

Variety - the Children's Charity of Queensland

Guidelines – Individual Grants



Thank you for your interest in applying for a grant from Variety – the Children's Charity of Queensland.

Eligibility:

- Applications may be made on behalf of a child who is sick, disadvantaged or has special needs.
- Applications will only be considered for children aged up to 17 years (applications must be received and finalised before the child's eighteenth birthday).
- Applications may be made on behalf of children who reside in QLD.
- Variety Queensland does not give cash donations; funding supports the purchase of equipment and tangible items, and Variety Queensland pays the supplier of the equipment directly.
- Variety Queensland will not approve applications where alternative funding sources are available. This includes NDIS eligible items. Proof of any unsuccessful alternative funding should be included in your application.
- Variety Queensland will consider gap funding, once you have proof of successful funding.
- Funding cannot be approved retrospectively (if you have already purchased equipment).
- Applications will not be funded if the child has received funding from Variety within the past 6 months.
- The Kids Support Committee will assess each grant thoroughly. Additional information may be required and, in this instance, Variety will contact you or your referees.
- Please make sure the following documents are submitted along with your application:
 - Financial income documentation e.g. Payslips, Centrelink income statement
 - Three quotes for each piece of equipment requested, less than 3 months old (this clause is void if the applicant is in a remote area and only one supplier is available and / or only one supplier offers the equipment requested)
 - Supporting medical documentation from two professional sources stating that the equipment is necessary (Medical Practitioner, Occupational Therapist, Social Worker, Principal or Teacher)

Assessment, Decision and Reporting:

- Submissions are assessed by the Variety Kids Support Team.
- Eligible submissions are presented to the CEO and independent Kids Support Committee made up of allied health professionals for review.
- They are then presented to the Board of Directors for final approval.
- Board meetings are held once per month.
- The deliberation process may take 12-16 weeks from the time the application is submitted. Every submitted application will receive written confirmation of the outcome of their application.
- If approved, a purchase order will be raised by Variety Queensland and sent to the supplier directly.
- Payment will never be made directly to an applicant.
- When the equipment is delivered, the ownership is transferred directly from the supplier to the applicant family, and Warranty claims must be made directly with the supplier
- Successful applicants may not reapply to Variety for further equipment for a fixed time period. Applications on behalf of individuals must wait 6 months after a successful application.
- The Applicant cannot transfer the money Variety granted to another piece of equipment.
- If the equipment is still in working order and in good condition, and no longer necessary for the child, Variety asks the parent/carer ask their local therapist/doctor to donate the equipment to a suitable recipient.
- Successful applicants will be asked to complete a short survey to help Variety measure their impact. This will be emailed to the applicants.
- 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@varietyqld.org.au. Furthermore, if you are willing, we may invite you to join us at a Variety event to share your story.

Example of Grant requests:

Please note these items are examples and funding is not limited to those listed below. Funding per individual child does not exceed \$10,000

- Freedom – provides funding for mobility equipment
 - Wheelchairs, Standing frames, Bikes/trikes/modified tricycles, Postural splints, Shower/bath/Toilet chairs, Walkers, Cochlear ear implants, Assistance dogs
- Future – provides children with intellectual or physical disability access to equipment
 - iPad, Laptop, Specialised software, Educational items, Other communication devices, Sports Wheelchair
- Caring – helps parents care for their seriously ill children at home
 - Nebulisers, Insulin pumps, Feeds, Ventilators, Oxygen Pumps, Seizure Alarm & Mats, Specialised Beds/mattresses

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What we won't fund:

- Capital Works e.g. Vehicle and home modifications, anything affixed to a building
 - Medical and health consultations
 - Spas/swimming pools
 - Communication devices for recreational use
 - School fees/salaries/wages
 - Ongoing funding, such as repairs or maintenance of equipment
 - Salaries or administration expenses
 - Carer expenses
 - Respite
 - Research
 - Vehicles for individuals / families
 - Travel expenses
 - General and cash donations
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- Successful applications require funds be spent within three months of the approval date. Upon expiration, the grant will lapse and a new application will need to be submitted.
 - Please read and answer all questions on the application form carefully – additional information can be emailed in to kidssupport@varietyqld.org.au with your reference number in the subject.
 - Variety Queensland are unable to see your application while in progress and can only view once it is submitted.
 - If you are unsure if your request meets our guidelines or have further questions, please contact the Kids Support team via kidssupport@varietyqld.org.au or 07 3907 9300