

# WE LEARN – Educational Supplies Grant

## Guidelines Individual NSW/ACT



### Introduction

Variety NSW/ACT promotes inclusivity for children at school. The \$500 We Learn - Education Supplies Grant provides children who are living with financial hardship access to education supplies and resources they may not otherwise have been able to afford.

### Eligibility

- Applicants must live in NSW or ACT.
- Applications can only be accepted for children aged 4 to 18 years.
- Maximum gross household income of \$70,000 per annum (excluding super).
- Previous recipients of an educational supplies grant may be eligible to apply 12 months from the date listed on their outcome letter.
- Unsuccessful applicants may be eligible to reapply 12 months after the date listed on their outcome letter.

### Education Technology Grant – Suppliers

Successful applicants have 6 months from the date of approval on their outcome letter to use their grant. Successful applicants will be able to utilise the grant to pay for items they select from the following stores/suppliers **ONLY**:

- Big W
- Lowes
- School attended by beneficiary (Uniform shop or school office).

### Educational Supplies – Eligible purchases

#### Big W or Lowes

- School uniform plain items only, no patterned or branded items (no underwear or socks, unless purchased from a school uniform shop as part of regulation school uniform)
- School shoes, maximum total two pairs: plain black school shoes or sport shoes, (no casual shoes)
- School stationery: exercise books, pens, pencils, ruler, eraser, pencil case, files and folders
- Calculator and USB memory stick
- School textbooks
- School bag (any backpack)
- Lunch box (one only)
- Drink bottles (maximum two)

#### Child's School

- School uniform.
- School books/stationery packs.
- School excursions/incursions (Please note an incursion is defined as an activity organised by the school, whereby an outside body is employed to come into the school to run an educational activity for the students.)
- School Camp (facilitated through the school they are attending only. This is for the camp fee only and does not include any additional costs)

### Education Grant- Non eligible purchases

The following are examples of items that will not be covered by the grant:

- Retrospective funding – only items purchased **after** the approval date are eligible to claim from the grant.
- School fees/tuition fees (including elective subjects and extra-curricular activities e.g. sport, dance, art)
- Fees/clothing/accessories for out of school/non-school work or intern placements
- Servicing or maintenance
- Installation costs
- Insurance

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- Food
- Underwear or socks (unless purchased from a school uniform shop)
- Non-school textbooks (e.g fiction, puzzles, magazines)
- DVDs or CDs
- Games, electronic or board games
- Technology such as mobile phones, computers or accessories, tablets or gaming accessories
- Furniture of any description
- Printer supplies or ink cartridges

### Application

- Applications are made on behalf of the child by a parent/carer or another identified support person (medical professional, caseworker, teacher etc) aged 18 years and over.
- Applicants will be expected to submit a truthful and factual application and attach relevant documentation as evidence.
- A maximum of two applications per household will be considered.

### Attachments/Evidence

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

1. A letter (no older than 3 months) from an education support person, i.e. a teacher or Principal from the school your child attends, or will attend. This letter must be on school letterhead and will need to address the following points for the application to be considered:
  - Who they are, i.e. teacher or Principal, what role they play in the child's life and how long they have known the child.
  - What are the needs of the child and why the family requires this assistance through Variety.

2. Proof of household Income:

For all applicants: your latest ATO Income statement: 2020/21 or 2019/20 are acceptable.

PLUS

- I. If unemployed and receiving Centrelink payments: your most recent activity statement. (You can view, download, or request a copy of your activity statement via your Centrelink online account through myGov).
- II. If employed (full time, part time or casual) and receiving wages: your most recent payslip. This must show your annual income.
- III. If employed and receiving Centrelink payments: your most recent payslip and Centrelink activity statement.

**If parents are separated and one is still contributing to the child's needs (but living outside the household), their financial documentation is also required.**

### Post-Submission and Assessment – 2021

Variety NSW We Learn – Educational Supplies grants will be open from 26<sup>th</sup> July to 3rd September 2021 . 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 8 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.

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### Decision

Outcome letters are emailed to applicants when their applications have been assessed by the Kids Support Committee.

#### Unsuccessful Applicants

- Reasons pertaining to unsuccessful applications are at the discretion of the Kids Support Committee

#### Successful Applicants

- Successful applicants have 6 months from the date of approval on their outcome letter to use their grant.
- No retrospective funding is eligible.
- It is the responsibility of the parent/carer to action all appropriate steps after receiving the outcome letter (as directed).
- Any unspent funds 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@variety NSW.org.au](mailto:kidssupport@variety NSW.org.au).

### Application Steps/Process

