

# Chronic Conditions Prevention and Integrated Care Program – Overview

February 2026

## Key points of the program

- Applications for the first round of applications will open in mid-2026, with funding and activities starting from December 2026.
- Funded activities must align with criteria set out in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines. The application should be of high quality, evidence-based, and demonstrate the value and impact of the activities being proposed.
- Applications will be evaluated against clear criteria outlined in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines and aligned with the [National Strategic Framework for Chronic Conditions 2026–35](#).
- More information on the program will be made available closer to the opening of the first round of applications.

## Purpose

Chronic conditions are the leading cause of illness, disability and premature death in Australia, accounting for almost 85% of the total burden of disease in 2023.

The Chronic Conditions Prevention and Integrated Care Program aims to improve health outcomes for the 15.4 million Australians living with chronic conditions - this is around 61% of people in Australia that live with at least one chronic condition, and 38% of people experience multimorbidity.

The program will receive \$109.9 million over three years from 2026–27 (and \$38.3 million per year ongoing from 2029-30) to establish an ongoing, competitive grant program to drive improved health outcomes for people in Australia, living with, or at risk of developing, chronic conditions.

## Who will this benefit

The program will benefit:

- people living with chronic conditions, and those at risk
- families and carers
- patient and consumer organisations
- health professionals and care and service providers
- communities experiencing health inequities.

## What the program will fund

The program will fund a broad range of activities through an open and competitive grants process. All proposals must:

- align with criteria set out in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines
- be of high quality, evidence-based, and demonstrate the value and impact of the activities being proposed
- align with the National Strategic Framework for Chronic Conditions 2026–35.

Applications will be evaluated against clear criteria outlined in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines. All successful applicants will be determined according to this process.

By supporting early intervention and prevention, innovative treatment approaches and stronger collaboration across the health system, the program aims to reduce the burden of chronic conditions and support a more sustainable and equitable health system.

More details will be available on the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing’s website, as well as Grant Connect, from mid-2026.

## **Why the change in funding approach**

We have heard from the sector that the current funding approach does not provide funding security, nor does it support innovation.

Certainty around funding duration and application timings will support funded organisations to plan strategically, collaborate effectively, and deliver sustainable and innovative outcomes.

There are significant benefits to an open and competitive grants process, including encouraging applicants to design services that are sector led and responsive to emerging needs, creating an environment where the most impactful proposals receive funding.

Competition also broadens the field of ideas and delivery models. It incentivises applicants to develop high-quality, evidence-based submissions and can bring forward partnerships and collaborations that may not otherwise exist.

## **How does the program align with the framework**

The program will provide funding in line with the framework, which provides nationally agreed priorities for preventing and managing chronic conditions.

The framework focuses on 5 key areas:

- health promotion and education
- embedding prevention and early detection
- system integrated, multidisciplinary and person-centred continuity of care

- managing multimorbidity
- enhanced and targeted support for health equity (priority populations).

The program operationalises the framework by directing funding toward activities that address these focus areas, rather than individual conditions. More than 400 submissions informed the refreshed framework, with consultation highlighting the need to move beyond single-condition approaches and better support multimorbidity. This approach supports coordinated, system-wide responses and strengthens collaboration across governments, peak bodies, health care providers and communities.

## Launch of the new framework and program

The Australian Government has launched the National Strategic Framework for Chronic Conditions 2026–2035 alongside the Chronic Conditions Prevention and Integrated Care Program, reflecting a strong national commitment to improving health outcomes for Australians living with, or at risk of developing, chronic conditions. The program is aligned with the focus areas of the framework:

1. Health promotion and education
2. Embedding prevention and early detection
3. System integrated, multidisciplinary and person-centred continuity of care
4. Managing multimorbidity
5. Enhanced and targeted support for health equity (priority populations)

The framework also aligns with the Government's broader health system reforms including:

- Strengthening Medicare
- National Preventive Health Strategy
- Primary Health Care 10 Year Plan
- National Agreement on Closing the Gap

For more information about the launch, read the [Ministerial media release](#).