

Variety Heart Scholarships FAQ's



What is a Variety Heart Scholarship?

The Variety Heart Scholarship is designed to support children with a demonstrated talent who are living with a disability, chronic illness or financial hardship, to reach the next stage of development in their area of talent.

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

Who can apply for a Variety Heart Scholarship?

Applicants must be:

- Aged 6 to 18 years;
- Australian Citizens or Permanent Residents;
- Residents of NSW or ACT; and
- Have a demonstrated talent in one of these areas; The Arts, Sport or Education.

Applicants must apply under one of the following categories:

- Funding Option A: Financial (max. household income after tax no greater than \$5500 per month); **OR**
- Funding Option B: Disability or chronic illness (child must have a diagnosis and max. household income after tax no greater than \$7500 per month).

What does Variety look for when assessing applications?

First and foremost, an applicant must meet all eligibility requirements. In addition to reviewing each applicant based on their own merit we will also look for the following

- Clear concise information. Define exactly what the child requires and why
- Correct legible attachments
- Support letters from an appropriate professional person that directly discuss and focus on the child's talent and clearly stipulate what achievements they have attained

If the application is not clear and/or doesn't include requested information or attachments it may be declined.

What if I need help completing an application?

We strongly recommend speaking to your support professionals, caseworkers, and teachers etc to assist you during the process. If you require any further support or clarification please contact the Kids Support Team on kidssupport@varietyNSW.org.au or at 9819 1000.

What is a demonstrated talent?

A demonstrated talent is one which has developed over time and can be identified by a child's achievements and verified by professionals in that area of talent.

My child has previously been granted a Variety Heart Scholarship – can they apply again?

Yes, previous recipients who also meet the eligibility criteria are welcome to apply again for consideration.

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What is the decision making process for Variety Heart Scholarships?

Once submitted, all applications are pre-assessed by the Kids Support Team to ensure they meet the eligibility criteria. Then, all eligible applications are considered by the Variety Heart Scholarships Committee. This committee is made up of experts in areas of The Arts, Sport and Education and each application is assessed on its own merit. All decisions are at the discretion of this Committee.

Which documents do we need to apply for a Variety Heart Scholarship?

If applying under Funding Option A. Financial:

- Proof of household income (i.e. payslips, [ATO Notice of assessment](#), Centrelink statements etc.); and
- Support Letter from a professional person directly related to the child's talent.

If applying under Funding Option B. Disability or Chronic Illness:

- Proof of household income (i.e. payslips, [ATO Notice of assessment](#), Centrelink statements etc.); and
- Support Letter from a professional person directly related to the child's talent
- Diagnosis letter from GP/Paediatrician addressing the child's diagnosis/disability.

Please note this is an overview of the documents required – for more information [click here](#) for the Guidelines.

What is the purpose of the Support Letter?

The purpose of the support letter is to provide evidence and acknowledgment of the child's talent. The Committee relies heavily on this document when reviewing applications.

Who should be the 'Professional' person writing the Support Letter?

This professional person needs to confidently address the child's talent and so must be directly related to the area of talent and should know the child and their achievements.

Here are [examples](#) of appropriate support people under each area of talent:

- **THE ARTS** Dance, Art or Music Tutors/Teachers
- **SPORT** Coaches, Sporting Organisations
- **EDUCATION** Teachers, Principal, Tutors

Why is there a household income limitation?

The aim of the Variety Heart Scholarships is to assist kids with reaching their full potential in their area of talent, where they might not otherwise be afforded the opportunity to do so.

A maximum monthly household income has been set to ensure we are reaching these families.

At Variety we appreciate that there can be additional financial responsibilities and costs when a child is diagnosed with a disability or a chronic illness and for this reason have set different income limitations for option A and B.

In addition to the household income, we will review all aspects of an application and take this into consideration in the assessment process.



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Do Variety Heart Scholarship recipients get cash?

Variety pays suppliers directly on invoice.

What can I apply for as part of a Variety Heart Scholarships?

Some examples of what Variety Heart Scholarships can fund:

- Training
- Entry/Competition
- Lessons/Tuition
- Supplies/Resources
- Courses
- Equipment
- Registration Costs
- Uniforms
- Accommodation (for the child, such as attending a competition)
- Travel for the child for Air fares, bus fares, train fares such as, attending a competition (excluding car related expenses)

Is there a presentation night for scholarships?

Approved recipients will be invited to a presentation night which normally occurs 6-8 weeks after the closing date. This exciting night is a special time to celebrate the successful recipients with all the fan fair of fun and games!

When do 2018 Variety Heart Scholarship applications open and close? When will we find out if we are successful?

This year, applications open 9am 1st June 2018 and close 5pm 31st July. All applicants will receive an outcome via email or phone by 31st August 2018.

How do I apply?

Click [here](#) between Friday 1st June and 31st July 2018.

Where can I find out more information?

For more information, please refer to the Variety Heart Scholarship [Guidelines](#).

We are here to help so please call and ask to speak to one of our friendly Kids Support Coordinators on 02 9819 1000 or email kidssupport@varietyNSW.org.au if you have any questions.