

Frequently Asked Questions

Q1 What is the *Youth Opportunities* program?

- A. The program provides time-limited grants for **new** projects which enable young people to lead and participate in community development activities.

The Program is based on the principles of:

- inclusiveness and participation (targeting all young people)
- building young people's knowledge and skills
- partnering with young people
- developing community based networks.

Q2 How can you apply for a grant from the program?

- A. Applicants can read about eligibility and how to apply for a grant at www.youth.nsw.gov.au/youth-opportunities/

Q3 What is the program target group?

- A. The program is targeted to young people aged 12 to 25 who are transitioning from childhood to adulthood and from dependence to independence. This includes young people who face disadvantage.

Q4 How much funding is available?

- A. Up to \$1.5 million is available for grants between \$10,000 and \$50,000 each to deliver *Youth Opportunities* projects.

Q5 Which organisations can apply for funding?

- A. Applications are invited from incorporated non-government organisations and from local government.

During the application assessment process, checks will be conducted to confirm eligibility and financial viability of organisations. More information is included in the Program Guidelines which are available at www.youth.nsw.gov.au/youth-opportunities/

Q6 Will my application be ineligible if I do not have an ABN?

- A. No – However in order to receive grant payments successful applicants will require an ABN or provide a “Statement by a Supplier” form.

To apply for an ABN contact the Australian Taxation Office on 132 866 or visit www.business.gov.au

Q7 Which organisations cannot be funded?

- A. Applications from state and federal government agencies, schools, individuals and for-profit organisations cannot be considered for funding under the program guidelines.

More information is included in the Program Guidelines which are available at www.youth.nsw.gov.au/youth-opportunities/

Q8 What sort of projects can be funded?

- A. The program seeks to fund projects which address issues that are important to young people. Applicants are to make sure they engage young people in the initial 'Identifying the need' stage of the project (see Program Guidelines 'Life Cycle of a Youth Opportunities Project') to ensure the project is responsive to the needs of young people.

Project themes have been suggested based on what young people have told the government and other organisations about what is important to them:

- Community inclusion and participation
- COVID-19
- Cultural identity and connection
- Cyber safety and awareness
- Domestic and Family violence
- Financial literacy (budgeting, rent, phone, contracts, fines)
- Health and wellbeing
- Homelessness/housing
- Young people impacted by drought

Projects may seek to address one of these issues or they may address other issues raised by young people which they consider important in their local communities.

Q9 What types of projects cannot be funded?

- A. Funding is not available for:
- projects run in schools as part of the curriculum or other areas of school responsibility
 - projects involving interstate or overseas travel, scholarships and/or conferences
 - projects that case-manage or provide counselling to young people.

Q10 When does the funding round open and close?

- A. The funding round opens on Monday, 10 August 2020 and closes at 5:00pm Monday, 28 September 2020.

Deadline for applications is **5:00pm on Monday, 28 September 2020**. Applications submitted after the advertised closing date will not be accepted

Q11 Should my grant request include GST?

- A. No. For those organisations registered for GST we will pay the approved grant amount plus 10%.

Q12 Will all applicants receive funding?

- A. No. Funding for projects will be determined through an open and competitive assessment process.

Q13 How will applications be assessed?

- A. Applications will be assessed on merit by Assessment Panels. Applicants are to ensure that
- the project clearly aligns with the purpose of the Youth Opportunities program (see Program Guidelines 'Program Purpose')
 - the application clearly demonstrates that young people have had and will have meaningful input at every stage of the project (See Program Guidelines 'Life Cycle of a Youth Opportunities Project')
 - the application clearly addresses each objective (see Program Guidelines 'Project Objectives')
 - the project proposal represents good value for money.

Recommendations for funding will be made to the Minister responsible for Youth for consideration.

Q14 If successful, what type of contract will I have to enter into?

- A. Successful applicants will be required to enter into a Funding Agreement with the Department of Communities and Justice.

Q15 Can I get assistance with my application for funding?

- A. We are unable to comment or provide guidance on your specific project/idea, however if you have questions about the application process including eligibility please contact the Department of Communities Services and Justice for further information.

Please also make sure you have read the Program Guidelines thoroughly www.youth.nsw.gov.au/youth-opportunities/

Q16 Who can I contact for further information?

Anthea Wilson on 02 8753 8430
Email all inquiries to youth@facs.nsw.gov.au