



Variety Heart Scholarships - Guidelines

Variety believes all children deserve a fair go and should have the opportunity to follow their dreams and fulfil their potential. The Variety Heart Scholarship supports kids with a demonstrated talent who are living with a disability, chronic illness or financial hardship, to pursue their dreams and realise their potential.

Scholarships are awarded in the areas of Sport and The Arts.

Variety Heart Scholarships are made possible by the support of our partners, the Grahame Mapp Family Foundation in honour of the late Gillian Mapp.

What are the key dates?

Applications Open - 21st April at 9am

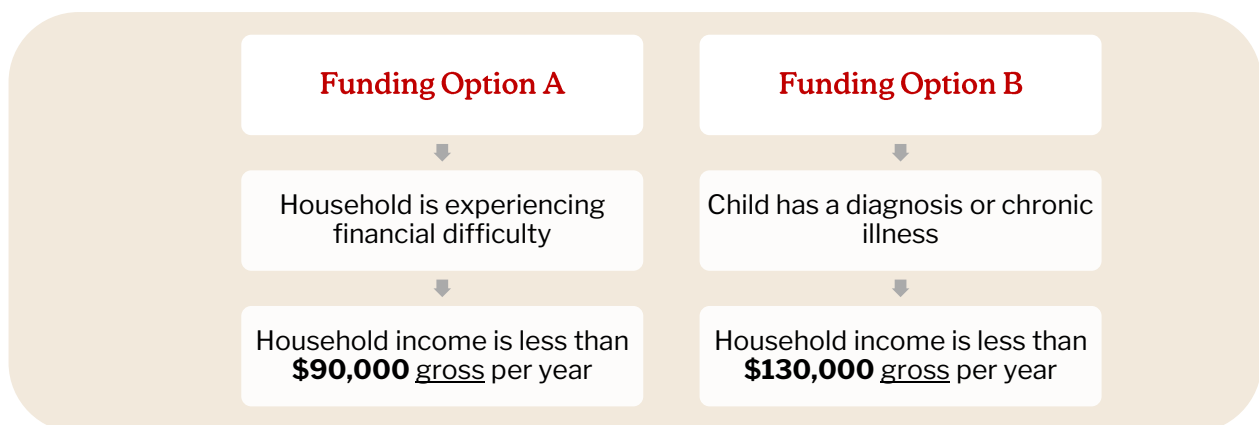
Applications Close - 21st May at 4pm

Applications are reviewed and assessed by our Grant Committee in June and you will receive an email to advise outcome towards the end of July.

Presentation Event - Saturday 12th September

Am I eligible?

- Open to residents of NSW and ACT
- Aged 8 to 18 years.
- Have a demonstrated talent.
 - can be demonstrated by the child's achievements and
 - is verified (in a support letter) by a professional in the area of talent.
- Applicants can apply under one of the following funding categories (A or B)



Note: Household income includes all money for parents and carers like wages, Centerlink, child support, and income from property or investments.



Scholarship Grants

- Scholarship funding is available within the Arts or Sports disciplines.
- Applicants may request up to \$5,000.
- The Scholarship Committee will determine the level of funding, which may include partial or full allocation of the requested amount.
- Scholarships are valid for a period of 12 months from the date of the approval letter. Any funds remaining after this period will be forfeited.
- Previous scholarship recipients are not guaranteed future scholarships.
- Unsuccessful applicants are eligible to reapply in future rounds.

What we can support:

- Examples of what the Scholarship Grant can be spent on:
 - Training programs
 - Entry or competition fees
 - Lessons or coaching
 - Registration costs
 - Necessary equipment
 - Uniforms
 - Airfare (for the child only, for travel to scholarship-related events like competitions)
 - Basic accommodation (for the child and a parent/carer attending a competition)
 - Fuel (for travel to scholarship-related events; you must provide clear fuel receipts, not just EFTPOS slips).

What we cannot support:

- The following are examples that are not eligible under the Scholarship Grant:
 - Ongoing funding repairs/maintenance of equipment
 - Insurance or warranty costs
 - Retrospective funding (reimbursement of any monies paid before a scholarship has been approved)
 - Public/private/tertiary school fees/tuition
 - Therapies, medical, health costs
 - Items or services not directly related to this child/scholarship.

If you have any questions related to the spending of funds under the scholarship, please contact the Kids Support team before applying.

How do I apply?

1. Click the “Apply Now” button to access the application portal
2. Create an account or log in and complete the online application form.
3. Upload all required supporting documents (refer to the quick checklist below)
4. Submit your application for review.
5. Applications will be reviewed by our Grants Committee with outcome letters to be sent to applicants by the end of July.



What do I need to apply?

What you'll need (quick checklist):

- ✓ Evidence of household income
- ✓ Talent support letter
- ✓ Diagnosis letter (*Funding Option B only*)

1. Household Income

- Employed (full-time, part-time, or casual):
 - Provide your two most recent payslips and
 - Centerlink Income Statement *if applicable*.
- Unemployed:
 - 3 months recent bank statement and
 - Centerlink Income Statement *if applicable*

Note: If parents are separated and one is still contributing to the child's needs (but living outside the household), financial information for both parents is required.

2. Talent Support Letter

A support letter is required from a professional person directly related to the child's talent. The letter must be on a letterhead (no older than 3 months) and needs to be able to address the following points:

- Relationship:
 - Who the writer is (e.g., coach, teacher, music tutor) and their role.
 - How long they've known the child/family.
- Talent & Achievements:
- Provide examples of the child's specific achievements in their area in the last 12 months (awards, competition results, exhibitions etc)
- Elaborate on the child's passion and commitment toward their talent
- Scholarship Impact:
 - Detail the specific ways this scholarship will support the child's growth and help them achieve their goals

For example of supporting letter, [click here](#).

3. Diagnosis Letter

**Funding Option B only*

A letter from the child's doctor (GP, Paediatrician or treating specialist) outlining the child's diagnosis, chronic illness and/or disability.

- ✓ This letter must not be older than 12 months from the date of scholarship application and on an official letterhead.





Decision

Successful Applicants

- Successful applicants will receive approval via email to the primary contact listed in the application

Unsuccessful Applicants

- Reasons pertaining to unsuccessful applications are at the discretion of the Committee and Variety NSW/ACT and will not be disclosed with the applicant.
- Unsuccessful applicants will be notified of the outcome via email to the primary contact listed in the application.

Outcome Reporting

The applicant will be requested to complete a short survey within two months of the scholarship completion. This will be emailed to the applicants parent/carer.

Outside of 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.

How to access funds after approval

Variety makes direct payments to suppliers via invoice or reimbursements are available in some circumstances. It is the family's responsibility to manage the spending of grant funds and ensure that invoices and receipts meet requirements stated on outcome letters.

Instructions on the portal will be provided upon approval.

If you require further information, please don't hesitate to contact the Kids Support team on (02) 9819 1000 or at kidssupport@variety NSW.org.au

