



# YOUTH GRANTS 2019

(Information Kit in Plain English)

## 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 Youth Grants program was established in 2000 with support from our philanthropic partners. Deaf Children Australia adds more money to this Victorian funding so the Youth Grants can be available Australia-wide.

## Conditions

1. You are deaf or hard of hearing.
2. You are 15 – 23 years of age now, and will not be 24 years old by the end of your project.
3. We provide Youth Grants every year. You have to start your project this year (2019) and you have 12 months to finish. For example, from July 2019 – June 2020. Please contact us if you cannot start this year.
4. You can apply for the Youth Grant for your own (individual) project, or for a small group project [maximum six people]. Each person in the group must complete a separate application form expressing how he or she will benefit from the project.
5. The most money you may get is \$2,500.
6. You must be an Australian resident.
7. You must keep receipts and invoices of your expenses. At the end of your project, send them to Deaf Children Australia with the claim form and we will then pay you for that amount.
8. **You must claim your grant by 31 March 2020.** In special circumstances, you can ask Deaf Children Australia for an extension of time to spend your grant.
9. New applicants will be looked at first.
10. If you have applied before, we will not look at applications for similar projects. You can still apply every year for **different** projects.
11. You must submit a report to Deaf Children Australia within thirty days of finishing the project (see Project Report guidelines below).
12. After your report has been submitted, someone from Deaf Children Australia may contact you to ask more about your project. This information, and the information from your report, may be written into a story which Deaf Children Australia use in their newsletters, on the website and social media.

13. Successful applicants must allow DCA to publish their reports and share their stories to inspire other young people who are deaf or hard of hearing.
14. If there is any publication, social media or other publicity covering your project, you are asked to talk or write about the support given to you by Deaf Children Australia.

## Personal and Community Benefits

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

The benefits will be different, depending on each project and grant category. Your project may help a community directly. For example, running a social club for young deaf or 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 your self-esteem and contribute to your personal development, for example, showing your creative talents through an art exhibition or a play, or following your dream to travel overseas.
- **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 young deaf people to the wider community. You might set up a deaf youth club or establish a sporting club for young deaf or 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 your project is finished, you must write a project report telling us about your project, why you chose to do it, and what you learned from doing the project. Here are some questions that might help you write:

- 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 help you with your future job or something else you are interested in?

Project reports should be about one page long. Or you can send us an Auslan or spoken English video, or we can interview you (ask questions) about your project. We love photos as well so please add them!

## Applications that will not be considered

The following types of projects WILL NOT receive grants 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 you are travelling to experience other cultures, or a direct personal or community benefit can be shown eg. Leadership camps, Duke of Edinburgh medals, Aboriginal community experiences, overseas travel.
- Computers (including laptops), hardware and software will not be provided unless the applicant has an additional disability and can show its need for their education

## How to complete your application

Deaf Children Australia encourages you to complete your application form on your own but we understand that you may need to ask for some help.

All questions must be answered. We do not accept applications that haven't been completed.

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
- Understand how you will benefit personally, and how the community will benefit from your project.

### **There are three ways to give us your application:**

First, download the application from [our website](#) (PDF), 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, then 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 (details at bottom of page) 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 on YouTube and provide the link in question 1 of the application (***Title of the Project***). Or you could send your video to DCA via Dropbox or WeTransfer. 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

**Applications close 5pm, 10 May 2019.  
Good Luck!**