

## **NATIONAL SHOWCASE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**



### **WHAT IS THE NATIONAL SHOWCASE?**

The National Showcase is a new program that will help to promote Australian made products from across the nation in the Parliament Shop. The program will be a collaboration with Parliamentarians who will be encouraged to share this opportunity for Australian businesses to their networks and electorates. The program is administered by the Department of Parliamentary Services.

Suppliers from across Australia are invited to apply to have their products featured in a month-long showcase of individual states and territories in the Parliament Shop. This is not only a great way to discover new products for sale at Parliament House, but also a great way for the Parliament to support Australian suppliers in every state and territory.

### **HOW DO BUSINESSES IN MY STATE OR TERRITORY APPLY TO BE PART OF THE NATIONAL SHOWCASE?**

Applications to be part of the National Showcase must be submitted via an online form at [\*\*National Showcase\*\*](#).

If you are a small business with products that would be appropriate for the Parliament Shop, apply now: [\*\*National Showcase\*\*](#).

### **WHO DECIDES WHICH PRODUCTS WILL BE FEATURED?**

The Department of Parliamentary Services has appointed a selection panel to review the National Showcase applications.

Products will be selected via an online application and merit-based review process based on a range of criteria such as the product's appropriateness for the Parliament Shop, design excellence, ethical and sustainable practices, whether the products are Australian made and the size of the producer.

Selected products must deliver commercial and performance outcomes for the Parliament Shop and selection processes must demonstrate that public resources are managed in an efficient, effective, economical, and ethical manner. To ensure commercial viability, most products sold in the Parliament Shop are purchased at a wholesale rate that is generally around 50% of the recommended retail price. Exclusions may apply.

### **ARE THERE ANY RESTRICTIONS ON THE TYPE OF PRODUCTS THAT CAN BE FEATURED?**

Only one product per supplier will be considered for each National Showcase application. Applicants should submit their best, and most appropriate product for this opportunity.

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### **Products are not suitable for the National Showcase if they are:**

- too large (greater than 300mm x 300mm as a guide)
- perishable products that can't be stored at room temperature or have a used by date within six months of supply.
- for the purpose of donating raised funds to a political party, campaign and or candidate.

A product, and by extension a vendor, would be considered unsuitable for the Parliament Shop if it: undermines confidence in Australia's parliament or democracy; compromised the independence and integrity of Parliament House; knowingly misled visitors; is offensive or violates laws such as defamation, harassment, discrimination, racial vilification, copyright laws; and/or posed any threat to security.

### **Products must appeal to a target audience**

For a product to be considered suitable for the Parliament Shop it must appeal to one or more of the following target audiences:

- domestic and international tourists
- teachers and their students visiting in groups
- Canberra and region locals, including families with children
- building occupants including parliamentarians, their staff, and departmental staff, and other government agencies]

### **DOES MY PRODUCT NEED TO BE PROFESSIONALLY DESIGNED AND PRODUCED IN AUSTRALIA?**

Products must be professionally designed and produced in Australia, to reflect the design values of Parliament House. The Parliament Shop is committed to stocking products that are Australian designed, made, supplied and will select products in line with this commitment. To be successful in your application you will be asked to submit further evidence.

### **IS YOUR PRODUCT ETHICALLY MANUFACTURED?**

Products must be ethical in their manufacture and creation, adhere to environmental sustainability practices and appropriately pay and acknowledge First Nations artists and culture (where relevant). It is a requirement of the Parliament Shop, when dealing with suppliers whose products are classed as Indigenous or reflect First Nations' culture, suppliers must demonstrate a commitment to fair and equitable payment to Indigenous artists. Current membership of the the Indigenous Art Code is viewed favourably.

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### **WHO CAN APPLY TO BE PART OF THE NATIONAL SHOWCASE?**

Suppliers must be able to meet the requirements of a consignment agreement. The consignment agreement will be provided to selected suppliers and requires that any unsold products will be returned to the vendor after the month-long showcase.

To be eligible you will need for the National Showcase suppliers need to:

- be GST Registered
- be able to supply at a minimum 10-100 units per product within two weeks of confirmation that your application has been successful
- cover freight costs to transport products to the Parliament Shop
- agree to products being on display in the Parliament Shop for a period of one month and promoted as 'available while stocks last'.

Preference is given to suppliers not currently stocked in major retailers.

### **HOW LONG WILL THE PRODUCTS BE IN THE PARLIAMENT SHOP?**

Each state and territory will be featured for one month. Applications are now open and for all States and Territories.

At the end of the month-long showcase, any unsold products will be returned to the supplier at the expense of the Department of Parliamentary Services. The Parliament Shop will only pay for goods that have been sold.

### **WHEN CAN I APPLY?**

The first showcase will be launched in December 2023 with Victoria the first state to be featured.

Applications for future showcases can be submitted at any time. The selection panel will review applications on a monthly basis. The National Showcase selection panel will review applications received until 11.59pm on the first day of the month and will aim to provide written feedback within two weeks.

### **WHAT BENEFITS WILL A BUSINESS GET FROM BEING FEATURED IN THE INITIATIVE?**

The National Showcase will provide an opportunity for selected eligible businesses in each state and territory to have their products displayed and sold in the Parliament Shop.

Parliament House typically attracts a diverse cross-section of Australian and international tourists, with over 700,00 visitors each year. Other shop customers include: teachers and their students visiting in groups; Canberra and region locals, including families with children; building occupants including parliamentarians, their staff, and departmental staff; and other government agencies.

This is not only a great way to discover new products for sale at Parliament House, but also a great way for the parliament to support Australian suppliers in every state and territory.

Featured products will also be showcased on the online [Parliament Shop](#).

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### **WILL AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENT HOUSE (APH) BE BUYING THE PRODUCTS FROM PARTICIPATING BUSINESSES?**

The consignment agreement for the National Showcase program requires that products are selected with the understanding that any unsold products will be returned to the vendor after the month-long showcase. The Parliament Shop, based on sales during the month, may elect to continue to stock the product beyond the National Showcase program month period. Should this occur, standard procurement processes will be followed.

### **WHAT IS THE SEQUENCE OF STATE AND TERRITORIES?**

State and territory showcase months can be found here: [National Showcase calendar](#).

Each state or territory will be featured in the Shop on a rotating monthly basis. The initiative is intended to run for 2 years meaning each state and territory will be featured 3 times. Applications are now open and for all States and Territories.

### **CAN SUPPLIERS PARTICIPATE IN THE LAUNCH FOR MY STATE OR TERRITORY?**

Yes, should their product feature as part of the National Showcase, the relevant supplier will be invited to attend the launch for your state or territory. All travel expenses will be met by the suppliers.

For more information or questions, call us on (02) 6277 2222 or [nationalshowcase@aph.gov.au](mailto:nationalshowcase@aph.gov.au).