



## **Youth Opportunities Program 2015/2016 Funding Round**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

**Q What is the *Youth Opportunities* program?**

- A.** The *Youth Opportunities* program is based on research evidence which shows that with the proper support and opportunity all young people can address and overcome a range of risk factors in their lives.

The program provides time-limited grants for new projects which enable young people to lead and participate in community development activities. It is based on the principles of: inclusiveness (mainstream, targeting all young people); community participation; community service (including volunteering); and partnering with young people and developing networks within communities.

**Q How can I apply for a grant for the *Youth Opportunities* program?**

- A.** Eligible organisations seeking project funding should read the Program Guidelines and to access the online Application Form at [www.youth.nsw.gov.au](http://www.youth.nsw.gov.au).

All sections of the application must be completed. Incomplete applications cannot be considered.

Applications submitted after the advertised closing date of Monday, 31 August for the fourth round of funding cannot be accepted.

More information is available at [www.youth.nsw.gov.au](http://www.youth.nsw.gov.au)

**Q What is the program target group?**

- A.** Young people who are in transition from childhood to adulthood and from dependence to independence. This includes young people on the margins who are at-risk of disengaging from their community.

**Q How much funding is available?**

- A.** Grants of up to \$50,000 are available for *Youth Opportunities* projects.

**Q. Which organisations can apply for funding?**

- A.** Applications are invited from incorporated non-government organisations and from local government.



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Organisations must have a valid ABN. During the application assessment process, NSW Fair Trading will undertake a probity check to determine eligibility and financial viability of organisations.

More information is included in the Program Guidelines which are available at [www.youth.nsw.gov.au](http://www.youth.nsw.gov.au).

### **Q. Which organisations cannot be funded?**

- A. Applications from state and federal government agencies, schools, individuals and for-profit organisations cannot be considered for funding under the program guidelines.

More information is included in the Program Guidelines which are available at [www.youth.nsw.gov.au](http://www.youth.nsw.gov.au).

### **Q. What types of projects can be funded?**

- A. Funded projects will involve young people in all aspects of the project. Projects will use a range of strategies to support young people. Strategies which focus on young people's participation, engagement and inclusion in the community will be a key component of funded projects meeting the program objectives.

### **Q. What types of projects cannot be funded?**

- A. Funding is not available for:
- Projects that can be funded by other NSW and Australian Government funding programs;
  - Projects run in schools as part of the curriculum or other areas of school responsibility;
  - Projects involving overseas travel, scholarships and/or conferences, and
  - Projects that case-manage young people

### **Q. When does the funding round open and close?**

- A. The funding round opens at 9:00 am Monday 27 July and closes at 5:00 pm Monday 31 August 2015. This provides five weeks for applications to be developed and submitted.



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**Q. Will my application be ineligible if I do not have an ABN?**

- A.** No – However in order to receive grant payments successful applicants will require an ABN or provide a “Statement by a Supplier” form.

To apply for an ABN contact the Australian Taxation Office on 132 866 or visit [www.business.gov.au](http://www.business.gov.au)

**Q. Should my grant request be grossed up to cover GST?**

- A.** No - we will pay the approved amount of the grant plus 10% to successful grant recipients which are registered for GST.

**Q. Will all applicants receive funding?**

- A.** No. Funding for projects will be determined through an open, competitive selection process.

**Q. How will the applications assessed?**

- A.** Applications will be ranked by an assessment panel based on how the application addresses the program objectives and the cost effectiveness of the project proposal. The assessment panel will provide recommendations to the Minister responsible for youth affairs for consideration.

**Q. If successful, what type of contract will I have to enter into?**

- A.** Successful applicants will be required to enter into a Funding Agreement with the Family and Community Services (FACS).

**Q. Can I get assistance with my application for funding?**

- A.** The Youth Strategy and Participation Unit in Family and Community Services (FACS) will hold a series of workshops in ten centres across NSW to answer questions from potential applicants about the guidelines and the application process.

Information workshops will be held from in Sydney, Liverpool, Blacktown, Newcastle, Wollongong, Dubbo, Tamworth, Lismore/Ballina, Wagga and Queanbeyan.

Details on the workshops are available at - [www.youth.nsw.gov.au/youthopportunities](http://www.youth.nsw.gov.au/youthopportunities)



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**Q. Who can I contact for further information?**

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*Youth Opportunities is managed by the Participation and Inclusion Directorate in  
the Department of Family and Community Services*