

# Variety Educational Scholarship

## Guidelines VES VIC



### Introduction

Variety Victoria provides access to Educational Supplies and Technology for school children living with financial hardship, disability or chronic illness to increase and encourage their educational goals.

### Eligibility

- Applicants must live in Victoria.
- Applicants must be aged 5 to 17 years.
- Students must be enrolled in full-time primary, secondary or tertiary education, i.e. in school years Prep – 12, TAFE or other educational institution.
- Maximum gross household income of \$55,000 per annum (excluding super) if applying under financial hardship.
- Maximum gross household income of \$90,000 per annum (excluding super) if applying under disability or chronic illness.

### Variety Educational Scholarship requests:

- Educational supplies up to the value of \$500 per child for Primary School Students – books, stationary, uniform, camps and excursions.
- Educational supplies up to the value of \$1000 per child for Secondary School/TAFE students – books, stationary, uniform, camps and excursions.
- Assistive Technology up to the value of \$1000 – C-Pen, controllers, accessible hardware or software.
- Laptop and case for Secondary School/TAFE students.
  - **The laptops have been pre-selected. The choice of following devices will be provided:**
  - Acer Travelmate B3 and hard case. Click [HERE](#) for brochure and specifications; OR
  - HP 250 G10 Notebook PC and soft case. Click [HERE](#) for brochure and specifications.
  - There is no option to request a different brand or model, or to take funds in place of the pre-selected laptop.

Once purchases are approved by Kids Support, Harvey Norman will despatch the items directly to the grant recipient prior to the school year commencing.

### Examples of Scholarship exclusions:

- Retrospective funding or reimbursement.
- Public/Private/Tertiary School fees.
- Items that cannot be invoiced.
- Transport costs.

### Variety Educational Scholarship Terms

- Only one (1) Variety Scholarship of any type may be held by a child in any 12-month period.
- Successive grants are not guaranteed for previous recipients.
- If unsuccessful, applicants may apply for the next round.
- Approved scholarships may be allocated partial or full funding at the discretion of the variety Grants Committee.
- Scholarships are valid for the advertised calendar year. All allocated funds must be spent within that period. Any unspent allocated funds will be rescinded.
- No money is provided directly to the child or family. Variety makes direct payment to suppliers upon invoice.
- Invoice payment may take up to two (2) weeks.

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### Applications

- Applications can be made on behalf of the students under 18 years by a parent/carer or another identified support person (medical professional, caseworker, teacher etc)
- Applicants will be expected to submit a truthful and factual application and attach relevant documentation as evidence.

### Attachments/Evidence

The following attachments must be included as part of the application.

#### 1. Support Letter

Please obtain a letter (no older than 2 months) from an education support person (ie a teacher, well-being officer or Principal from the school the student attends or will attend).

Please follow the instructions closely, as this letter is key to a successful application. Applications submitted without or with an incomplete support letter will be declined.

The letter must be on school letterhead and signed by the support person. It will need to address the following points:

- How is the student known to the support person,
- Is the student expected to remain in education for at least the advertised calendar year,
- Does the student have a good school attendance record,
- How the student will benefit from the support.

Additional requirement for a laptop:

- Would the student benefit from owning their own laptop to adequately complete their studies,
- Is the student currently unable to access a laptop, OR
- Is the student's currently owned laptop/tablet inadequate for purpose.

Additional requirement for accessible technology:

- A letter from an allied health professional prescribing the equipment, how it will benefit the student and whether it has been trialled.

If your child is home schooled, please contact [kidssupport@varietyvic.org.au](mailto:kidssupport@varietyvic.org.au) before starting your application.

#### 2. Diagnosis letter – if applying under disability/chronic illness

- A letter from the child's GP/paediatrician, on letterhead, referencing the child's diagnosis or disability.

#### 3. Proof of Household Income

We need to verify the total gross household income for your family does not exceed \$55,000 per annum, if applying under financial disadvantage, or \$900,000 per annum, if applying under disability/chronic illness. This means the total income for a single parent/carer, or the total income for both parents (if living in the same property and/or financially responsible for the young person) before any tax is deducted. It does not include superannuation.

**For each parent/carer who is financially responsible for the child one of the following documents must be submitted:**

1. If parent/carer is not receiving Centrelink benefits and is employed (full time, part time or casual) provide your most recent payslip showing annual income.
2. If parent/carer is not receiving Centrelink benefits and is self-employed provide your most recent tax return.

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- If the parent/carer is receiving Centrelink benefits provide your most recent Centrelink Income Statement. (this is not your Carer Payment, Job Seeker Payment or annual PAYG Centrelink Statement which are not acceptable.)

If you are unsure how to obtain your Centrelink Income Statement online from MyGov, please click [here](#) for instructions.

If you are unsure how to obtain your Centreline Income Statement from the Express Plus Centrelink mobile app click [here](#) for instructions.

It is important that you provide the correct information as we are unable to consider applications with insufficient financial evidence.

### EXAMPLE of CENTRELINK INCOME STATEMENT

Locked Bag 7834 Canberra Bc, ACT 2610



Approved

Your statement must show your full name, or name and address (or indicates your relationship to the person whose name and address is listed).

Reference: 000 000 000B



Ms Jo Blogg  
21 Cardiff Rd  
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

Applicant name: Rob Bloggs  
Application number: APL0002146  
Relationship: Legal Guardian (Aunt)



centrelink

19 July 2021

This Income Statement shows information we hold about you on your Centrelink record. If you decide to show this information to anyone else for any reason, you can choose to show all the information or to block some information out.

### Income Statement

DOB	28 May 2001
Customer Partnered	N
Maximum Rate Youth Allowance	Y
Number of Children Assessed	0

  

Previous regular entitlements and payments			
Payment Type	Amount	Date Paid	Date of Grant
Youth Allowance	\$347.79	13 Jul 2021	12 Jul 2020
Energy Supplement	\$4.60	13 Jul 2021	12 Jul 2020
GST Component	\$6.81	13 Jul 2021	12 Jul 2020

  

Previous irregular payments			
There are no previous irregular payments to report.			



### Post-Submission and Assessment

After submission, applications will be assessed by the Committee at the next scheduled meeting. You will receive notification by email when your application has been assessed. Please allow 8 weeks after the closing date for the process to be complete.

Each application is assessed by the Kids Support team on its own merit. Eligible submissions are presented to the Kids Support Committee for decision before being ratified by the Variety Board.

Outcome letters are emailed to applicants when their applications have been ratified by the Variety Board.