

Kids Support Department TechKids Individual Grant Eligibility & Guidelines Document



Variety TechKids Grants provides assistive technology to WA kids living with disability or sickness, supporting their education, communication, behavioural regulation and safety needs.

Where a child has therapist involvement, it is important that reference letters from therapists provide information detailing:

- The applicants needs and how the technology will support these specific needs.
- Specific apps that will be used with the equipment and how these apps relate to the applicants' identified needs.
- If the technology has been trialled and what the outcomes of the trial were.
- If the equipment is/ isn't NDIS funded, and if not funded by NDIS, why it wasn't funded.
- Formal diagnosis (documents are required where relevant) or diagnosis that families are seeking, but unable to receive due to wait times for paediatricians.

Having access to as much information as possible will allow the Kids Support Committee to make decisions regarding TechKid applications as efficiently as possible.

Eligibility

You are eligible to apply for a grant provided the following criteria are met:

- Child is residing in WA.
- Child is aged 0-17 (must be under 18 at time of submission).
- Child has a disability or sickness (long-term health condition).
- The family household income is below the guide.
- Equipment is not available via government funded or alternative sources.

Application


- The application can be completed by a parent or carer, or approved third party (key therapist, social worker, support worker etc) if they have consent of the parent or carer.
- You are expected to submit a truthful and factual application and attach relevant documentation as evidence where requested.
- Income details are required (this includes any/all income received by any parent or carer who is financially responsible for the beneficiary to confirm annual household income).
 - Payslips (dated within 3 months).
 - Centrelink statements (dated within 3 months).
 - Most recent ATO notice of assessment (for self-employed).
- Provide two quotes for equipment that are no older than three months at the time of submission and will remain valid throughout the assessment process.
 - One quote is acceptable if from a Variety WA preferred supplier (listed in the application form), or if there is only one supplier that can source the equipment.

Supporting referee document

- o Please nominate (and discuss with) the most appropriate professional (request dependent) to support the application as a referee. **Important** - further information on this is provided in the second and third paragraph of this document.
- o During the application process, there will be a section where you will be required to provide their information. Once you have done this, your referee will receive an automatic prompt to complete a template.
- o This template is **mandatory**, and applications will be incomplete until the template is submitted. Applicants will be able to preview to ensure they are aware of content being requested.

Request & funding limits

You can select one or more item as part of your Variety TechKids Grant request, if it is within the capped request limit. The items must be directly related to your child's diagnosis or condition, and the intended outcomes outlined in the supporting document.

Category	Eligible items (not limited to these)	Request limit \$	*Household Income limit
Technology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Tablets (iPad etc)- Laptop / computer- C-Pen / scanning pen- Software- GPS watches- Accessories	Up to: \$1,200 – laptop and other \$800 -iPad inc case	\$115,000pa

Please note:

- If your income is over the suggested limit you may choose to apply, however you need to be able to demonstrate extraordinary hardship, expenses and/or circumstances.
- If the equipment required exceeds the request limit, you can request additional funds if there is a clearly demonstrated need outlined within your application and supporting documents, however this does not guarantee additional funding.

Ineligible requests:

- o Individuals 18 years of age and older.
- o Projects that require recurrent funding.
- o Expenses considered to be part of an individual's typical cost of living.
- o Warranties, insurance, maintenance, service agreements, batteries, or repairs.
- o Subscriptions or plan costs.
- o Services or training costs.
- o Retrospective expenses.

- Incomplete application forms.
- Equipment which is restrictive practice (may be waived if appropriately referenced by supporting professional with expertise in this area).

Process

Step 1 – complete and submit the online application form including all supporting documentation.

Step 2 – pre-assessment by the Kids Support team.

Step 3 – submission reviewed by the Kids Support Committee (a group of qualified professionals representing allied health, community and education sectors).

Step 4 - outcome letter e-mailed to main contact listed in application. Outcomes are typically communicated within 3-6 weeks of submission if full information is available. In cases where further information is requested, outcomes can take up to 16 weeks.

Outcomes

Successful Applicants

Full details and next step instructions will be provided to you in the outcome letter.

- Funds need to be used within 6 months of approval date.
- Variety WA does not provide funds directly to you, payment is made via tax invoice to the supplier.
- You will not be able to apply for another Variety grant for a period of 12-36 months if your Variety grant is approved, depending on the category. This will be outlined in approval letter.

Unsuccessful Applicants

- Reasons for an unsuccessful application will not be disclosed.
- Application outcomes are not able to be appealed, the decision of the committee is absolute.
- If unsuccessful, you may be eligible to reapply after 3 months from the date listed on your outcome letter, however the request must be altered, or new information supplied.

Additional Information

Variety Techkids grants are open all year, however this is subject to change at Variety WA's discretion. Current information will be available on our website.

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Kids Support team on 9355 3655 or kidssupport@varietywa.org.au