



# YOUTH GRANTS 2019

## Background of the Youth Grants

The aim of Deaf Children Australia's Youth Grants Program is to recognise the ideas and achievements of young deaf and hard of hearing people from all over Australia, and to help them achieve their goals.

The program was established in 2000 with support from our philanthropic partners. Deaf Children Australia adds to this Victorian funding to make the Youth Grants available Australia-wide.

## Conditions

1. Applicants must be deaf or hard of hearing.
2. The age range is 15 – 23 years of age, not having reached the age of 24 before completion of the project.
3. The grants are issued on an annual basis, and are valid for the year of application only. For example, from July 2019 – June 2020, unless otherwise stated and agreed with Deaf Children Australia. Please contact us if you cannot start your project this year.
4. Grant applications are open to individuals or small groups [maximum six young people], and each individual must complete the application form expressing how he or she will benefit from the project.
5. Grants may be made up to the value of \$2,500; depending on the number and type of applications.
6. Applicants must be Australian residents.
7. Funds will be reimbursed only on presentation of receipts/invoices and the appropriate claim form.
8. **Grants must be claimed by 31 March 2020** or the allocated grant will be withdrawn and used for the 2019 Youth Grants. Applicants may in special circumstances apply for an extension of time to spend their grant.
9. Priority will be given to new applicants.
10. Applications for a grant for similar projects in subsequent years will not be considered. However, applicants can apply each year for different projects.
11. Each person who receives a Youth Grant must complete a Project Report within 30 days after their project is completed (see Project Report guidelines below).
12. Successful applicants must also agree to Deaf Children Australia using information about the

project to help raise community awareness.

13. Successful applicants need to allow DCA to publish their reports and share their stories to inspire other young people who are deaf or hard of hearing.
14. Successful applicants must acknowledge the support provided by Deaf Children Australia's youth grants in any publication, social media or other publicity connected with the project.

## Personal and Community Benefits

Each grant application will need to demonstrate how this project will help you reach your potential and inspire other young deaf and hard of hearing people. You may also demonstrate a benefit to the deaf and hard of hearing community, or wider communities throughout Australia,

Benefits will vary depending upon each project and grant category. Some projects may provide a direct community benefit as a result of the activities undertaken by the recipient. For example, running a social club for young deaf and hard of hearing children or establishing a horse riding school for other young people with disabilities. Or the benefit may come from sharing your experiences with others and inspiring them to reach their own potential.

Deaf Children Australia wants the grant winners to inspire other deaf or hard of hearing children and young people to achieve their full potential and provide positive deaf role models.

### Your project could be based on:

- **Personal Development** - A dream, ambition or personal goal that may boost self-esteem and contribute to personal development, for example, showing off creative talents through an art exhibition or a play, or pursuing a passion like overseas travel.
- **Deaf Community & Culture** - Exploring an aspect of Deaf Community and Culture; such as exploring other people's life experiences and values, visiting a Deaf facility in another state or overseas, volunteering to work at a Deaf facility, attending an exchange program overseas, studying the history of the Deaf community or visiting deaf and hard of hearing children in isolated/rural areas
- **Leadership Challenges** - Funding to develop your leadership skills and provide a positive image of a young deaf or hard of hearing person to the wider community. Recipients could set up a deaf youth club or establish a sporting club for young deaf and hard of hearing people or young people with disabilities.
- **Education** – Opportunities to expand your educational experiences at Secondary, TAFE or university levels. This could be attending a special conference or event that is related to your course to help develop career opportunities.
- **Life Experience** – For example, participating in a team sport and representing your state or Australia against other teams and competitors.

## Reporting on your project

After you have completed your project, you must submit a project report to DCA telling us about your project, why you chose to do it, and what you learnt. Here are some questions you might consider:

- What did completing this project mean to you? What did you learn from it?
- What did this project allow you to achieve?
- Why did you decide to apply for this project? Is it an activity offered at your school or sports club, or just your own idea?  
Does this project fit into your future goals – eg is it helping you towards your future career, or is it a skill you want to develop further?

Project reports should be approximately one page long in writing. Or you could provide an Auslan or spoken English video, or allow us to interview you about your project. We love to publish photos as well so please include them if you have them!

## Applications that will not be considered

The following types of projects **WILL NOT** receive funding from Deaf Children Australia's Youth Grants:

- Applications by, or on behalf of, an organised group such as schools, voluntary groups or youth clubs. If you are part of a group or youth club and want to apply for a personal Youth Grant for your project, you are welcome to do so, but your group cannot submit an application for everyone.
- Applications for assistance that should be covered by health, education or employment services, or the NDIS.
- Leisure camps and school trips will not be funded unless it is a cultural immersion experience, or a direct personal or community benefit can be shown e.g. Leadership camps, Duke of Edinburgh medals, Aboriginal cultural experiences, or overseas travel.
- Computers (including laptops), hardware and software will not be provided unless the applicant has an additional disability and can demonstrate its need for their education.

## How to complete your application

Deaf Children Australia encourages applicants to complete their own individual application form – even when applying as part of a group. We will not accept duplicates of another application. However, we do understand that in special circumstances, another person may need to assist in the completion of the application.

All questions must be answered. If the application is incomplete, you may be contacted by Deaf Children Australia to complete the application.

It is important to keep the following things in mind when completing the application form:

- Have a good understanding of the project – do the research
- Show how you will benefit personally, and how the community may benefit from your project

### There are three ways to submit an application:

First, download the application form from [our website](#), or contact us to request a copy (contact details at bottom of page).

1. Complete the application form on your computer. Type your answers into the form and press 'Submit'. You might like to print your application and keep your own copy, or:
2. Print the application form and complete it by hand. Make sure your handwriting is clear, in either blue or black pen. Then email, post or fax it to Deaf Children Australia (see details below) or,
3. Make a video. Please be brief and answer the questions from the application form in Auslan or spoken English. You should upload your video and provide the link in question 1 of the application (***Title of the Project***). Or you could send a video to DCA through WeTransfer or Dropbox. You must complete referees and authorisation on the application form, then email or post it to Deaf Children Australia (see details below).

If you have any questions contact:

Youth Grants Coordinator  
Deaf Children Australia  
**Tel** 03 9539 5300 **Fax** 03 9525 2595  
**Email** [youth.grants@deafchildren.org.au](mailto:youth.grants@deafchildren.org.au)

Post completed application forms to:  
Youth Grants Coordinator  
Deaf Children Australia  
PO Box 6466  
Melbourne 8008

Or email the application to [youth.grants@deafchildren.org.au](mailto:youth.grants@deafchildren.org.au) or fax to 03 9525 2595

**Closing Date is 5pm, 10 May 2019.  
Good luck!**