INDIVIDUAL GRANTS Australian Guidelines

IMPORTANT: Please read information below to assist you in completing your application online.
Welcome the 52 Degree Foundation Individual Application Form

Introduction

52 Degree Foundation provide assistance towards the purchase of mobility equipment, communication devices and essential medical and health equipment to support children who have a medically diagnosed chronic illness or disability.

Eligibility

To be eligible for a grant the recipient/child must:

- Be a Australian resident.
- Be aged 17 or under as at the round closing date, that is, has not turned 18.
- Have a disability or long-term health condition as recognised by a designated health professional.

To be eligible for a grant the family household income must:

- be below $200,000 per annum. All income should be considered including any child support payments, rental income, investment income or any other income that is received by the parent/carer who is financially responsible for the recipient/child.

Previous recipients/children can apply for additional grants 2 years after the date listed on their original outcome letter.

We recommend that you consult with your NDIS Planner, GP, Specialist, or social/support workers before starting a grant application so they can support you through the process. Please show them these policy guidelines or refer them to our website for more information - www.52degreefoundation.org

NDIS

Where the recipient/child is part of the NDIS then the application must identify why the item you are requesting is not covered by the child's NDIS plan. Reasons may include, but are not limited to:

- The Planning meeting has not yet occurred.
- Funds have already been allocated to other items.
- The item is not supported by the NDIS, in which case you will need to provide a copy of the decline letter.
- The wait time for NDIS decision has become detrimental to the recipient/child.

You do not need to be part of the NDIS or approved under the NDIS to be eligible to apply. Applications are welcome from children aged 0-17 years who have been medically diagnosed with a chronic illness or disability.

Funding requests

The grant applicant may only apply for one item that is directly related to the child's diagnosis and is supported by a GP or an allied health professional (please see 'Documentation' below). The item listed on the application will form is the basis of the grant and if successful, and therefore cannot be amended after the approval date.

Some examples of grants include:

FREEDOM - Freedom to move with the assistance of mobility equipment.

- Special needs strollers and pushchairs
- Wheelchairs – powered/electric/manual/sports (must be assessed, prescribed, and trialled by a licensed OT)
- Bikes – including modified bikes, trikes and scooters
- Carrot Car Seats
- Hi-Lo chairs
- Gait trainers, walkers and standers
- Assistance dogs. Assistance dogs will only be considered if they help to give mobility and independence for children living with a disability. This includes helping children to regulate so they can safely access their community. Therapy dogs, minddogs, mental health dogs, psychiatric assistance dogs, and emotional support animals will not be approved. In addition, the application must have been approved for an assistance dog by an accredited assistance dog provider.

FUTURE – provides children with an intellectual or physical disability access to equipment

- Communication devices including iPads
- Learning aids
- Sports Wheelchair

CARING – helps families care for their seriously ill children at home

- Nebulisers
- Insulin pumps
- Robotic feeders
- Specialised beds and mattresses
- Sensory equipment (must be prescribed by an OT)

Funding Exclusions: Ineligible Initiatives

- Services or equipment not directly related to a child's special/extra needs, and which are not deemed medically/developmentally necessary
- Travel expenses – including public transport and petrol
- Warranties, insurance, maintenance, service agreements, batteries, repairs
- Administrative fees or operational costs
- Sports equipment that is non-adaptive or not sure support special needs
- Expenses that have already been initiated or have already occurred prior to submission or written approval
- Incomplete application forms
- Equipment from non-Australian distributors that cannot be invoiced directly to Variety or services

outside Australia
- Capital works
- Installation costs
- Cars, car modifications or e-bikes

Application Submission

- Applications are open for the designated period of time.
- Applications can only be submitted via the online application form.
- An application can be started by a parent/carer, healthcare professional, social worker, support worker, teacher etc. but **must** be signed and submitted by the primary parent/carer.
- Applicants will be expected to submit a truthful and factual application and attach relevant documentation as evidence.

Documentation

Your application should address all required criteria and information. Any supporting letters should be on letterhead and signed and dated. Incomplete applications risk being delayed or in some cases, denied.

Include the following documents with your submission:

1. Confirmation of the child's diagnosis/condition on letterhead from a GP, paediatrician, or medical specialist.

2. A support letter from a relevant healthcare professional (such as an occupational therapist, speech therapist, physiotherapist, or paediatrician) that is dated **within 6 months** of the application that provides details of:
   - ✓ a description of the requested item and the need
   - ✓ how the request will support the overall care plan and benefit the child
   - ✓ evidence of a trial of the equipment, or why a trial is not appropriate
   - ✓ the anticipated outcomes of receiving the equipment for child and family
   - ✓ This document must be dated within six months of the application.

3. If the equipment is to be used in a school setting, please also include a support letter from the school principal, wellbeing officer or designated representative with the following details:
   - ✓ The length of time that they have known the child
   - ✓ How the request will support the child at school
   - ✓ How the request will benefit the child, class and staff

4. Proof of denied NDIS funding as applicable.

5. Two quotes for the requested equipment from suppliers that you wish to use. Acceptable quotes are no older than three months from the time of the grant submission and be valid throughout the assessment process. Variety Victoria has agreements with suppliers and may choose to source the equipment from another source.

6. Proof of household Income; **all applications require a copy of your most recent ATO Income statement PLUS one of the following statements;**

   - If you are parent/care giver is unemployed and receiving Centrelink payments, you

will need to include your most recent activity statement. These statements can be download or request a copy of your activity statement can be requested via your Centrelink online account through myGov.

- If you are employed (full time, part time or casual) and receiving wages include your most recent payslip. This must show your annual income.
- If you are employed and receiving Centrelink payments include both your most recent payslip and Centrelink activity statement.
- If self-employed your most recent Tax Return.
- If parents are separated and one is still contributing to the child's needs (but living outside the household), their financial documentation is also required.

Financial Contributions

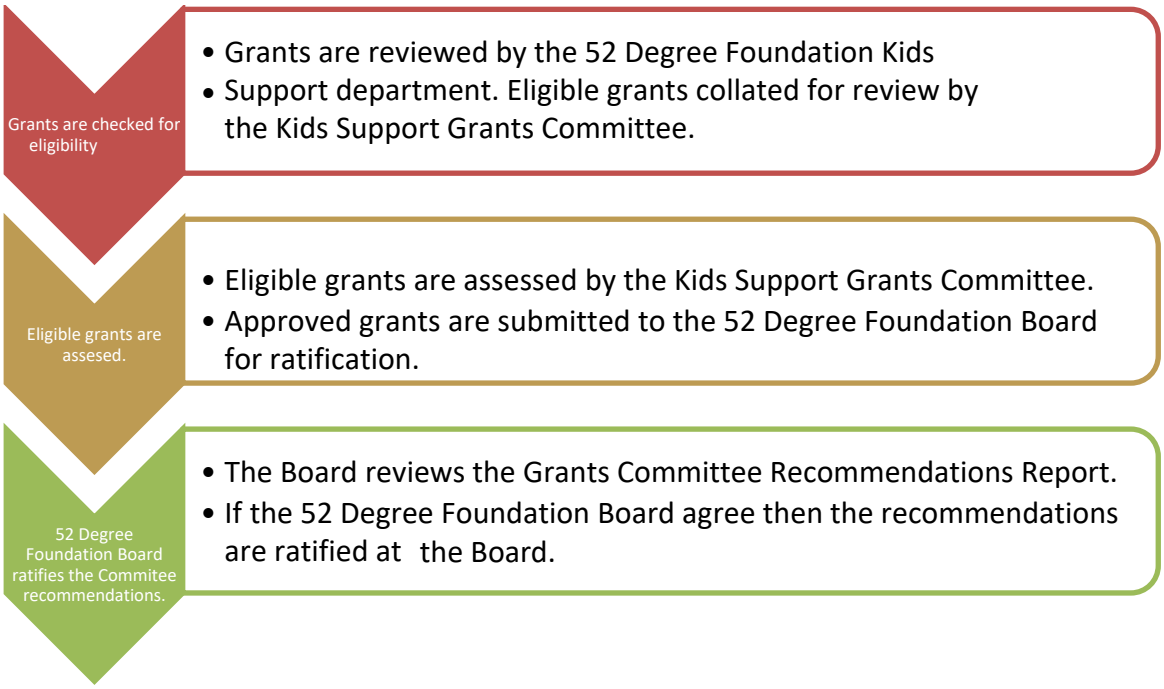
Where an applicant is not requesting the full amount for an item, identify in the application how much money the contribution is (either personally or through other means of support). As an example, if the total quote for an item is $1000 and an applicant selects to contribute $150, the amount requested for a Variety Grant would equal $850.

Assessment Process

Please allow up to 10 weeks following the round closure date for the process to be complete.

Each application is assessed by the Kids Support team on its own merit and equal weighting is given to both the financial situation and the needs of the beneficiary.

Variety Victoria grants are open at set periods through the year.



Grant Decisions

Outcome letters are emailed to applicants when the assessment process has been completed.

An outcome letter will be sent to the parent/carer advising of the outcome and if approved will also detail the next steps.

If successful, the applicant will need to provide a tax invoice to 52 Degree Foundation for the approved item. The invoice should invoice 52 Degree Foundation for the approved item and amount and 52 Degree Foundation will pay for the item direct to the supplier.

52 Degree Foundation does not provide retrospective funding. The successful applicant will have 12 months from the date of approval on their outcome letter to use their grant, after that time the grant will expire, and any unspent funds will be forfeited.

Reasons pertaining to unsuccessful applications are at the discretion of the 52 Degree Foundation Kids Support Committee and will not be disclosed to the applicant. Unsuccessful applicants may be eligible to reapply in the next round.

Outcome Reporting

52 Degree Foundation takes great care and pride to ensure that their grants are correctly used to the positive benefit of our children. Applicants will be invited to sign a media release form to grant 52 Degree Foundation the right to use any image or testimonial you have supplied to us on our website or through social media. 52 Degree Foundation will not market successful grants where consent has not been given.

52 Degree Foundation relies on donations and sponsors to fund our projects, being able to promote our grants and testimonials provides 52 Degree Foundation with transparency and is also a great way to say thank you to those who have helped and encourage any future support for even more children.

A short survey will be emailed when the grant period is completed after 12 months.

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Kids Support team on kidssupport@52degreefoundation.org