**HEY Grants Round 10 Guidelines**

**Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer and asexual (LGBTIQA+) youth mental health and wellbeing small grants**

Submissions close 11:59pm 9 Friday October 2020

**What is HEY?**

HEY stands for Healthy Equal Youth. The HEY Partners and the HEY Grants are funded as part of the Victorian Government’s suicide prevention initiative. We know that when LGBTIQA+ young people are healthy, equal members of their communities, they have better mental health and wellbeing outcomes.

In 2020, HEY celebrates its 10th anniversary. In 2011, the Victorian Government committed $4 million over four years to support the development and delivery of programs that would improve the mental health and wellbeing of LGBTIQA+ young people. Since then, HEY has grown to include 16 HEY Partner organisations and has secured regular, ongoing funding. As part of this funding program, the HEY Grants exist to assist organisations in providing mental health promotion and capacity building activities for LGBTIQA+ young people in their local communities.

To date, 99 organisations have received HEY Grant funding, and HEY grants have kickstarted and supported many of the LGBTIQA+ organisations, programs, and activities that are currently running across the state. YACVic (Youth Affairs Council Victoria) manages and oversees HEY on behalf of the Victorian Government, and is supported to do this by the HEY Partners.

**Who are the HEY Grants for?**

The HEY Grants support organisations (both specialist LGBTIQA+ and mainstream youth organisations) to undertake mental health promotion and community engagement activities that focus on LGBTIQA+ young people up to 26 years.

The HEY Grants assist in the development of new and innovative approaches to addressing and supporting the mental health of LGBTIQA+ young people. By innovative we mean creative, novel, or original ways of working with young people. They will also support the implementation of tried and tested models in communities where existing support for LGBTIQA+ young people is limited.

**Small grants will be distributed to organisations that engage LGBTIQA+ young people in initiatives such as (but not limited to):**

* Social support groups and networks
* Mainstream anti-homophobia, anti-transphobia and diversity campaigns and programs
* LGBTIQA+ youth leadership, mentoring and peer education
* Youth led initiatives and activities

**In addition, grants may support organisations to:**

* Engage with LGBTIQA+ young people and organisations to improve the quality and reach of services they provide to LGBTIQA+ young people
* Expand services and programs designed for a marginalised community of young people, so that they also include LGBTIQA+ members of that community
* Enhance the capacity of youth and mainstream health and community sectors to better respond to the needs of a diverse range of LGBTIQA+ young people, and challenge discriminatory environments.

**How much can organisations apply for?**

Two types of grants are available in Round 10 of the HEY Grants. Both categories are for up to $10,000.

* **Social Connectedness** grants are for activities and projects that provide direct support to LGBTIQA+ young people and their mental health and wellbeing. This could be through initiatives such as social support and activity groups, gay/straight alliances, awareness campaigns, and information and referral.
* **Youth-led** initiative grants are for LGBTIQA+ activities or projects that are entirely designed, delivered and managed by LGBTIQA+ young people under the age of 26. This means young people need to have come up with the project and need to have written the grant application. The activities or projects should be designed to support LGBTIQA+ young people and improve their mental health and wellbeing.

**HEY**

**What about COVID-19?**

We know young people across Victoria, especially LGBTIQA+ young people, are experiencing extremely poor mental health as a result of the pandemic, especially where it has cut them off from LGBTIQA+ community, support, and social groups. In light of this, we believe it is critically important to still hold Round 10 of the HEY Grants.

Round 10 HEY Grant applications should be adaptable to changing COVID-19 restrictions. Your application should be for the best case scenario, but reflect that you are prepared for the worst. That might mean that you note that you are able to run a workshop in person or over Zoom, or that events designed to run in person can be adjusted to follow social distancing or run in smaller groups.

**What are the grant criteria?**

**Social Connectedness (for grants of up to $10,000)**

1. How will the project support and promote the mental health and wellbeing of LGBTIQA+ young people? (25%)
2. What problem or need in the community will the project address, and how will it be addressed? (25%)
3. How will LGBTIQA+ young people be engaged and involved with the project? (40%)
4. What measures will be used to determine the project’s success? (10%)

**Youth-led Initiatives (for grants of up to $10,000)**

1. How will LGBTIQA+ young people be engaged and involved with the project? (60%)
2. How will the project support and promote the mental health and wellbeing of LGBTIQA+ young people? (20%)
3. What problem or need in the community will the project address, and how will it be addressed? (10%)
4. What measures will be used to determine the project’s success? (10%)

Further information about expectations of applications in each grant category can be found in the accompanying document, **HEY Grants Round 10 Criteria.**

**What types of things will be funded? (Please note this is not an exhaustive list)**

* Projects that address a problem or need that the community has demonstrated
* Social Connectedness projects that actively engage LGBTIQA+ young people in the design and delivery
* LGBTIQA+ youth support and social groups
* Youth-led and peer-to-peer initiatives and activities that support the mental health and wellbeing of LGBTIQA+ young people
* Anti-homophobia, anti-transphobia, and anti-queerphobia strategies, events, and campaigns
* Projects that seek to build the capacity of the youth and mental health workforces and other organisations to deliver mental health and mental health promotion services to LGBTIQA+ young people
* Services that support the health and wellbeing of LGBTIQA+ young people, and their peers and families
* Projects that demonstrate new and unique ways of:
  + engaging with young people
  + providing education and training to young people or the services that support them
  + utilise new ways of providing support through technology, the arts etc.
* Projects that offer training and education to LGBTIQA+ young people, their peers, families.

For examples of projects that have been funded in the first 9 rounds of the HEY Grants visit: <https://www.yacvic.org.au/get-involved/hey-grants/>

**What will not be funded?**

* Capital expenditure exceeding $750.00
* Staff attendance at conferences and events
* Retrospective activities
* Ongoing, core organisational operating costs that are part of the organisation’s overall budget (e.g. building maintenance, catering)
* Commercial and profit making activities, organisations or individual persons
* Projects that have already commenced, unless there is a clear argument for extending the reach of a project into new areas, locations or population groups (evidence of the existing program’s effectiveness will be required)
* Projects that operate outside the state of Victoria (inquire to YACVic for projects that operate on the border).
* Projects not targeting or inclusive of LGBTIQA+ young people.

**Who can apply?**

* Victorian not-for-profit organisations that are incorporated or limited by guarantee
* Victorian Local Government Authorities
* Victorian not-for-profit organisations that have an auspice arrangement with either of the above
* Victorian schools, (public, Catholic and independent), TAFEs, and universities
* Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations are particularly encouraged to apply.
* Young people with disability/supporting organisations are encouraged to apply
* Culturally and linguistically diverse young people/supporting organisations are encouraged to apply

**Is my application Youth Led, or Social Connectedness?**

If your proposed activities or project have been designed and will be run by people under 26 years old, the application should be submitted as Youth Led. This means your application should also be written by the young people applying. If your project has been designed by people over 26, it should be submitted as Social Connectedness, even if young people will be consulted on once grant funding is received. For more information and resources on how youth participation and co-design could look for your project, and why it matters, [check out our resources at Yerp.](https://yerp.yacvic.org.au/) If you’re not still not sure what category your project falls in after checking these resources and the criteria, please email Briar Rolfe at [brolfe@yacvic.org.au](mailto:brolfe@yacvic.org.au?subject=HEY%20Grants%20Round%2010%20Inquiry%20(social%20connectedness)).

**Can youth-led organisations apply?**

Yes, if they fit one or other of the categories listed above. They may also apply if they can find an appropriate organisation willing to auspice them.

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**What is an auspice organisation?**

For the purposes of these grants an auspice organisation is an organisation that will take on the legal and financial responsibility for the grant agreement. The auspice organisation will sign the grant agreement, report on the outcomes of the project and submit a financial acquittal of the funds received for the project.

The auspice organisation may not be responsible for carrying out the work of the project but they are responsible for ensure it is completed under the terms of the grant agreement. Further information about the responsibilities of an auspice organisation can be found at <https://www.nfplaw.org.au/auspicing> and at <http://www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au/advice-for-life/finances/grants-for-community-projects/what-is-an-auspice-organisation>.

**Can individuals apply?**

No, funding is only available to not for profit community organisations, Local Government Authorities, schools, TAFEs and universities. An individual with a HEY grant project idea should apply through an existing group they have a prior relationship with, or with the assistance of an auspice organisation.

**Can two or more organisations apply in partnership for the grant?**

Yes, partnerships and collaboration between organisations is encouraged. In these cases, a lead organisation should be nominated who will hold the funds and be responsible for the project and financial reporting.

**My organisation is not an LGBTIQA+ youth specific organisation. Can we apply?**

Yes! Expanding existing programs and organisations to better include LGBTIQA+ young people is strongly encouraged; for example, expanding a support program for disabled young people, to run for LGBTIQA+ disabled young people. If you can demonstrate strong relationships with LGBTIQA+ youth organisations, and a track record of working on LGBTIQA+ youth and related matters, you should apply.

**Our organisation has part funding for a project and is looking for additional funds for the same project. Can we apply?**

Yes, however your proposal will need to explain why further funding is required, and demonstrate the effectiveness of the existing project. You will need to demonstrate that a HEY Grant would make a meaningful contribution to your existing project.

**Our organisation received HEY Grant funding in a previous round. Can we apply again?**

Yes, but success in a previous round does not guarantee success in future rounds. The committee encourages organisations applying for an additional HEY Grant to be explicit about how an additional round of funding will build on the work of the previous project. The committee also encourages you to give some thought to ongoing strategies that will be put in place as part of an additional funded project to reduce reliance on the funding pool in the future.

**Do we need deductable gift recipient status or to be a tax exempt charity to be eligible?**

No, as long as you are a not-for-profit organisation, you are eligible to apply.

**When does the project have to start and finish?**

Project commencement and completion should occur within 12 months of the funds being received. If the project has already commenced (subject to the requirements listed above) project completion is required within 12 months of grant allocation.

**What level of financial acquittal is required?**

A detailed final financial acquittal is required at the conclusion of the project that shows how all funds have been expended. Unexpended funds may be required to be returned.

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**Who makes the decision and how?**

An independent committee, including young LGBTIQA+ young people, will provide recommendations based on your responses to the grant criteria listed on page two, to the Minister for Mental Health, the Hon. Martin Foley. Based on these recommendations, Minister Foley will decide on the successful applicants.

**When will we find out if we’ve been successful?**

You will be notified of the outcome of your application in late 2020. Your organisation may be invited to an interview process to finalise a grant approval, however notice will be provided if this occurs. Successful grant recipients are expected to participate in our annual HEY Day, which is designed to link all grant recipients with the HEY partners across the state.

**What else do I need to provide?**

With your application you must provide:

* Responses to the Grant criteria
* A maximum of two (2) signed letters of support from two (2) different referees.

***If***your application is successful you will also be required to:

* Sign an agreement that outlines responsibilities and reporting requirements before the grant will be distributed.

**How should I submit my application?**

**In ONE email,** please send your application and your two letters of support (formatted in Word or PDF) to Derm Ryan (he/him) and Briar Rolfe (they/them) at [dryan@yacvic.org.au](mailto:dryan@yacvic.org.au) and CC [brolfe@yacvic.org.au](mailto:brolfe@yacvic.org.au). Put **‘HEY Grants Round 10, [Organisation name], Social Connectedness’** in the subject line.

Once an application has been received, you will receive a confirmation email. If you do not receive a confirmation email within two business days, please follow up with us as there may be a problem with your submission.

**What if I have a question that isn’t answered here?**

If you have any questions that aren’t answered in the Grants Criteria or the Grants Guidelines on the YACVic website (<https://www.yacvic.org.au/get-involved/hey-grants/>), please email Briar Rolfe at [brolfe@yacvic.org.au](mailto:brolfe@yacvic.org.au?subject=HEY%20Grants%20Round%2010%20Inquiry%20(social%20connectedness)).

**Timeline for HEY Grants Round 9**

* Grants open: Friday 28 August 2020
* Grants close: 11:59pm 9 Friday October 2020
* Grant recipients announced: late November or early December (subject to Minister’s approval)
* HEY Day, early December, date and format TBC
* Projects commence: January 2021