



Inspiring Australia NSW
2026 Expression of Interest NSW National Science Week major funding

Guidelines

Expressions of interest are sought from suitably qualified event providers to deliver a major event series as part of National Science Week from 15 – 23 August 2026.

Up to \$15,000 is available to enable an experienced provider to produce a high-profile campaign that includes interactive, live and/or virtual science events and activities that showcase science and technology and celebrate the achievements of NSW scientists.

The proposed event or event series should target the general public and broader community.

This funding is not intended to support educational projects, for programs targeting school students or training for teachers.

We encourage applicants to collaborate with other science week event providers in order to present a unified National Science Week campaign approach. We are especially interested in receiving proposals that show evidence of community building and collaboration to boost engagement with STEM, and welcome innovative ideas for engaging community members underrepresented in STEM, and those may not ordinarily engage with science and technology.

Eligibility

In order to qualify, applicants must demonstrate:

- Proven experience in attracting the target audience
- A plan for how NSW scientists will be incorporated into event programming
- Capacity to deliver professionally managed live events (and digital events if proposed)
- Capacity to manage and acquit funds
- Willingness to work collaboratively with other providers as well as the NSW science community
- Knowledge of and existing relationships with the NSW science sector
- A plan for evaluating the impact of the activity to be sponsored
- A realistic estimate of the intended reach of the activity to be sponsored
- A plan for managing risk

Selection criteria

National Science Week in person, online and hybrid events and activities must meet at least two of the following criteria:



- Inspire young people to pursue an interest or aptitude in science.
- Encourage local community participation and ongoing engagement in science.
- Provide diversity and inclusion in programming and audience reach.
- Celebrate Australian scientific achievement past and present.
- Provide opportunities for scientists and researchers to present to the public.
- Build scientific and digital literacy in Australian communities
- Expand existing STEM networks and partnership opportunities

Initiatives that are collaborative, involve multiple partners and attract other sources of funding towards proposed activity will be highly regarded.

Contract

If you are successful in your grant application, you are obliged to do the following:

- Sign a contract document.
- Supply finance details for UOW finance system and send a Tax Invoice to Inspiring NSW.
- Register your activity/events on the National Science Week website by early July 2026.
- Acknowledge Inspiring Australia's funding support and display Inspiring Australia's logo according to the contract
- Send Inspiring NSW details of your activities in advance for promotion.
- Inform Inspiring NSW of any major variations to the National Science Week activity.
- Collect feedback from audience members to evaluate the funding provided.
- Submit a report with the results of your activity including final program, participants and partners, audience numbers for each activity, budget acquittal, long term outcomes, and some feedback about your experience.
- Submit images of your event that capture presenters, activities, and audience.

Payment of the grant will be made upon receipt of a valid tax invoice and once event details are logged on the National Science Week event calendar.

Questions and requests for further information can be directed to: Meredith Hall
Manager Inspiring Australia (NSW) inspiring-nsw@uow.edu.au