

Variety Heart Scholarships

Guidelines Individual NSW/ACT



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 children with a demonstrated talent in the sports or the arts who are living with a disability, chronic illness, or financial hardship, to pursue their dreams and realise their potential.

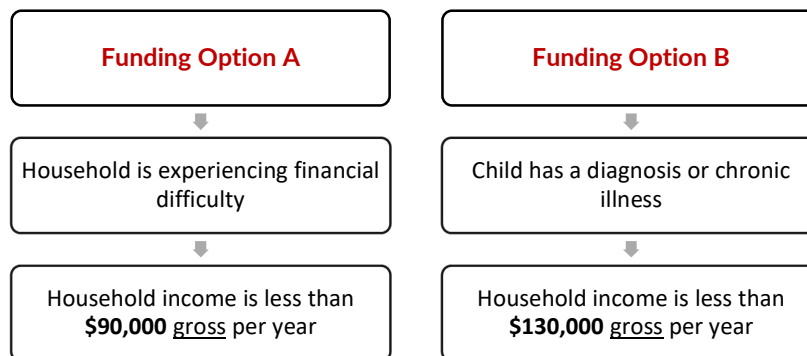
Variety Heart Scholarships are proudly presented by the Grahame Mapp Family Foundation in honour of the late Gillian Mapp.

2025 Timeline

- Thursday 1st May 2025 at 9amApplications open
- Friday 30th May 2025 at 5pm.....Applications close
- June.....Applications are reviewed and assessed by the Committee
- Mid July.....Applicants receive an email to advise them of the outcome
- September 2025.....Presentation Night

Eligibility

- Open to residents of NSW and ACT
- Aged 6 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**)



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Scholarship Grants

- Scholarship funding is available within the Arts or Sports disciplines.
- Applicants may request up to \$5,000 per application.
- 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.
- A scholarship survey is required to be submitted within two months of the scholarship's completion, using a form provided by Variety.
- Previous scholarship recipients are not guaranteed future scholarships.
- Unsuccessful applicants are eligible to reapply in future rounds.

Examples of appropriate scholarship requests

Successful applicants may spend their grant across any of the categories listed below:

- 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).

Examples of scholarship exclusions

The following requests are examples only; these are just some items which will **NOT** be considered:

- 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.

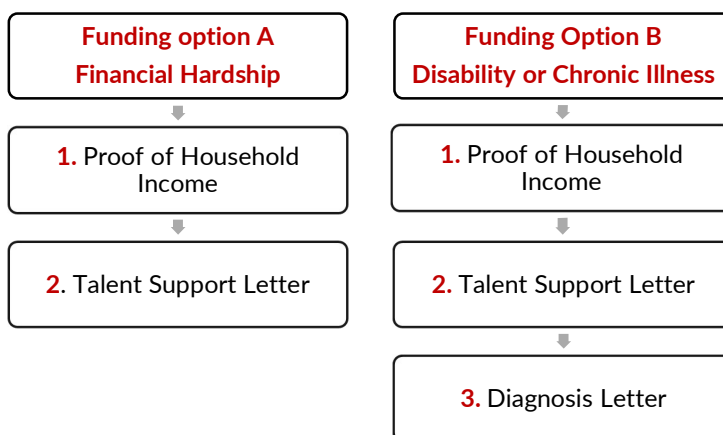
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Documentation Required

The following documentation must be attached to each application associated with either Funding A or B:



1. Income	<p>Proof of household Income:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you receive Centrelink payments (and are unemployed): Provide your latest Centrelink income statement. (You can get this online through your myGov account.) If you receive wages (full-time, part-time, or casual): Provide your most recent payslips. If you have both wages and Centrelink payments: Provide your most recent payslips and your latest Centrelink income statement. <p>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.</p>
2. Talent Support Letter	<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relationship: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who the writer is (e.g., coach, teacher, music tutor) and their role. How long they've known the child/family. Talent & Achievements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detail the specific ways this scholarship will support the child's growth and help them achieve their goals. <p>For example of supporting letter, click here.</p>
3. Diagnosis Letter	<p>Funding Option B only</p> <p>A letter from the child's doctor (GP, Paediatrician or treating specialist) outlining the child's diagnosis, chronic illness and/or disability.</p> <p>This letter must not be older than 12 months from the date of scholarship application and on an official letterhead.</p>

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Decision

Successful Applicants

- Successful applicants will receive approval via email to the primary contact listed in the application
- Any unused and/or unspent funds will be forfeited after the expiry date of the grant. The primary contact will receive regular updates regarding the scholarship balance throughout the 12 months

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.
- Unsuccessful applicants may be eligible to reapply in the following round.

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, please email them through to kidssupport@varietynew.org.au.

How to access funds after approval

Variety makes direct payments to suppliers via invoice (reimbursement is 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.

All requests for invoice payment or reimbursement must be uploaded to the applicant's account on the Variety NSW website, using the log in details provided when the application was submitted. If you require assistance managing the grant and the payments, we encourage you seek assistance from family members, friends, support workers etc.

Instructions on the portal will be provided upon approval.

Variety will not pay any invoices or provide reimbursement of any monies dated before the scholarship has been approved.

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