

# Therapy Grant Guidelines

## Variety NSW/ACT

### Introduction

The Therapy Grant provides financial assistance towards the cost of therapy for children with a diagnosis or condition and who are not eligible for NDIS funding. The grant is up to the value of \$2000 over a 12-month period.

These guidelines have been updated. Please make sure you follow them for all applications from 1 September 2025. **Please note that assessments and report writing by allied health professionals are no longer funded by this grant.**

### Eligibility

- Children aged 0 – 18 years
- All residents of NSW and ACT can apply, including non-citizens, temporary visa holders and refugees.
- Child must either:
  - Have a confirmed diagnosis documented by a Paediatrician, General Practitioner or other appropriately qualified Medical Professional
  - OR
  - be suspected of having a condition that has been documented by an appropriate Medical Professional that is likely to require ongoing therapy but not yet formally diagnosed
- **Household gross income is below \$80,000 per annum**
  - This is before tax and other deductions
  - Includes any government payments, child support, investments, and overseas income; and
  - Any other income that is received by a parent/carer financially responsible for the applicant.
- **NDIS eligibility**
  - The Therapy Grant is available to children who DO NOT have NDIS funding and are not eligible to apply. This includes children:
    - who do not meet NDIS residence requirements
    - who do not meet NDIS early intervention requirements
    - who do not meet NDIS disability requirements
  - Children who have applied for NDIS and are awaiting a decision on their NDIS plan are NOT eligible for the Therapy grant.

### Eligible Therapy requests

The Therapy Grant can only fund the therapies listed below. The requested therapies must directly relate to the child's diagnosis and be supported by documentation from a Paediatrician, General Practitioner or other appropriate Medical Professional. Once the grant is approved, the selected therapies cannot be changed.

- Physiotherapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Speech Therapy
- Hydrotherapy
- Psychology
- Exercise Physiology
- Mental Health Social Worker

### Non-eligible requests

- Request to fund costs to see a paediatrician or another medical professional
- Request to fund assessments or report writing by allied health professionals
- Request for therapy not listed as eligible in these guidelines
- Retrospective funding – only services provided after approval of grant are eligible
- Applicant who has applied for a Therapy Grant within the last 12 months

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### Your application

- Will be accepted all year round.
- Are made on behalf of child by parent/carer or identified support person over 18 years
- If you need assistance completing the application form, please seek help from a support person such as; a health professional, caseworker, teacher, therapist, family member or friend.

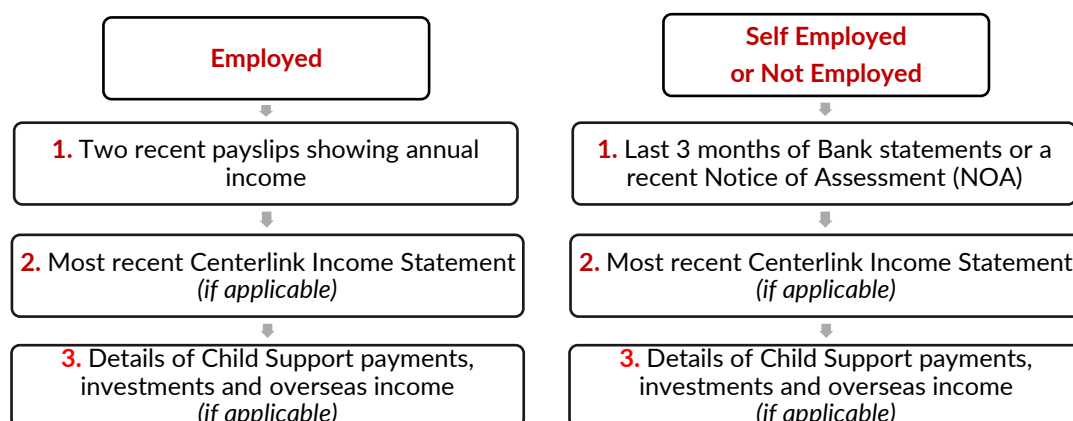
### Required documentation

Applicants are expected to submit a truthful and factual application and attach all requested documentation. Incomplete applications risk being delayed and, in some cases, denied.

1. A **GP or Paediatrician** signed letter on their official letterhead, outlining the child's diagnosis/condition and the referral to the therapy (i.e. OT, Physio etc.).
  - Child's diagnosis/condition
  - Referral to requested therapy
  - Please ensure document is dated within 3 months from date of submission

#### 2. Household Income

Each parent/carer who is financially responsible for the child must provide the following documents based on their employment status. It is important that you provide the correct information as we are unable to consider applications with insufficient financial evidence.



3. **NDIS** – If you have applied for NDIS, please upload your most recent communication.

### Need help finding the right document?

- To access your Centrelink Income Statement from Centrelink please follow the below link: <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/centrelink-online-account-help-request-document>
- To access your Notice of Assessment from the ATO please follow the below link: <https://www.ato.gov.au/individuals-and-families/your-tax-return/check-the-progress-of-your-return-and-refund/your-notice-of-assessment>

### Review and Approval of grant applications

Each application is assessed by the Kids Support team on its own merit. Eligible submissions are presented to the Grants Committee at monthly meetings who make the final decision.

You will receive notification by email when your application has been assessed. Please allow up to 8 weeks for the review process to be completed.

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Unsuccessful applications are at the discretion of the Grants Committee and are eligible to reapply in 12 months. Reasons pertaining to unsuccessful applications are at the discretion of the Grants Committee and will not be disclosed to the applicant.

### Successful applications

- An outcome letter is sent via email outlining how to use the grant.
- Successful applicants have 12 months from the date of approval to use their grant

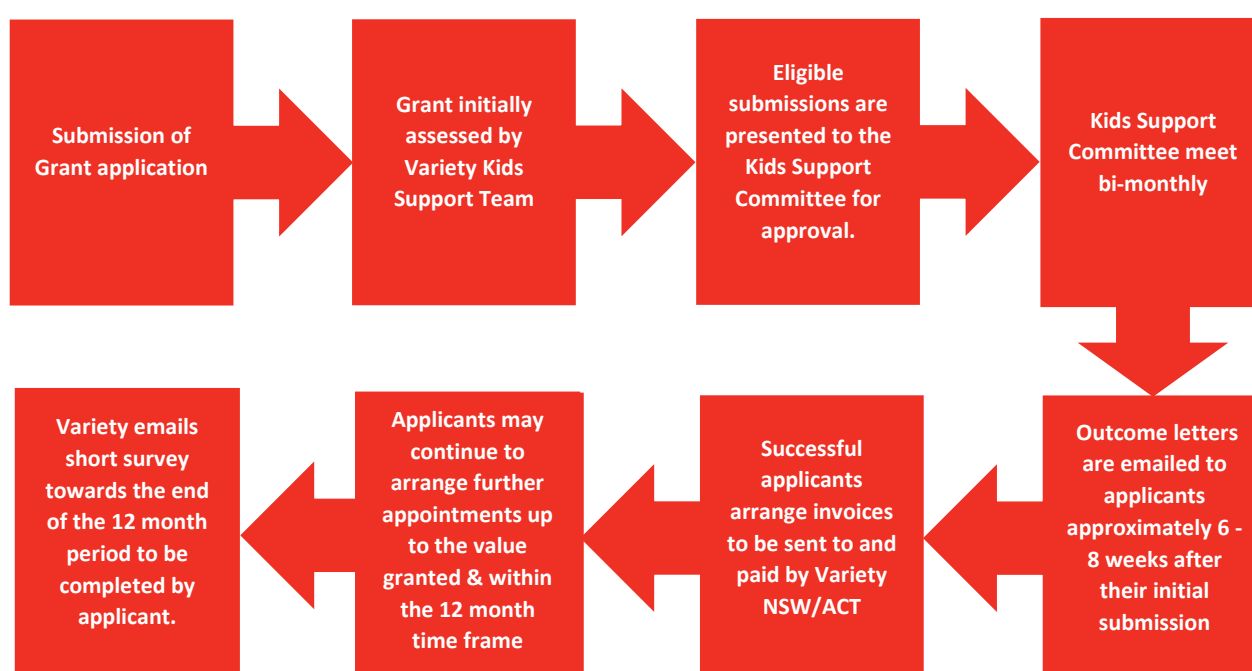
### Payment of Therapy Services

- It is the responsibility of the parent/carer to upload tax invoices to the online Variety portal for payment as directed in the outcome letter.
- Therapy providers must provide a tax invoice payable to Variety – The Children's Charity NSW/ACT for the approved therapy.
- Variety NSW/ACT does not provide money directly to applicants unless an itemised receipt showing proof of payment for approved therapy is available.
- Any unspent funds will be forfeited after the expiry date of the grant.

### Further Information

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Kids Support team on [kidssupport@varietynewsw.org.au](mailto:kidssupport@varietynewsw.org.au)

### Application Steps/Process



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