

Variety – The Children’s Charity

We Care – Wig Grant

Guidelines Individuals NSW/ACT



Introduction

Variety NSW/ACT provides assistance up to the value of \$5,000 towards the purchase of a human hair or synthetic hair wig for children who have lost their hair due to a **permanent medical condition** such as Alopecia Areata.

It is at the discretion of the applicant to source the supplier of the Wig. Variety NSW/ACT does not directly advocate for any preferred supplier.

Eligibility

- Applicants must live in NSW, ACT, QLD, VIC, TAS, WA, SA or NT
- Applications can only be accepted for children aged between 4 to 18 years
- Applicants must be diagnosed with permanent hair loss such as Alopecia Areata.
- Previous recipients will not be considered for another a Wig Grant until 24 months after the date listed on their outcome letter.
- Unsuccessful applicants may be eligible to reapply for a Wig Grant 12 months after the date listed on their outcome letter
- **The gross family household income must not exceed \$100,000 per annum** (this includes child support payments, rental income, investment income, overseas income or any other income that is received by any parent/carer who is financially responsible for the beneficiary)
(Applications from families with an income exceeding this amount can still be submitted and any extenuating factors will be assessed by the Grants Committee.)

Wig Grant requests not eligible

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

- Due to their cost and longevity, human hair wigs will only be approved for conditions resulting in permanent hair loss.
- Retrospective funding – only items purchased **after** the approval date will be eligible to claim as part of the grant
- Servicing or maintenance of the wig.

Application

- Applications are open all year round
- 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 & attach relevant documentation as evidence, addressing but not limited to the following points:
 - Name and contact details of applicant
 - Details directly related to the child’s diagnosis including Doctor’s information
 - Details directly related to the item (i.e. wig) including supplier information
 - Financial documents related to household income

Attachments/Evidence

1. Support Letter - Diagnosis

A letter from the child’s doctor/paediatrician addressing the child’s diagnosis. This letter must not be older than 3 months as of the date of application submission.

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2. **Household Income** – For each parent/carer who is financially responsible for the child one of the following documents must be submitted:

If the parent/carer is receiving Centrelink benefits provide your most recent Centrelink Income Statement. (this is not your annual PAYG Centrelink Activity Statement.) You can download examples of acceptable Centrelink statements [HERE](#). If you are unsure how to obtain your Centrelink Income Statement online from MyGov, please click [here](#) for instructions. If you are unsure how to obtain your Centreline Income Statement from the Express Plus Centrelink mobile app click [here](#) for instructions.

OR

If parent/carer is not receiving Centrelink benefits and is employed (full time, part time or casual) provide your most recent two payslips showing annual income.

OR

If parent/carer is not receiving Centrelink benefits or in employment provide your last three months bank statements.

It is important that you provide the correct information as we are unable to consider applications with insufficient financial evidence.

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.

3. **Quote**

A quote directly related to the requested item from your preferred supplier. This must be no older than 3 months at the time of application submission to ensure it remains valid through the assessment process.

Please keep in mind that the assessment process may take up to 6 weeks before you receive an outcome from Variety once you submit an application.

Contribution

Where an applicant is not requesting the full amount of a Wig, they must identify in their application how much they intend on contributing to the total cost so that it reconciles with both the grant amount requested and the quote supplied. (I.e. total quote \$1000, applicant's selects to contribute \$150 so the amount requested for a Variety Grant equals \$850).

Post-Submission and Assessment

Please note: Successful submission of a grant application does not guarantee a successful outcome.

- Submissions are initially assessed by the Kids Support Team
- Eligible submissions are presented to the Kids Support Grants Committee for consideration
- Kids Support Grants Committee meetings are held once a month (except January)

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Decision

Outcome letters are emailed to applicants approximately 4-6 weeks after their initial submission.

Unsuccessful Applicants

- Reasons pertaining to unsuccessful applications are at the discretion of the Kids Support Committee
- Unsuccessful applicants may be eligible to reapply 12 months from the date on the outcome letter

Successful Applicants

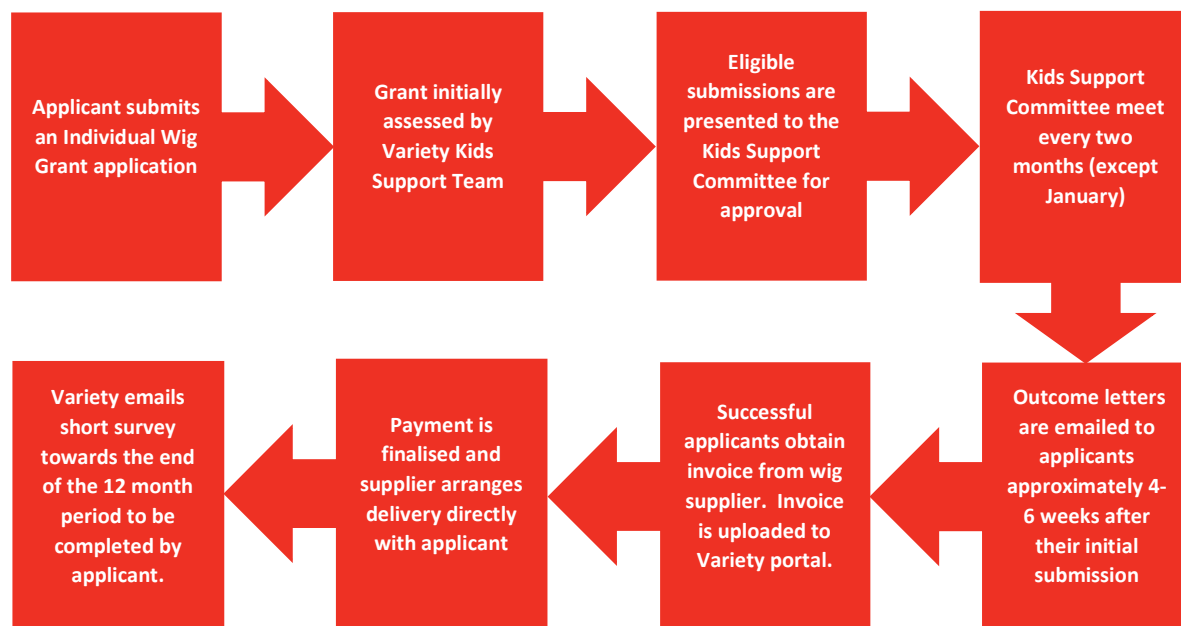
- Applicants have 12 months from the date of approval on their outcome letter to use their grant
- No retrospective funding is eligible
- Successful applicants are directed to provide their outcome letter to the supplier associated with their approved granted item
- The supplier must provide a tax invoice to Variety NSW/ACT for the approved item and within the approved amount (*please note, Variety NSW/ACT does not provide money directly to applicants and/or Parent/Carers; money is paid directly to suppliers*)
- It is the responsibility of the Parent/Carer to action all appropriate steps after receiving the outcome letter (as directed)
- Any unused and/or unspent funds will be forfeited after the expiry date of the grant

Outcome Reporting

The applicant will be requested to complete a short survey between 3-12 months after receiving their grant. This will be emailed to the applicants Parent/Carer.

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@variety NSW.org.au.

Application Steps/Process



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