

Youth Employment Social Impact Program

Application guidelines

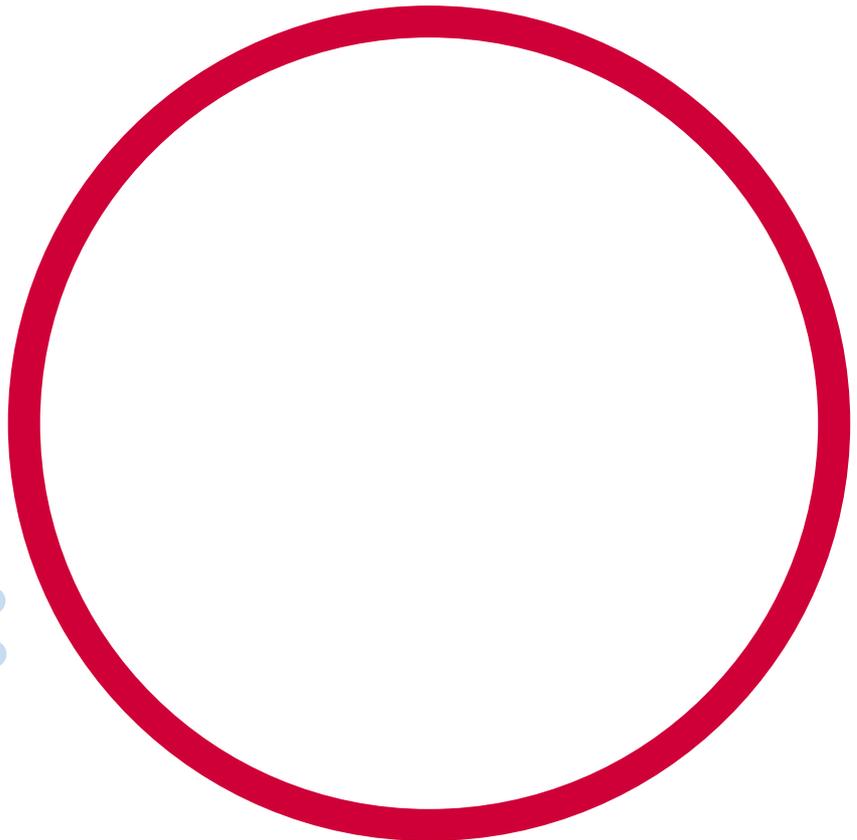
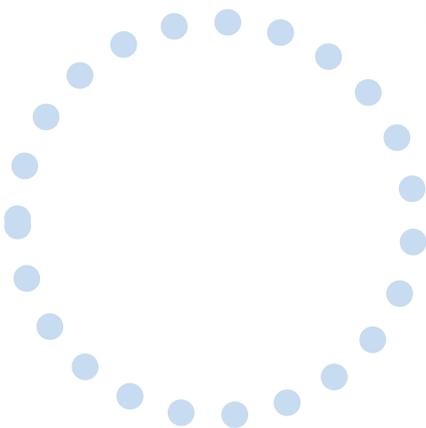
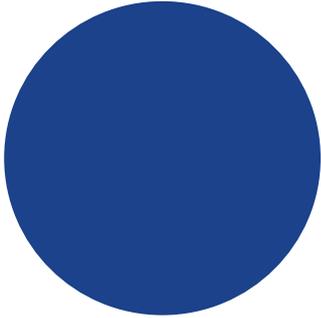


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What is the Youth Employment Social Impact Program?

The Youth Employment Social Impact Program (the Program) has been established by the NSW Government to help address youth unemployment across NSW. This initiative provides funding to social enterprises and social impact organisations who support young people with multiple or complex barriers to employment by developing work readiness skills, and find and sustain employment.

The Program is open to social enterprises and social impact organisations operating in NSW who are currently delivering employment-focused initiatives for young people not in employment, education or training, and are ready to make a larger impact in their communities. Organisations seeking funding will need to provide evidence of the additional impact they expect to achieve and their experience in delivering and reporting on employment outcomes for disadvantaged young people.

Who is eligible to apply?

To apply for this program, applicants will need to answer 'yes' to all three criteria.

We are looking for organisations that:

- 1) Deliver an existing initiative to support young people (aged 16-24) not in employment, education or training and experience significant disadvantage to find and retain employment
- 2) Operate their initiative in NSW
- 3) Have experience in delivering and reporting on employment outcomes, under an outcomes-based contract, for disadvantaged young people.

Social enterprises and social impact organisations are eligible to apply.

What is a social enterprise or social impact organisation?

Eligible organisations are those that can provide clear evidence that they operate and/or trade primarily for a social purpose. Evidence includes (but is not limited to):

- an incorporated charity or non-profit entity registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) or an equivalent State regulatory body
- for for-profit entities, certification or industry membership from Social Traders, the Social Enterprise Council of NSW & ACT (SECNA) or other recognised social enterprise peak bodies
- for for-profit entities, a letter prepared by a member of CPA Australia, Chartered Accountants Australia & New Zealand or the Institute of Public Accountants that the business does, or intends to, trade primarily for social purpose by reinvesting or giving 50% of profit/income generated to fulfil its mission.

What funding is available?

Applicants can apply for funding for a two-year service delivery period. The NSW Government is looking to fund two to four initiatives from a total funding pool of \$1.5 million.

Additional funding to contracts may be provided if:

- the initiatives are proven to be successful;
- there is continued demand for the initiatives; and,
- funding becomes available.

Shortlisted applicants will be provided with an opportunity to negotiate an outcome-based contract, focused on sustainable employment outcomes for young people.

Contracts could include a combination of upfront, milestone and outcome payments.

How to apply?

Step 1: Review application guidelines

Review the application guidelines in detail, including preparing and submitting any questions to youth.employment@det.nsw.edu.au.

Step 2: [Download](#) and review application form

[Download](#) the application form. All applications need to be submitted via SmartyGrants. Submit any questions to youth.employment@det.nsw.edu.au if required.

Applicants need to adhere to the word limit for each question as marked in the application form. Attachments can only be provided to support specific questions of the application.

Step 3: [Register](#) and attend the briefing session

The NSW Department of Education will conduct **one** virtual briefing session on **Monday, 22nd February 2021 at 11am (AEDT)**. The briefing session will provide an:

- overview of the Youth Employment Social Impact Program
- overview of these application guidelines and the application form
- opportunity for applicants to ask questions about the program and the application.

[Registrations](#) for the briefing session will be accepted up until **9am (AEDT) on Monday, 22nd February 2021**. All material advice during the briefing session will be provided through the FAQs.

Step 4: [Download](#) and review the FAQs

The Department of Education will post the FAQs on its website, which will be updated weekly. [Download](#) and review the FAQs from **Friday, 19th February 2021**. The Department will not respond to any questions received after **5pm (AEDT) on Thursday, 4th March 2021**.

Step 5: [Apply](#) via SmartyGrants

Eligible organisation can [apply](#) via SmartyGrants. Applications can be drafted online over multiple sittings. The guidance at the start and throughout the application form should be considered part of these guidelines.

Step 6: Submit a completed application form

Applications need to be submitted by **5pm (AEDT) on Thursday, 11th March 2021**. Late applications will be marked as late and will not be assessed.

Could the application process change?

The Department of Education may, at its sole discretion, and at any stage of the application process, do all or any of the following:

- require additional information from an applicant
- change the scope or the requirements of these guidelines
- vary, amend (including by replacement) or terminate the application process
- vary, extend or provide additional funding to contracts during the service delivery period if; the initiatives are proven to be successful, there is continued demand for the initiative and should funding become available. The Department will use the evaluation criteria outlined with these guidelines to make such decisions.

What are the important dates?

Milestone	Date
Applications open	Thursday, 11 th February 2021
Briefing session delivered	11am on Monday, 22 nd February 2021
Final FAQs made available	Friday, 5 th March 2021
Applications close	5pm on Thursday, 11 th March 2021
Applicants notified of outcome	April / May 2021

How will my application be assessed?

A panel of representatives from the NSW Government will assess applications. All applications received under the Youth Employment Social Impact Program will be assessed against the following evaluation criteria:

The proposal demonstrates:

- 1) **Community engagement:** a clear understanding of the target cohort currently serviced by the organisation, and evidence of local research, knowledge and/or experience required to engage with communities, understand the need that exists and deliver the proposed service and outcomes in a culturally respectful and appropriate manner.
- 2) **Social impact:** the proposal provides a clear definition of the social outcomes it seeks to achieve through the funding, including quantifying the impact the service will have on its target participants. The target number of outcomes is based on evidence of how the organisation has successfully delivered employment readiness skills and sustained employment outcomes for young people who experience significant disadvantage.
- 3) **Organisational capability:** a strong team with experience to successfully deliver the proposed service and the projected outcomes, and to measure and report on those outcomes through an outcomes-based contract.
- 4) **Value creation for NSW:** the proposal delivers value for money. Clear evidence the proposal delivers social and economic value to its participants and the state.

After the application has been lodged, applicants may be requested to submit further information for clarification. Applicants are expected to respond promptly to all such requests.