

# Ethnic Communities Development Fund

Unite  
against  
COVID-19

Information for people who have made a request for funding, or have a funded project underway

The COVID-19 Alert System has an effect on some activities funded by the Ethnic Communities Development Fund. If you have recently made a request for funding, or have a project underway, here's what you need to know:

## Current situation:

On **21 March 2020**, [New Zealand's four-level COVID-19 Alert System](#), which specifies the public health and social measures to be taken against COVID-19 at each level, was announced.

On **25 March 2020**, New Zealand moved to **Alert Level 4**. While Alert Levels will change, it is likely that an Alert Level system restriction will remain in place for some time.

**There are a number of restrictions on the daily lives of those in New Zealand at this time, which in turn affects the ability to deliver on many Ethnic Communities Development Fund projects.**

Although we cannot predict when things will return to "normal", these guidelines will help you understand what you need to do, and how the Ethnic Communities Development Fund priorities have changed.

## You will be affected if you:

- have already had an Ethnic Communities Development Fund request approved for full or partial funding;
- have submitted a request which has not yet been decided; or
- are planning to submit a request.

## Is the Ethnic Communities Development Fund still open for requests?

Yes, the Fund will remain open, but will have new priorities and will now be called **Ethnic Communities Development Fund Unites against COVID-19**.

More information can be found on the fund tab of the [Office of Ethnic Communities website](#).

## Need help or advice?

Contact a Community Advisor on 0800 824 824 or [community.matters@dia.govt.nz](mailto:community.matters@dia.govt.nz)



Te Tari Matawaka  
Office of Ethnic Communities

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# Frequently Asked Questions

## **What should I do if I have already received full or partial funding for an Ethnic Communities Development Fund request?**

**If your project cannot be delivered as originally planned because of restrictions imposed at any of the COVID-19 Alert Systems Levels, contact a Community Advisor via email, and:**

- explain why the project did not, or will not proceed; and
- advise if the project can be postponed but still be delivered within the 12 month limitation that applies to your current funding.

**If your project can be postponed, do not return the funding that you have been given – simply update a Community Advisor with any new information available when you are ready to proceed.**

**If your project cannot be postponed, consider whether there is another project that you can undertake within the funding amount that you have been given which aligns with the updated ECDF priorities. Discuss your proposal with a Community Advisor, who will liaise with OEC to establish what, if any, next steps are needed.**

**If you do not wish to either postpone your approved project, or consider another project which aligns with the updated Ethnic Communities Development Fund priorities, please contact a Community Advisor to confirm this. You will be required to make arrangements to return the funding allocated to you.**

## **What will happen to an Ethnic Communities Development Fund request that was submitted before 1 April 2020 but is not yet decided?**

All requests that have been submitted will be assessed on the merits of the request.

If your project cannot be delivered as originally proposed, your request will be declined, and you will be invited to resubmit your request when things return to “normal”.

If any specific parts of your request require further work, this feedback will be provided to you. A Community Advisor will be in touch with you to advise when you can resubmit your request.

**Contact a Community Advisor to discuss your project**

*on 0800 824 824 or*

*[community.matters@dia.govt.nz](mailto:community.matters@dia.govt.nz)*



**Te Tari Matawaka  
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