Variety Boost Grant

Are you aged 13–18 and in Out of Home Care (OOHC)? The Variety Boost Grant is here to give you the support you to take the next steps towards your goals—whether it's in school, work, or life.

You can apply for up to $2,000 in one-time funding to help you reach a personal goal. That might mean something for school or work, support for your wellbeing, or a chance to connect with your community. This is your chance to get the resources, services, or support you need to build your future.

Key Dates

- **Applications close:** 5pm, 13th September 2026

Are you Eligble?

- Live in NSW or ACT
- 13 to 18 years old
- Currently supported through foster care or residential care (OOHC)
- Enrolled in school, further education, or employment
- Have a clear goal and need the support to achieve it
- Have your Case Manager's support
- Not previously received a Boost Grant

What can you apply for?

This grant is all about helping you achieve your goals. Think about what will truly make a difference for you. You can only apply for one item or service per application.

Here are some examples:

- **Education & Career Support -** Help with course fees, training programs, or certification
- **Personal Growth & Life Skills-** Programs that build confidence, independence, and everyday skills
- **Community & Social Connection -** Activities that help you stay connected to your culture, identity, and community

How to Apply

A responsible adult (like a Carer, Caseworker, or Support Person) can help you to complete your application.

What to Include:

1. Your plans and support needed

- What support or item are you applying for?
- What's your goal or aspiration, and how will this grant help you achieve it?
- Details of why this item is not available through existing supports?
- Who's is helping you complete this application, and what's their relationship to you?

2. A Quote for the Item/Service

- Less than 3 months old
- Must be valid during the review process

3. Support Letter from Your Case Manager

- Confirms your care, education/employment situation
- Confirms the person applying is the right person to handle the grant
- Opportunity to add anything else that supports your application
- You can add extra info here if it helps you explain their goals, challenges, or why this support matters—please only include what is relevant to the grant.

What isn't covered by the grant?

Some things can't be covered by the grant. These include:

- Things that should be funded by other government agencies (e.g. DCJ, NDIS, Medicare)
- Items already bought or ordered before approval received
- Ongoing costs (like maintenance, insurance, or building work)
- Paying off debts or emergency/crisis payments
- Non-essential items (like gaming consoles or expensive items)
- Respite, holiday camps and care programs
- Anything that doesn't directly support your goal
- Laptops, iPads and Computers

Not sure if your request is eligible? Contact the **Kids Support team** before applying.

What Happens Next?

If You're Successful

- You'll hear from us in **September 2026**
- Funds are paid **directly to suppliers** (reimbursement may be possible in some cases)
- You'll have **3 months** to use the grant, any unused money after that time will no longer be available

The person who applied on your behalf will receive all updates and manage the grant

If You're Not Successful

- You'll be notified through the person who applied for you
- We can't fund every application (even though we'd love to!)
- If you miss out this time, don't give up—you can apply again in 12 months' time

Share Your Story

At the end of your grant period, we'll ask you to fill out a short survey to let us know how the grant helped you.

We'd also love to hear how you're doing—big wins, small steps, and everything in between! Sharing your story helps us improve the program and inspire others.

Want to share something now or later? Email: **kidssupport@varietynsw.org.au**

Need Help?

Got questions? We're here for you.
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(02) 9819 1000