

WE LEARN - Education Technology Grant

Guidelines Individual NSW/ACT



Variety NSW We Learn – Education Technology grants open at **9am on 24th July** and close at **5pm on 24th August 2023**.

Please note that you will **not be able to submit your application before or after these times**.

Introduction

Variety NSW/ACT provides access to an Education Technology Grant for secondary school 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.
- Applicants must be 18 years and under.
- Students must be enrolled in full-time secondary or tertiary education, i.e. in school years 7 – 12, TAFE or other educational institution.
- Only one application per household will be considered.
- Maximum gross household income of \$55,000 per annum (excluding super).
- Previous recipients of the following technology grants may be eligible to reapply after 36 months from the date of their outcome letter:
 - a. Variety Education Supplies and Technology Grant
 - b. Variety We Learn – Education Technology Grant
- Previous 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 access a laptop and laptop sleeve via the online Harvey Norman/Variety NSW website. A link to the website will be provided to successful applicants.

The laptops have been pre-selected. The following device will be provided:

Acer Travelmate B3 and hard case. Click [HERE](#) for brochure and specifications.

There is no option to request a different brand or model, or to take funds in place of the pre-selected equipment.

Once purchases are approved by Kids Support, Harvey Norman will despatch the items directly to the grant recipient.

Applications

- Applications can be made on behalf of the students under 18 years by a parent/carers or another identified support person (medical professional, caseworker, teacher etc) aged 18 years and over or
- Applications can be made by students aged 18 years and over.

Applicants will be expected to submit a truthful and factual application and attach relevant documentation as evidence.

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Guidelines Individual NSW/ACT



Attachments/Evidence

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

1. Support Letter

We need to verify that the student is not only in full-time education, but also requires a laptop to complete their studies.

Please obtain a letter (no older than 2 months) from an education support person (ie a teacher or Principal from the school the student attends or will attend).

Please follow the instructions closely, as this letter is key to a successful application. Applications submitted without or with an incomplete support letter will be declined.

The letter must be on school letterhead and signed by the support person. It will need to address the following points:

- How is the student known to the support person,
- Is the student expected to remain in education for at least one more calendar year,
- Does the student have a good school attendance record,
- Would the student benefit from owning their own laptop/tablet to adequately complete their studies,
- Is the student currently unable to access their own laptop/tablet OR
- Is the student's currently owned laptop/tablet inadequate for purpose.

Click [HERE](#) to see an example of a Support Letter.

If your child is home schooled, please contact kidssupport@varietynew.org.au before starting your application.

2. Proof of Household Income

We need to verify the total gross household income for your family does not exceed \$55,000 per annum. This means the total income for a single parent/carer, or the total income for both parents (if living in the same property and/or financially responsible for the young person) before any tax is deducted.

For each parent/carer who is financially responsible for the child one of the following documents must be submitted:

1. If the parent/carer is receiving Centrelink benefits provide your most recent Centrelink Income Statement. (this is not your Carer Payment, Job Seeker Payment or annual PAYG Centrelink Statement which are not acceptable.)

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

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

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

Post-Submission and Assessment – 2023

Variety NSW We Learn – Education Technology grants are open from **9am on 24th July to 5pm on 24th August 2023.**

Please note that you will **not be able to submit your application before or after these times.**

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 5 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 Grants Committee.

Unsuccessful Applicants

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

Successful Applicants

- Successful applicants have 1 month from the date of approval on their outcome letter to order their laptop and case from Harvey Norman.
- It is the responsibility of the parent/carer to action all appropriate steps after receiving the outcome letter (as directed)
- Any unclaimed equipment 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@varietynsw.org.au.

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Guidelines Individual NSW/ACT



Application Steps/Process

