

Inspire Grant Information

About the Grant

This newly introduced funding opportunity is a large, multi-year grant of up to \$200,000 per year to a total of up to \$600,000 per organisation over three years. The grant will be awarded to one eligible Australian children's charity each year for the purpose of providing innovative interventions that will change the course of a child's life and inspire their future prosperity. The grants are embedded with milestones and outcome reporting that align with St. George Foundation's priorities. This grant is a new program that has been developed to further St. George Foundation's core purpose of supporting small charities to make a significant impact on the lives of disadvantaged Australian children.

Grant Guidelines

Projects funded should:

- Provide innovative opportunities for children experiencing disadvantage in Australia to reach their full potential.
- Be national in scope, either immediately or with the potential for future national scaling.
- Provide impact reporting and measurement of agreed outcomes.

Our funding priorities:

- Innovative or pilot projects providing:
 - Alternative pathways to or opportunities for education.
 - Other projects at the Governors' discretion that provide significant positive impact on the future potential of Australian children.

Additional Considerations:

- Projects with demonstrated positive impact on women and girls will be considered favourably by the Board of Governors.
- Projects with a particular focus on providing interventions for children at the age of 12 years will be considered favourably by the Board of Governors.

Organisational Eligibility:

Applicants: Please Note- Before completing the Expression of Interest, you should have read the general information about the grants above and the Eligibility Criteria below. Incomplete EOI forms and/or organisations or projects not meeting the eligibility criteria will not be considered.

Eligibility criteria:

- Focus their efforts on children in Australia under the age of 18 years.
- Be endorsed as a deductible gift recipient (but not another ancillary fund). Deductible Gift Recipients must be listed with the Australian Taxation Office under Item 1 of the Table in Section 30-15 of the Income Tax Assessment Act, 1936.
- Provide current, signed, audited financial statements (from the last 2 years).

What we won't fund:

- Projects outside Australia.
- Auspiced applications.
- Organisations or projects with religious affiliations.
- Sponsorship or fundraising appeals.
- Parenting programs/ Programs for adults.

Definitions

National in Scope

For your charity's program to be considered "national in scope" it would require at least one of the two following qualities:

- Be an organisation or program currently running in a minimum of three Australian states or territories.
- Have a comprehensive framework demonstrating the program's expansion capacity to a minimum of three Australian states or territories.

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Alternative Pathways to Education

The St. George Foundation Inspire Grant prioritises funding to projects that would allow a child to access education, who otherwise would be excluded due to a physical, social or economic disadvantage. Example of an alternative opportunity to receive an education include the 2017 Inspire Grant Recipient, MissingSchool, whose project provides robots that will allow very ill children to virtually attend their classes and interact with their teacher and peers from their hospital bed or home.

Innovation

Innovation can be either a technological innovation or a new (innovative) approach to an existing problem.

Direct intervention

Direct intervention means that the program has a direct impact on children's lives. While many parent counselling and mentor training programs have the potential to benefit children, the Inspire Grant is intended to provide funding that directly benefits a child.

Frequently Asked Questions

Our organisation has received a Community Grant from St. George Foundation in the last year; are we still eligible for the Inspire Grant?

Should your organisation and project meet the criteria of the Inspire Grant, it will still be eligible even if it has received a Community Grant, however please keep in mind that the goals and expectations of the Inspire Grant are different to that of the Community Grant.

I applied for the Inspire Grant last year and was unsuccessful, can I reapply this year?

Yes, if your organisation is eligible you are welcome to submit an Expression of Interest.

What is the difference between 'Grant Guidelines' and 'Eligibility Criteria'?

Eligibility Criteria are qualities that applying charities must possess. This criteria is non-negotiable and charities will need to meet all of the Eligibility Criteria. Grant Guidelines provide guidance around the types of programs and beneficiaries that the Inspire Grant focuses on. Grant guidelines are flexible so if your charity does not meet all of the Grant Guidelines it may still be eligible for a grant.

Our program does not fit into all of Grant Guidelines; e.g. alternative pathways to education, female focus, 12 year old focus, are we still eligible?

The ideal program for the Inspire Grant will meet all the preferred project criteria. Projects that meet all project criteria will be assessed favourably to reflect that alignment. However, should your program meet some or most of the project criteria (and all eligibility criteria), you would be welcome to complete an Expression of Interest form.

Learn from our Previous Recipient

The recipient of our inaugural Inspire Grant was MissingSchool. MissingSchool is a charity that connects seriously ill children with their classrooms through the use of telepresence robots. The robots represent these students in two-way connection to their regular classrooms, teachers and peers. Children can operate these robots in real time so children are empowered to participate in class and interact with their friends and teachers from their hospital bed or from home.

Their project has the following qualities that contributed to its successful application:

- Provided an alternate pathway to education for children previously excluded through disadvantage.
- Innovation / pilot project.
- Direct intervention.
- National in scope.
- A concise application with clear goals and milestones.

