

## Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

### **Q. What is the Youth Development and Support Program?**

- A. The Australian Government established the Youth Development and Support Program to provide funding for development opportunities for Young People in Australia aged between 12 and 25 years.

The Government has committed \$500,000 under the Program to fund initiatives that inspire and encourage Young People to engage with government and their community, and help them develop skills and connections within their communities.

Through the Program, the Government will provide funding to eligible non-government, not-for-profit organisations to deliver a range of community-based, and National Youth Organisations, small-scale projects that will involve productive participation and encourage social inclusion of Young People.

Eligible organisations will be able to apply for the level of assistance appropriate to the scale and scope of the proposed project. This year there are two Streams.

**Stream 1** – supports Community-based Organisations

**Stream 2** – supports National Youth Organisations.

### **Q. What are the goals of the Youth Development and Support Program?**

- A. Community-based Organisations (**Stream 1**) may seek funding support to:

- inspire Young People in Australia to recognise and achieve their full potential and to be active citizens;
- support the development of Young People and their transitions to independence and adulthood;
- support opportunities for Young People and local youth organisations to engage with the Australian Government's youth initiatives such as the National Strategy for Young Australians and the Australian Youth Forum; and
- promote positive perceptions of Young People as respected young citizens in their communities.

National Youth Organisations (**Stream 2**) may seek funding support to:

- inspire Young People in Australia to recognise and achieve their full potential and to be active citizens;
- to engage with Young People in a number of communities and to communicate best practice models of engagement;
- support opportunities for Young People and national organisations to engage with the Australian Government's youth initiatives such as the National Strategy for Young Australians and the Australian Youth Forum; and
- promote positive perceptions of Young People as respected young citizens in the wider community.

Further information on the Program, including guidelines and an Application Form, are available at [www.youth.gov.au/ydsp](http://www.youth.gov.au/ydsp).

**Q. Will the Program be offered in all states and territories?**

A. Yes. It is the intention of the Program to provide funding to projects across all states and territories.

**Q. Who is eligible to apply?**

A. **Program funding is available to organisations only. GRANTS WILL NOT BE PAID TO INDIVIDUALS (see note below \*)**

In order to apply for Program funding, an organisation must be:

- a non-government organisation; and
- not-for-profit; and
- a company or an incorporated association.

**\*NOTE:** The following entities are **NOT ELIGIBLE** to apply for or receive Program funding:

- bodies that are not legal entities;
- government organisations and entities, including Local Government Councils ;
- individuals;
- for-profit organisations;
- schools;
- publicly funded vocational education and training providers (eg. TAFEs); and
- higher education providers.

This eligibility criterion is included in the Program Guidelines and which are available at [www.youth.gov.au/ydsp](http://www.youth.gov.au/ydsp).

**Q. Why is the Youth Development and Support Program only making grant funds available to non-government, not-for-profit organisations?**

A. The YDSP is only providing grant funds to non-government, not-for-profit organisations as these are the organisations that are experiencing a reduction in investment income, corporate funding and support from philanthropic trusts and foundations.

These same organisations are the ones that Australians who are under greater financial pressure as a result of the economic climate, are turning to. In harsh economic times it is often the Young People in our communities who are the most affected.

**Q. Are Local Government (Councils) are eligible to apply for this funding?**

A. As noted in the Program Guidelines at [www.youth.gov.au](http://www.youth.gov.au), government organisations are not eligible to apply. The ordinary meaning of 'government organisations'

includes local government organisations and therefore they are not eligible to apply for funding from the YDSP.

Applications are to come from a non-government, not-for-profit community organisation. If they elect to partner with a local government entity, then they may do so, but this should be indicated as part of their application. In such an instance, the lead organisation must be the non-government, not-for-profit organisation, as they will be the entity with whom the Funding Agreement will be negotiated, should the application be successful.

**Q. Am I able to partner with another organisation or entity?**

A. If you elect to partner with another organisation or entity such as a local government entity, then you may do so, but this should be indicated as part of your application. In such an instance, the lead organisation must be the non-government, not-for-profit organisation, as they will be the entity with whom the Funding Agreement will be negotiated, should the application be successful.

**Q. I am a young person who has a great idea for a project, but you tell me I am not eligible to apply! What can I do?**

A. Under the Program, the Government is providing funding for projects delivered by non-government, not-for-profit community organisations. You may wish to discuss your idea with an eligible organisation in your community.

**Q. How does my organisation apply for funding?**

A. Information on how to apply for funding is contained in the Guidelines and Application Form, which are available at [www.youth.gov.au/ydsp](http://www.youth.gov.au/ydsp).

Application Forms are available in fillable PDF and RFT formats and are available from the website.

The department would prefer organisations use the fillable PDF format, however both forms will be accepted.

Please note that applications for Program funding must be lodged no later than **5pm AEST on Friday 9 July 2010**. Applications received after the closing date may not be considered.

**Q. How much funding is available and how much can my organisation apply for?**

A. The Australian Government has committed \$500,000 for the 2010-11 Program.

Eligible organisations will be able to apply for the level of assistance appropriate to the scale and scope of the proposed project.

Organisations applying under **Stream 1** of the 2010-11 Funding Round, can apply for grants of up to \$40,000 GST exclusive to manage small-scale, community-based, 'youth designed, youth led, local community focused' projects that work with and support Young People to initiate, plan, implement and evaluate for the nominated project period to be completed by 31 May 2011.

Organisations applying under **Stream 2** of the 2010-11 YDSP Funding Round, can apply for grants of up to \$70,000 GST exclusive for the nominated project period to be

completed by 31 May 2011.

It is anticipated that the majority of the grants made as part of the Program will be around \$15,000.

**Q. Why are there are two Streams of funding. What is the difference?**

- A. There are two streams of funding to enable both Community-based organisations and National Youth Organisations to implement Projects which have a slightly different focus.

This difference is reflected in the two streams of funding and the two Application Forms.

**Q. What are the two Streams for applications this year (2010-11)?**

- A. Eligible organisations will be able to apply for the level of assistance appropriate to the scale and scope of the proposed project.

**Stream 1**, of the 2010-11 Funding Round, supports Community-based Organisations who can apply for grants of up to \$40,000 GST exclusive.

**Stream 2**, of the 2010-11 YDSP Funding Round, supports National Youth Organisations who can apply for grants of up to \$70,000 GST exclusive.

It is anticipated that the majority of the grants made as part of the Program will be around \$15,000.

**Q. How is funding allocated?**

- A. Funding for projects will be determined through an open, competitive selection process. Applications will be assessed by an independent assessment panel and ranked. The Minister responsible for the Youth portfolio will then make a decision on the allocation of funding taking into account the assessment panels ranking and representation of all jurisdictions.

Eligible organisations seeking funding for a project must first read the Program Guidelines and submit an Application Form.

It is anticipated that the majority of the grants made as part of the Program will be around \$15,000.

Guidelines and an Application Form are available at [www.youth.gov.au/ydsp](http://www.youth.gov.au/ydsp).

**Q. Why are there limits on the total budget that can be used for administrative costs including salaries?**

- A. The focus of the program is on supporting Young People and empowering them to develop activities to address an identified community need.

The aim for the program is to enable as many organisations, both Community-based and National Youth Organisations to provide opportunities for Young People to engage in activities that meet the program goals.

**Q. Am I guaranteed to receive funding just by applying?**

A. No. Organisations should note that no application is guaranteed to be selected for funding. All applications will be assessed against the selection criteria. Once applications are assessed they will be placed in an order of merit. No project should assume they will be given funding and should not commence before a final Funding Agreement is in place and signed by both parties.

**Q. I was unsuccessful in 2009-10. Can my organisation reapply for the 2010-11 YDSP Funding Round?**

A. Yes. You can reapply. You will need to complete a new 2010-11 YDSP Application Form.

**Q. If my organisation received funding for my project in the 2009-10 Round can they reapply?**

A. If your organisation is a Community-based organisation and the project was funded in the 2009-10 round you will need to submit a **new project proposal**, as the YDSP doesn't provide ongoing/recurrent funding. You can not seek further funding for the same proposal.

**Q. My National Organisation received funding in the 2009-10 Round, can I reapply?**

A. If your organisation is a National organisation and the project was funded in the 2009-10 round you will need to submit a **new project proposal**, as the YDSP doesn't provide ongoing/recurrent funding. You can not seek further funding for the same proposal.

**Q. When does the Funding Round open and close?**

A. The 2010-11 Funding Round opened on **Monday 7 June 2010** and will close at **5pm AEST on Friday 9 July 2010**.

Information on how to apply for funding is contained in the Guidelines and Application Form, which are available at [www.youth.gov.au/ydsp](http://www.youth.gov.au/ydsp).

**Q. Can I submit a late, or 'out-of-round', application?**

A. No. Applications received after **5pm AEST on Friday 9 July 2010** may not be considered.

**Q. Can I e-mail or fax my application?**

A. No. You must mail your application to reach DEEWR by the closing date of **5pm AEST on Friday 9 July 2010**.

**Q. Do I need to attach letters of support – or can I send them later?**

A. Yes. You need to supply two letters of support. They must be attached to your application. Late letters of support may not be accepted, and may result in your

application being deemed incomplete. In such instances it may not be assessed for consideration of funding.

**Q. When does the project have to start?**

A. If your application is successful, you will be required to enter into a Funding Agreement. The Project can not commence until signed by both parties and the start date is agreed to.

**Q. When do projects have to be finished?**

A. Projects must be designed to conclude no later than Tuesday 31 May 2011. A Final Report on the project will be required by Friday 3 June 2011.

**Q. How will I now that my application has been received?**

A. All applicants will receive an email from the YDSP Project Team within 10 days of the closing date confirming their application has been received.

**Q. How long is the assessment process / when will I know the outcome of my application?**

A. The assessment process will commence after applications close. It is expected that organisations will be advised of the outcome of their application by mid August 2010.

**Q. Who makes the (final) decision about the funding?**

A. The Minister responsible for the Youth Portfolio will make the final decision on allocation of funds, following assessment by the panel.

Information on the assessment process is contained in the Program Guidelines which are available at [www.youth.gov.au/ydsp](http://www.youth.gov.au/ydsp).

A full list of successful applications will be posted on [www.youth.gov.au/ydsp](http://www.youth.gov.au/ydsp) at the conclusion of the assessment process.

**Q. If successful, do I need to sign a Contract?**

A. Yes. Please make yourself familiar with the draft Funding Agreement on [www.youth.gov.au/ydsp](http://www.youth.gov.au/ydsp).

**Q. If successful, why do I need to have a National Police Check?**

A. It is a legal requirement that all people working with children, young people and vulnerable people must undertake a National Police check, as stated in the draft Funding Agreement, Schedule 3 - Working with Children or Vulnerable People Checks.

Volunteers and employees of the organisation who will be directly involved in the Project are required to have a National Police Check.

**Fees:**

\$43 for each National Police check applications from an individual

\$49.00 for each National Police check application from non-government organisations

The current processing time for a routine National Police check is approximately 15 working days from the date it is received by the Australian Federal Police.

Further information is available on the Australian Federal Police website [http://www.afp.gov.au/business/national\\_police\\_checks.html](http://www.afp.gov.au/business/national_police_checks.html)

Or by contacting the Criminal Records Help Desk on 02 6202 3333 between 9am and 5pm (AEST).

**Q. Who pays for the National Police Checks?**

A. The organisation applying for funding.

**Q. If we were selected for funding, when will my organisation be paid?**

A. If your organisation is successful a representative from the Office for Youth will be in contact with you shortly after the announcement by the Minister, with responsibility for the Youth Portfolio, to begin contract negotiations and the completion of other essential paperwork to enable the payment to be processed.

Information on the timing and requirements for Program payments are included in the Program Guidelines, which are available at [www.youth.gov.au/ydsp](http://www.youth.gov.au/ydsp).

**Q. Do I need to maintain a separate bank account?**

A. For grants exceeding \$25,000 (GST exclusive), You are required to maintain a separate bank account for the Funds.

For grants of up to \$25,000 (GST exclusive), You have the option of utilising an accounts management system to ensure that Project funds can be clearly identified and accurately acquitted to this Project.

**Q. Can I request feedback as to why my application was unsuccessful?**

A. General feedback about Applications submitted for the Round will be published three weeks after the Round closes on [www.youth.gov.au/ydsp](http://www.youth.gov.au/ydsp).

Individual application feedback may be requested during the four weeks following the announcement of the successful applications.

**Q. How many applications were received in the 2009-10 Round?**

A. There were over 400 applications received in the 2009-10 Round.

**Q. How many projects were funded in 2009-10?**

- A. There were 24 projects initially funded, and a further 23 additional projects funded in the 2009-10 Round. These are representative of the diverse circumstances and interest that Young People experience, and are located across all the states and territories. See [www.youth.gov.au](http://www.youth.gov.au) under Youth Development and Support Program.

**Q. I understand there was additional funding in 2009-10.**

- A. On 14 April 2010, the Minister for Youth, Kate Ellis announced additional funding of \$700,000 to support organisations across the country to help provide positive development opportunities for young Australians, following the overwhelming response to the earlier call for proposals from organisations.

This funding was in addition to the \$500,000 provided by the Australian Government to support 24 Youth Development and Support Program projects in 2009, which represented the diverse interests and circumstances experienced by Young People.

The additional funding provided assistance for 23 additional funded projects. Further details about the successful projects is available on [www.youth.gov.au](http://www.youth.gov.au) under Youth Development and Support Program.

The Government has committed \$500,000 under the Program for the 2010-11 Funding Round.

**Q. Will there be a future Funding Round? When will information be available?**

- A. Dates for the 2011-12 Funding Round will be announced early 2011 on [www.youth.gov.au](http://www.youth.gov.au). It is suggested that you regularly check the website for announcements.

**Q. Can I be added to a mailing list?**

- A. Yes, you can be added to a mailing list to receive information regarding future rounds of the Program. You need to send an email with your name, organisation and email address to: [ydsp@deewr.gov.au](mailto:ydsp@deewr.gov.au).