youngcare

At Home Care Grants

Information Guide

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About Youngcare

Right now, too many young people in Australia with full-time care needs are stuck living in housing not suited to their age or support needs. Youngcare believes all young people deserve young lives.

Youngcare, a nationally registered charity and not-for-profit organization formed in 2005, aims to provide choice in care and housing for young people with high care needs.

Through the combined support of the community, business and government, Youngcare aims to deliver greater choice to individuals through a range of initiatives, including:

- Youngcare Connect information and support hotline
- Youngcare Specialist Disability Accommodation
- Youngcare At Home Care Grants
- Youngcare Home Support Grants
- Disability advocacy

About

Youngcare's At Home Care Grants (AHCG) program is critical in keeping young people at home with their families and preventing new admission to inappropriate housing.

The Youngcare's At Home Care Grants (AHCG) provide funding for equipment, home modifications and essential support that is unable to be funded through other means (eg. NDIS). This funding is to both enhance the quality of life for young people with high physical care needs and assist them to remain living in their own home with loved ones.

The grants provide one-off funding of up to $10,000 to help those aged 16-65 with high physical care needs who are living at home and are at risk of entering inappropriate housing.

Grants are offered nationwide.

Timeframes

Timeframes can be found on our website - www.youngcare.com.au/what-we-do/grants

Who can apply?

Both individuals and eligible organisations on behalf of an individual can apply for a grant.

Eligible individuals

1. Aged 16-65
2. Requires support, equipment or modifications to remain living at home or that greatly improves quality of life.
3. Living with a recognised physical disability that results in extreme functional impairment (e.g. multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy, ABI or quadriplegia)
4. Living at home or in supported housing
5. Currently residing in Australia

Eligible organisations (applying on behalf of an individual)

1. Non-government organisations that currently provide care and support to young people living with a disability
2. Must be able to provide evidence of current Public Liability Insurance for no less than $5 million
3. Must be able to provide current financial records or a current annual report
4. Ideally, have an existing relationship with the beneficiary of the grant so that the 'item' purchased through this grant complements what is already being provided by the organisation

Ineligible applications

1. Individuals under 16 years or over 65.
2. Individuals requiring end of life care.
3. Individuals living with a condition not recognised as a physical disability or not experiencing extreme functional impairment.
4. Individuals living in permanent rehab or hospital. Please call Youngcare Connect for more information 1800 844 727.
5. Any organisation or individual with outstanding grant acquittals (acquittals not received within 12 months).
6. People who received a Youngcare grant within the last 12 months.
7. People with unspent previous grant funding.

Submission process

- All applications that meet the criteria outlined will be considered by Youngcare.
- Application forms submitted with support from eligible organisations should be jointly submitted by the eligible organisations and individual grant applicant. Individual applications need to be submitted by the individual grant applicant and or their next of kin/advocate.
- All applications must be submitted via the SmartyGrants website.
- Submissions will be considered using the criteria outlined below.

What can the grants be used for?

Eligible items include:

- Equipment (including essential medical equipment, double/queen adjustable beds, air conditioners - 1 bedroom, 1 living area only - and other essential items). Please note – these items are only eligible if unable to be funded by the NDIS or elsewhere.
- Home modifications to enable access and mobility (e.g. ramps).
- Short term accommodation (unable to be funded by NDIS).
- Other items that will extend the recipient's ability to remain at home.
- Pre-planning assessments and reports.

*All items (i.e. equipment or modifications) require an allied health assessment to be provided (e.g. by an occupational or physio therapist.). For further information please refer to the FAQs on page 7.

Non eligible items include:

- Items that should be funded through NDIS plans or other government funding schemes.
- Holidays.
- Reimbursement for items already purchased (i.e. retrospective funding).

How will the recipients be determined?

A panel comprising Youngcare staff, people with lived experience, sector and funding representatives determine how the grants will be awarded. The following criteria will be considered when choosing who will receive a grant.

The panel's decision will be final.

Selection criteria

1. The extent to which the purchase of the 'item' will assist the recipient to remain in their home (benefit to recipient, family, daily living).
2. The extent to which the grant will enhance the recipient's quality of life.
3. The extent to which this purchase would be complementary to current service provision and support the recipient is receiving.
4. Focus will be given to people who require additional supports, equipment or modifications to remain at home.
5. The recipient is aged between 16 and 65.
6. The long-term impact of the grant in the recipient's life.
7. The extent of the recipient's care needs.
8. The extent to which funding may be available elsewhere (including NDIS).

Funding arrangements

- Equipment that is purchased becomes the property of the individual, therefore the ongoing maintenance and replacement is the responsibility of the individual

Funding will only be approved for items & services that cannot be funded by the NDIS or elsewhere and can show evidence of essential need. Evidence of other funding outcomes may be requested.

How will the recipients be determined? Cont.

Applications by eligible organisations

- From the date of the outcome letter, successful organisations will have:
  - 6 weeks to provide an Invoice and signed Service Agreement
  - 12 months to use and acquit the grant funding.
- Must have consent of the recipient's legal guardian.
- All of the funding received by successful organisations must be distributed, on behalf of Youngcare, for the direct benefit of the individual.
- Home modifications need to be organised and managed by the supporting organisation. An agreement needs to be established regarding the maintenance and care of the modifications. In most instances, this is the responsibility of the individual/family. However, faulty or poor workmanship will need to be addressed by the supporting organisation.
- Hours purchased for STA and support workers under this grant will be managed by the supporting organisation.

Applications by individuals

- From the date of the outcome letter, successful indivisuals will have:
  - 6 weeks to provide an Invoice and signed Service Agreement
  - 12 months to use and acquit the grant funding.
- The individual is responsible for returning the signed service agreement and a valid GST invoice made out to Youngcare Ltd (see frequently asked questions) within 6 weeks of date of outcome letter.
- Grants awarded to individuals without the support of an organisation will be paid directly to a supplier or service provider.
- Home modifications need to be organised and managed by the individual (or legal guardian). An agreement needs to be established regarding the maintenance and care of the modifications. This is the responsibility of the individual (or legal guardian), and faulty or poor workmanship will need to be addressed by the individual (or legal guardian).
- Hours purchased for STA and support workers under this grant will be managed by the individual (or legal guardian).

Insurance

- Eligible organisations must maintain Public Liability Insurance for no less than $5 million per event and provide evidence of that insurance to Youngcare.
- Individuals making applications without the support of an eligible organisation must ensure that any contractors or installers engaged in connection with the use of their grant funds have Public Liability Insurance and, if required by law, insurance specific to the works being undertaken and in line with all relevant Australian standards and local government bi-laws.

Complaints process

- Clients who benefit from the Youngcare At Home Care Grants and who received that grant with the support of an organisation must access the complaints processes of the organisation that was funded to administer the grant. In any circumstance whereby the client did not receive the benefit of the grant, Youngcare's complaints process will be used.
- Youngcare reserves the right to contact the client to ensure they have received the benefit of the grant.

Documentation

All submissions must be made by completing the Application Form. You can obtain a copy of this and seek further information to assist you in developing your funding submission by contacting Youngcare Connect on 1800 844 727 or by visiting www.youngcare.com.au/what-we-do/grants/home-care-grants/

How to lodge an application

To be considered for a Youngcare At Home Care Grant, **applications must be completed and received by 4:00pm (QLD time) on the closing date.** You will receive confirmation of receipt of your submission within two business days.

Submissions can be lodged by completing the form online at youngcare.smartygrants.com.au

For more information, please contact

Youngcare Connect on
1800 844 727
ahcg@youngcare.com.au

Frequently asked questions

1. Can I apply for more than one item/service?

Yes, you can apply for as many items as you require, providing the total amount you are requesting is not more than $10,000.

2. The total cost of my item/service I am applying for is greater than $10,000. Am I still able to apply for a contribution of the grant towards my 'item'?

Yes, you are able to apply for a grant, however you need to provide evidence (i.e. fundraising achieved, personal funds, other grant funding) of how the remaining costs will be funded.

3. Am I able to apply with only one quote for the item/service?

Youngcare requests two quotes, however, if you are unable to source a second quote, please provide evidence and an explanation why you are unable to submit two quotes (i.e. live remotely or can only source one supplier for the equipment).

4. I am not in contact with a non-government service provider. Am I able to apply as an individual for the grant?

While it is recommended that grant applicants apply through a non-government organisation, it is not required. If you need advice or assistance in sourcing an eligible organisation, please contact Youngcare Connect on 1800 844 727.

5. Is the organisation/individual responsible for the safe construction of home modifications?

An organisation applying on behalf of an individual is responsible for ensuring any construction or modifications are completed by a reputable company and, if applicable, meet all local government regulations for certification and approval, and that any company undertaking such works has public liability insurance and any other insurance reasonably necessary to undertake the works required. Where individuals are applying for grants without the assistance of an organisation, this responsibility to ensure each of the above is satisfied rests with the individual. Any reputable construction company should be able to provide a Certificate of Insurance.

6. Why do applicant organisations need to provide financial reports and/or a current annual report?

Where the grant has been made to an organisation, the grant funding will be acquitted through the applicant organisation and Youngcare must therefore ensure that the organisation has the capacity to acknowledge and fulfil the service agreement within 12 months.

7. Are there any non-government organisations that are not eligible to apply?

An organisation will be deemed ineligible if they fail to acquit the grant within 12 months.

8. When will we be notified and how?

Applicants will be notified within 3 weeks of the outcome. If successful, you will also be sent a service agreement which must be returned with an invoice within 6 weeks of date of outcome letter, and an acquittal survey which must be completed within 12 months of date of outcome letter.

9. I applied for a grant last round, am I able to apply again?

Successful applicants are not eligible to reapply within 12 months. Unsuccessful applicants may reapply; however, you will have to submit a new application. You must have submitted a completed acquittal form for any previous Grants, or the new application will not be accepted. Priority will be given to applicants who have never received an AHCG.

10. What supporting evidence do I need to provide?

The more documentation you include in your application the better. At minimum, Youngcare requires an assessment (by a registered allied health professional), two quotes, and a STA plan (if applicable).

Frequently asked questions Cont.

11. Who will my information be shared with?

Youngcare only shares or obtains information regarding the applicant with those people stated on the application form. Youngcare retains the right to use de-identified information in the application for the purposes of research and statistical analysis.

12. Who decides on the successful applicants?

A panel comprising Youngcare staff, people with lived experience, sector and funding representatives determine how the grants will be awarded. No applicants are identified in the panel review. Funding is allocated to the applicants who show the greatest risk of admission into inappropriate housing.

13. How will the funding be allocated?

Due to the high number of applicants, funding is allocated to applicants the panel deems as providing the strongest evidence of need in this particular round.

14. Is there any further reporting required?

Successful individuals and organisations will be required to complete a brief acquittal survey within 12 months of date of outcome approval letter. This is mandatory and new applications from organisations or individuals with outstanding acquittals will not be accepted.

15. If successful, how soon can payment be made?

Youngcare cannot make emergency or urgent payments. Payment will be made within 10 days of receiving the correctly returned signed Service Agreement and an invoice accurately made out to Youngcare. Invoices must be made out to Youngcare otherwise they will not be paid.

Eg. Invoice

Invoice to: Youngcare Ltd.

Delivery: Your Name & Address

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For further information please contact:
YOUNGCARE CONNECT
P: 1800 844 727
E: connect@youngcare.com.au
W: www.youngcare.com.au