# Variety - the Children's Charity of Queensland

## **Individual Grant Guidelines**



Thank you for your interest in applying for an Individual Grant from Variety – the Children's Charity of Queensland.

Individual 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:

- Financial income documentation (e.g. pay slips, Centrelink income statement)
- Three quotes for each item requested (no older than 3 months; exceptions apply for remote areas or unique suppliers)
- Supporting documentation from two professionals is required, including confirmation of diagnosis (if applicable) and need for equipment (if applicable). At least one of these professionals must be a medical practitioner. Other acceptable sources include a occupational therapist, social worker, principal, or teacher.

#### **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 or purchase the equipment directly based on the information provided in the grant application
- Payments will be made directly to the supplier, never to the applicant
- Equipment ownership transfers from the supplier to the individual; 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**

To be eligible for a Variety QLD Individual Grant:

- The child must reside in Queensland
- The child must be an Australian citizen or permanent resident
- Applications must be made on behalf of a child aged 0-17 years (applications must be submitted and finalised before the child's 18th birthday)
- Variety will not approve applications for items covered by NDIS
- Retrospective funding is not permitted items already purchased prior to approval are ineligible
- Individuals must wait a minimum of 6 months after receiving a grant before submitting a new application.

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.	<ul> <li>Mobility aids or transport</li> <li>Accessibility equipment</li> <li>Increased Community access</li> <li>Independence-building tools</li> </ul>	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.	<ul><li>Educational tools and technology</li><li>Learning support</li><li>Talent development</li></ul>	Laptops or tablets for school or learning, School camps or excursions with learning outcomes, Speech/OT tools that support academic engagement
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

Grant applications are capped at \$10,000. If you are requesting funding above this amount due to special circumstances, please provide a detailed justification within your application.

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#### We are unable to fund:

- Retrospective purchases (already paid for)
- Cash payments to applicants
- Duplicate funding (e.g. NDIS-covered items without proof of unsuccessful attempts)
- Vehicles (including Sunshine Coaches and modifications)
- Capital works (e.g. renovations, home or vehicle modifications, anything affixed to buildings)
- Installation costs (e.g. setup or fitting of equipment)
- Insurance, servicing, or maintenance
- Medical or health consultations
- Spas or swimming pools
- Assistance or therapy dogs
- Carer expenses and respite care
- School fees, salaries, or administration costs
- Recreational communication devices
- Travel expenses
- Programs or activities without lasting impact
- Research
- General or cash donations.

#### **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.