**HEY Grants Round 11**

***Frequently Asked Questions***

**Victorian LGBTIQA+ youth mental health and wellbeing small grants**

Submissions close 11:59pm Sunday 15 August 2021

**What is HEY?**

Healthy Equal Youth (HEY) is about supporting the health and wellbeing of LGBTQIA+ young Victorians. The first of its kind in Australia, HEY brings together a network of partner organisations specialising in support and services for LGBTQIA+ young people.

HEY partners provide peer support, referral, community visibility, celebration and education. The vision of the HEY partners is that LGBTQIA+ young people in Victoria have their rights upheld, and are safe, empowered and celebrated.

Every year, Youth Affairs Council Victoria (YACVic), in partnership with the Victorian Government, run the Healthy Equal Youth (HEY) Grants. Over 10 years, HEY Grants have supported over 111 organisations with more than $1 million of funding to improve LGBTQIA+ young people's mental health and well-being.

With years of lived experience, expertise, and evidence-based practice, the HEY Partners and Grants are supporting more LGBTIQA+ young people than ever. We are committed to supporting young people in their self-discovery and pride, to connecting them with each other and their community, and to improving their overall mental health and wellbeing.

HEY is proudly funded and supported by the Victorian Government.

**Who are the HEY Grants for?**

The HEY Grants support projects that are designed to improve the mental health and wellbeing of LGBTIQA+ young people.

There are two categories of HEY Grants.

* **Youth led projects** are for LGBTIQA+ young people with innovative projects designed to support the mental health and wellbeing of their LGBTIQA+ peers. A youth led application **must** **be proposed and led by people who are under 25!** They can get people older than that to proofread and assist them.
* **Social connectedness** **projects**, are for organisations and services to expand or improve their support for LGBTIQA+ young people, or to run targeted projects for LGBTIQA+ young people that will improve their mental health and wellbeing.

**How much can I apply for?**

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

**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.

HEY Grant applications should be adaptable to changing COVID-19 restrictions. Your application should be for the best case scenario, but demonstrate that you are prepared for the worst. That might mean noting 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 types of things will be funded?**

HEY Grants fund projects that:

* Specifically target LGBTIQA+ young people
* Are youth-led by LGBTIQA+ or run with consultation with LGBTIQA+ young people
* Address a specific need LGBTIQA+ young people have
* Are innovative, by which we mean creative, new, or original
* Set reasonable goals. $10,000 will not solve homophobia—but it can fund an awareness campaign about the harm of homophobic slurs.

HEY Grants also support the implementation of tried and tested models in communities where existing support for LGBTIQA+ young people is limited. A Pride Ball or a queer support group is still innovative if it’s the first one in your region!

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

**What will not be funded?**

* Capital expenditure (defined as “money spent by a business or organization on acquiring or maintaining fixed assets, such as land, buildings, and equipment”) exceeding $750.00
* Duplicate projects, for example, a peer support group for LGBTIQA+ young people in a town that already has a peer support group for LGBTIQA+ young people
* 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 that are not ChildSafe or that cannot be run in a ChildSafe manner
* Projects that do not reflect consultation with young people, are not led by young people, or do not reflect youth co-design principles
* Projects not specifically targeting or inclusive of LGBTIQA+ young people.

**Who can apply?**

Anybody whose organisation or project is designed to support the mental health and wellbeing of LGBTIQA+ young people in Victoria is encouraged to apply.

An individual with a HEY grant project idea should apply through an existing group they have a prior relationship with (such as a council, a school, a LLEN, or an organisation) or with the assistance of an appropriate auspice organisation, such as Auspicious Arts.

Types of organisations that can apply include:

* 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

HEY **actively encourages** applications that are led by, and designed for:

* LGBTIQA+ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people,
* LGBTIQA+ disabled young people, and LGBTIQA+ neurodiverse young people,
* LGBTIQA+ young people of colour, and LGBTIQA+ young people from culturally and linguistically diverse communities
* LGBTIQA+ community members who are underrepresented in services and programs, such as asexual and aromantic young people, or young people with intersex variations.

If you are a member of any of these communities and would like further information or assistance on applying for a HEY Grant, we would love to support you.

**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, although they can get help and proofreading assistance from older people.

If your project has been designed by people over 26, it should be submitted as Social Connectedness. Young people still need to be consulted and involved throughout the project. 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 Derm Ryan (he/him) and Briar Rolfe (they/them) at hey@yacvic.org.au.Page 2

**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 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.

**How does HEY define ‘young person?’ Is it okay if my project covers a range of ages?**

YACVic defines young people as between the ages of 12-25, which is a good guide. However, there is no specific age range for HEY; we equally welcome projects for anyone from primary schoolers to university students, so long as your project considers them young people.

As long as your project follows ChildSafe principles and **primarily** targets and benefits LGBTIQA+ young people, it is eligible for a HEY Grant.

**Our organisation has partial 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.

If your project is dependent on multiple sources of unconfirmed income, including other grants, your application should reflect how the project will run in the scenario it only receives a HEY grant.

**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 happens if the project changes?**

HEY is very flexible with changes in projects once a project is funded. If there is a change to your project, email us with the details of how it’s changing and how it affects your budget.

If a project changes between submitting your application and hearing back (for example, if an auspicing body pulls out, or anything happens that means the project cannot run), let us know by email ASAP.

**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. You should keep your invoices and receipts from throughout the project. Unexpended funds may be required to be returned—but we prefer not to do this, so contact us if this is appearing likely.

**Why do I need to provide two letters?**

We require letters of support as part of the grant applications to show that the project will go ahead with the appropriate support. You can provide up to two support letters, and we recommend supplying both if you can.

If your project involves working with another organisation, like Minus18 or Project Rockit, then we would expect to see support letters from these organisations. Other letters of support might come from an auspice organisation or from a person or organisation who has worked with you or your organisation in the past.

**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, to the Minister for Mental Health, the Hon. James Merlino. Based on these recommendations, Minister Merlino 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 October or early November, 2021. 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, this year on 30 November 2021, 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?**

Grant applicants need to fill out the Round 11 Grant application form, [which is available here.](https://www.tfaforms.com/4915972)

Depending on your answers to the form, you will complete either a Youth Led or a Social Connectedness application. You can save your progress on the form and return to it later. You might not be able to complete the form if Javascript isn't running on your computer.

Once an application has been received, you will receive a confirmation email. If you do not receive a confirmation email, 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 Derm Ryan (he/him) and Briar Rolfe (they/them) at hey@yacvic.org.au.

**Timeline for HEY Grants Round 11**

* Grants open: 9am, Tuesday 13 July 2021
* Grants close: 11:59pm, Sunday 15 August 2021
* Grant recipients announced: late October or early November (subject to Minister’s approval)
* HEY Day, 30 November 2021
* Projects commence: January 2022