

WE LEARN - Education Technology Grant

Guidelines Individual NSW/ACT



Introduction

Variety NSW/ACT provides access to an education technology grant for children living with financial hardship to increase and encourage their educational goals, where they may not otherwise be afforded the opportunity to do so.

Eligibility

- Applicants must live in NSW or ACT.
- Applications can only be accepted for children aged 4 to 18 years.
- Maximum gross household income of \$70,000 per annum (excluding super).
- Previous recipients of the following technology grants may be eligible to reapply after 24 months from the date of their outcome letter:
 - I. Variety Technology Grant
 - II. Variety Education Supplies and Technology Grant
 - III. Variety Tech 4 School Grant
- Unsuccessful applicants may be eligible to reapply again for an education technology grant 12 months after the date listed on their outcome letter.

Education Technology Grant requests

Successful applicants will be able to utilise the grant to pay for items they select from the exclusive online Harvey Norman/Variety NSW website. A link to the website will be provided to successful applicants.

- Up to a total maximum value of \$1200 +gst for **Kids aged 4-12 attending Primary School (K-6 classes)**
 - iPad OR computer/laptop
 - Protective Case
 - Tablet/laptop accessories (e.g. keyboard, mouse, stylus pen etc)
- Up to a total maximum value of \$1200 + gst for **Kids aged 12-18 attending High School or TAFE**
 - iPad OR computer/laptop
 - Educational software (e.g. Microsoft Office)
 - Printer
 - Protective Case
 - Tablet/laptop accessories (e.g. keyboard, mouse, stylus pen etc)
- Grants must be spent in full in one single online transaction. There will be no refunds/credit for unused funds.
- Once purchases are approved by Kids Support, Harvey Norman will despatch the items directly to the grant recipient.

Please note: If your school insists on a particular model/spec of ipad/laptop or software that is not available on the Harvey Norman website, please contact kidssupport@varietynew.org.au for approval before you make any purchase.

Education Technology grant requests not eligible

The following will not be considered as part of the grant request:

- Retrospective funding – only items purchased **after** the approval date are eligible to claim
- Servicing or maintenance
- Insurance/warranty
- Installation costs

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- Printer ink or supplies
- Additional PC memory or other upgrades

Application

- Applications are made on behalf of the child by a parent/carer or another identified support person (medical professional, caseworker, teacher etc) aged 18 years and over
- Applicants will be expected to submit a truthful and factual application and attach relevant documentation as evidence.
- A maximum of two applications per household will be considered.

Attachments/Evidence

The following attachments must be included as part of the application.

1. A letter (no older than 3 months) from an education support person (ie a teacher or Principal from the school your child attends, or will attend). This letter must be on school letterhead and will need to address the following points for the application to be considered:
 - Who they are (Teacher or Principal), what role they play in the child's life and how long they've known the child.
 - Mention of the item/s requested and why the child requires them.
 - Why they believe the grant should be awarded and what impact it will have on the child.

2. Household Income – Proof of household Income:

For all applicants: your 2019/2020 or 2020/21 ATO Income statement.

PLUS

- I. If unemployed and receiving Centrelink payments: your most recent activity statement. (You can view, download, or request a copy of your activity statement via your Centrelink online account through myGov).
- II. If employed (full time, part time or casual) and receiving wages: your most recent payslip. This must show your annual income.
- III. If employed and receiving Centrelink payments: your most recent payslip and Centrelink activity statement.

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.

Post-Submission and Assessment – 2021

Variety NSW We Learn – Technology grants are open from 26th July to 3rd September 2021. After submission, applications will be assessed by the Committee at the next scheduled meeting. You will receive notification by email when your application has been assessed. Please allow up to 8 weeks for the process to be complete after you submit your application.

Each application is assessed by the Kids Support team on its own merit. Eligible submissions are presented to the Kids Support Committee for the final decision.

Decision

Outcome letters are emailed to applicants when their applications have been assessed by the Kids Support Committee.

Unsuccessful Applicants

- Reasons pertaining to unsuccessful applications are at the discretion of the Kids Support Committee

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- Unsuccessful applicants may be eligible to reapply in 12 months from the date listed on the outcome letter.

Successful Applicants

- Successful applicants have 6 months from the date of approval on their outcome letter to use their grant
- No retrospective funding is eligible
- It is the responsibility of the parent/carer to action all appropriate steps after receiving the outcome letter (as directed)
- Any unspent funds will be forfeited after the expiry date of the grant.

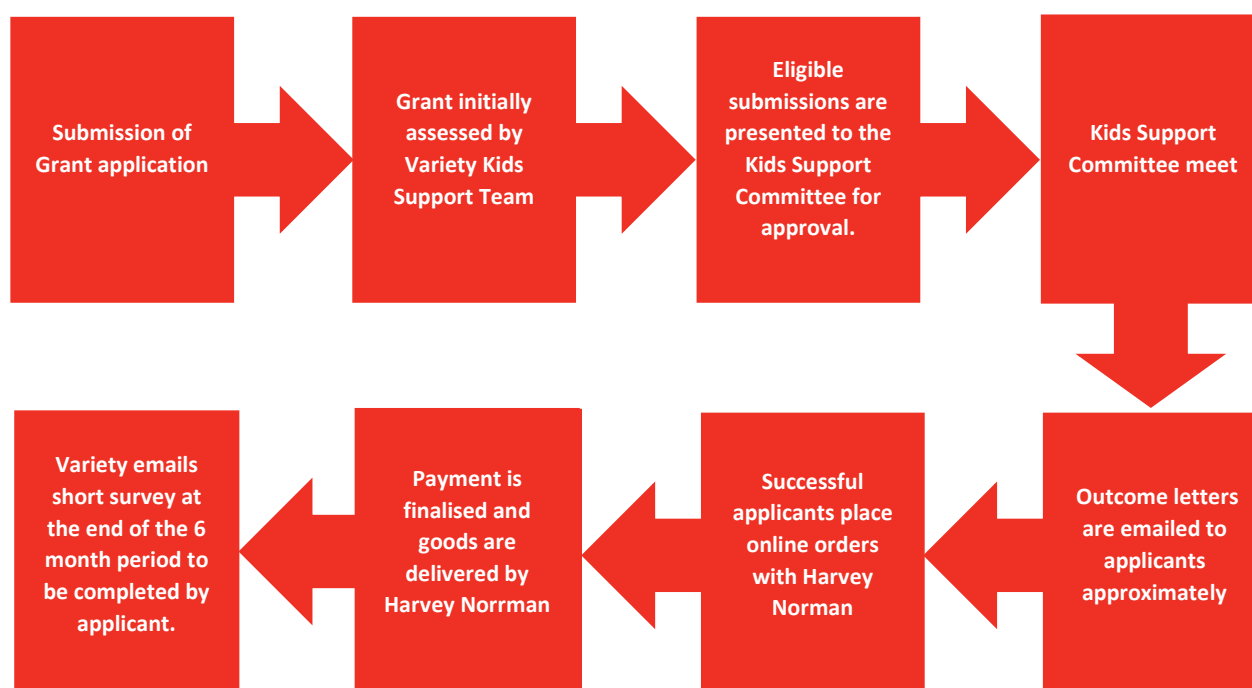
Outcome Reporting

A short survey about the grant submission process will be sent to the applicant shortly after their application is submitted. This survey will help Kids Support refine the application process and we would be very grateful if it is returned.

On completion of a successful grant, a further survey will be emailed to the applicant. This survey will help Kids Support understand how the grant has helped the recipient with their studies.

Outside completing a survey and without obligation, Variety enjoys hearing any updates on a child's progress, well-being and achievements once they've received their grant. If the parent/carer and the child feel comfortable to share any updates with Variety, please email them through to kidssupport@varietynewsw.org.au.

Application Steps/Process



If you require further information, please don't hesitate to contact the Kids Support team on kidssupport@varietynewsw.org.au