframe.

Current restricted endowment funds include:

- International Exhibitions Fund
- Bequests with conditions around expenditure of capital amount
- Hanekamp Stamp Collection
- PutcuypsMustafina Marine Heritage Fund

Returns from these funds remain restricted.

Current restricted project funds include:

- Special partnership conditions in partnership agreements
- Special project funding

Returns from these funds are unrestricted funds.

Unrestricted funds have no distribution conditions attached and as such, returns from this capital remain unrestricted.

Current unrestricted funds include:

- Partnership income with no specific distribution requirement
- General Donations
- Fundraising Income (net of expenses)
- Bequests with no restrictions

Purpose

The Foundation grants aim to promote and sustain public interest in the WA Museum as a place of discovery, discussion, and debate about our collective past, present and future. It supports the development and advancement of exhibitions while enhancing public engagement with the WA Museum. Additionally, the grants advocate for the WA Museum within government, business, and community organisations, encourages community involvement in programs, and assists in the promotion of movable cultural heritage.

Who can apply for funding?

Grants are available to WA Museum staff, research associates and departments applying on behalf of the Western Australian Museums. No external organisations or supporting bodies are eligible to apply, nor are staff eligible to apply for non-WA Museum related projects.

What do we fund?

- The Foundation can only fund programs and projects directly supporting the WA Museum's strategic objectives as per the current strategic plan.
- The Foundation grants only fund programs and projects that meet the Foundation grant aims.
- Funding is available for the sole benefit of the WA Museum. All assets and any intellectual property that results from grant-funded projects will be owned by the museum.
- Regional sites and all departments are encouraged to apply.

What we do not fund

- Retrospective funding – projects which are already underway, or which will commence prior to the grant closing date are not eligible for consideration.
- Recurrent expenditure for which there is no future provision
- Research or undergraduate, masters or doctoral students (unless part of a specific partner-funded project and the expense was included in the original budget)
- Equipment needing regular replacement e.g. computers, phones etc (unless part of a specific partner-funded project and the expense was included in the original budget)
- General maintenance and/or repairs
- Capital works
- Projects funded within WAM's budget
- Auspicing* is not permitted – WA Museum must be the organisation that will run the program or project
- Applications for programs or projects that have previously been declined by the Foundation cannot be resubmitted without significant revision and re-approval from the Museum CEO
- Program areas may also have specific exclusions

*Note: Auspicing refers to the practice of an ineligible organisation applying to the Foundation via an eligible organisation e.g. WA Museum. Auspicing arrangements are excluded under the Foundation guidelines.

Grant application projects must demonstrate how they meet the key strategies of both the Foundation and the WA Museum. Grant funds may support several projects or a single exceptional project depending on the submissions received in any given year. The number of grants provided annually will remain flexible to deliver the best outcome for the Foundation and WA Museum.

Our Grant Program Areas

A. Strategic Programs

Timeframe	Annual application period – open annually after minimum distribution amount confirmed 1–3 year programs considered
Amount	\$100,000 and over
Strategy & Purpose	<i>Strategic</i> - To meet a key WAM social, cultural or scientific impact <i>not</i> currently funded by core funding
Approval	Grant approval will be sought at next Foundation Board meeting and grant financial conditions (payment timing etc) to be confirmed by Chair of Investment Committee.
Applicant	CEO of WA Museum or member of Executive Management Team (EMT).
Eligibility	Grant application must be approved by CEO of WA Museum and submitted by CEO or member of WA Museum Executive Management Team (EMT)
Special conditions	Additional grant conditions and outcomes will depend on amount and type of initiative supported.
Assessment criteria	Non-competitive grant. If grant meets FWAM grant conditions and key risk assessment and there are sufficient funds in the annual distribution amount, then grant will be awarded.

B. Strategic Projects

Timeframe	Annual application period – open after minimum distribution amount confirmed 1–2 year projects considered.
Amount	\$15,000 to \$100,000 total funding
Strategy & Purpose	<i>Strategic</i> To meet a key WAM social, cultural or scientific impact <i>not</i> currently funded by core funding
Approval	Grant approval will be sought at next Foundation Board meeting. Grant financial conditions (payment timing etc) confirmed by Chair of Investment Committee.
Applicant	CEO of WA Museum or member of Executive Management Team (EMT).
Eligibility	Grant application must be approved by CEO of WA Museum and submitted by CEO or member of WA Museum Executive Management Team (EMT)
Special conditions	Additional grant conditions and outcomes will depend on amount and type of initiative supported.
Assessment criteria	Non-competitive grant. If grant meets FWAM grant conditions and key risk assessment and there are sufficient funds in the annual distribution amount, then grant will be awarded.

C. Rapid Response

Timeframe	Ad hoc. Applications will be accepted at any time Length of program dependant on the project
Amount	Any

Strategy & Purpose	<i>Responsive</i> To meet an urgent need or address a key gap for WAM e.g. acquisition purchase; research opportunity with short timeframe
Approval	Grant amount under or exactly \$25,000 • Grant approval by Foundation CEO with notification to Board • Grant financial conditions (payment timing etc) confirmed by GM Finance and HR with notification to Investment Committee Chair. Grant amount between \$25,000 and \$100,000 • Grant approval by FWAM Chair with notification to Board. • Grant financial conditions (payment timing etc) confirmed by Chair of Investment Committee. Grant amount over \$100,000 • Grant approval will be sought in an out-of-session Board circular. • Grant financial conditions (payment timing etc) confirmed by Chair of Investment Committee.
Applicant	CEO of WA Museum or member of Executive Management Team (EMT).
Eligibility	Grant application must be approved and submitted by CEO of WA Museum
Special conditions	Additional grant conditions and outcomes will depend on amount and type of initiative supported.
Assessment criteria	Non-competitive grant. If grant meets FWAM grant conditions and there are sufficient funds in the annual distribution amount, then grant will be awarded. Should insufficient funds be available in current distribution amount, then may consider allocating future distribution amounts, subject to Investment Committee Chair approval.

D. Minderoo Project Grants

Timeframe	Annual Projects must be completed within 12 months from grant approval unless a strong case supporting an extension is agreed to
Amount	Up to \$15,000
Strategy & Purpose	<i>Strategic & Responsive</i> To fund low cost, high impact projects across the WAM portfolio.
Approval	Grant approval by Foundation CEO with notification to Board Grant financial conditions (payment timing etc) confirmed by GM Finance and HR with notification to Investment Committee Chair.
Applicant	Applications welcome from any WA Museum employee (provided they do not have any open, incomplete or unacquitted grants.)
Eligibility	Grant application must be discussed with CEO prior to submission and EOI application to be approved by Director and CEO.
Special conditions	Additional grant conditions and outcomes will depend on amount and type of initiative supported. Applicants or departments with open, incomplete or unacquitted grants will not be eligible for consideration.
Assessment criteria	Competitive grant. 1 - How the project aligns with the WA Museum's strategic pillars. 2 - How the project outcomes provide social, cultural or scientific outcomes for the WA Museum and the community.

FWAM restricted distribution grants

Timeframe	Annual Projects must be completed within 12 months from grant approval unless a strong case supporting an extension is agreed to
Amount	\$8,000
Strategy & Purpose	<i>Strategic and Responsive</i> To foster collaboration across national and international boundaries
Assessment criteria	Visiting Fellowships to be approved by WAM CEO before securing support

E. FWAM restricted distribution grants

Title	Timeframe	Amount	Strategy & Purpose	Assessment criteria
Visiting Fellowship	1 Year	\$8,000	<i>Strategic and Responsive</i> To foster collaboration across national and international boundaries	Visiting Fellowships to be approved by WAM CEO before securing support
Direct Project	As per individual agreement	\$5,000+	<i>Responsive</i> To fund a WAM project or initiative	Projects and initiatives to be approved by WAM CEO before securing support
International Exhibitions	As per individual agreement	As per individual agreement	<i>Strategic</i> To give WAM capacity to bring world-class exhibitions to WA that have impact	Underwriting model Individual agreements based on timeframe, amount, risk, potential to secure support

Any questions or for more information regarding the Foundation for the WA Museum Annual Grant Program can be forwarded to grants@fwam.com.au or call on 08 6552 7474.

