

Variety – the Children’s Charity of Queensland

Community Grant Guidelines



Thank you for your interest in applying for a Community Grant from Variety – the Children’s Charity of Queensland.

Community grants support the purchase of items or expenses that enhance access, inclusion, and opportunity for children aged 0–17 who are experiencing any of the following:

- Financial disadvantage
- Geographic isolation
- Disability or chronic illness.

Application Requirements

Applicants must submit a truthful and complete application with supporting documentation, including:

- Contact details of an authorised representative
- Organisations’ business details
- Information about the children who will benefit
- Details of the requested item(s), including supplier details and quotes (no older than 3 months)
- Expected outcomes and impact.

Assessment, Decision & Reporting

- Applications are reviewed by the Variety Kids Support Team, then presented to the General Manager, Kids Support Committee (including allied health professionals), and finally the Board of Directors
- The Board meets monthly; the full process may take up to 12–16 weeks
- All applicants will receive written notification of the outcome
- If approved, Variety will request an updated invoice with Variety Queensland’s billing details from the supplier
- Payments will be made directly to the supplier or to the school, never to the applicant
- Equipment ownership transfers from the supplier to the organisation; warranty claims must be made directly with the supplier
- Funds must be used within 3 months of approval or the grant will lapse and funds will be reallocated
- Successful applicants will be asked to complete a short impact survey 3 months after receiving the grant.

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Eligibility

Grant applications are capped at **\$15,000**. If you are requesting funding above this amount due to special circumstances, please provide a detailed justification within your application.

Schools may apply for a Community Grant for items such as equipment for school programs. They may also apply for up to \$5,000 in discretionary funding as a cash grant towards essential school items such as textbooks and uniforms. Applications for discretionary funding must be submitted separately. An acquittal will be required for this funding.

To be eligible for a Variety QLD Community Grant:

- The organisation or school must be based and operating in Queensland
- The grant must directly impact children aged 0-17 who are experiencing any of the following: Financial disadvantage, geographic isolation or living with a disability or chronic illness
- Only Queensland State or Special Schools are eligible to apply
- Private organisations are not eligible to apply
- Retrospective funding is not permitted – items already purchased prior to approval are ineligible
- Organisations must wait a minimum of 12 months after receiving a grant before submitting a new application
- The request must have a direct impact on the children the organisation supports.

Items must directly benefit the individual and align with the **Care, Freedom, or Future** pillars. Some examples include:

Pillar	Definition	Key Indicators	Example Request Types
FREEDOM	Supports mobility, independence, and access to experiences that allow kids to play, explore, and engage with the world.	- Mobility aids - Accessibility equipment - Increased Community access - Independence-building tools	Wheelchairs, walkers, or mobility scooters, modified bikes or trikes, assistive tech for physical access
FUTURE	Removes barriers to education and personal development, helping kids reach their full potential.	- Educational tools and technology - Learning support - Talent development	Laptops or tablets for school or learning, School camps or excursions with learning outcomes, Speech/OT tools that support academic engagement

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Pillar	Definition	Key Indicators	Example Request Types
CARE	Provides essential support for physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing.	- Health-related equipment - Safety and emergency resources	Medical devices (e.g. insulin pumps, feeding pumps), Emergency kits or defibrillators, Specialised beds

What We Don't Fund

- Retrospective purchases (items or services already paid for)
- Cash payments to applicants (Variety pays suppliers directly)
- Duplicate funding (items covered by NDIS or other sources unless proof of unsuccessful attempts is provided)
- Sunshine Coaches or modifications to them
- Vehicles
- Capital works (e.g. renovations, construction)
- Installation costs (e.g. setup or fitting of equipment)
- Insurance (for equipment or services)
- Servicing or maintenance (ongoing upkeep of equipment)
- Employment or contractor wages
- Administrative costs (general overheads or office expenses)
- Programs or activities without lasting impact
- Equipment intended solely for individual students.

Additional Information

- Please read and complete all sections of the application form carefully
- Variety is unable to view applications until they are submitted
- From time to time, we may also invite families or recipients to share their experiences at a Variety event.

We love hearing how our grants have made a difference! Feel free to share updates or stories about your child’s progress and achievements by emailing us.

If you have any questions or need help with your application, please reach out to our Kids Support team at kidssupport@varietyqld.org.au or call 07 3907 9300.