

Quick Response Youth Grants Guidelines



To discuss any aspect of your project or grant application please contact **Shannon Lacy, Youth Development Officer** on 5471 1826 or by email on s.lacy@mountalexander.vic.gov.au

What is the Quick Response Youth Grant Program?

The Quick Response Youth Grant (QRYG) program is an initiative for young people in the Mount Alexander Shire. Grants of up to \$1,000 are available at any time of the year.

Objectives

- Encourage young people to take on leadership roles in their community.
- Create more youth-led activities, projects and opportunities for young people across the shire.
- Increase community recognition of the skills and abilities of young people in the community.
- Increase positive engagement between community and young people.
- Improve skills, opportunities and outcomes for young people.
- Encourage positive behaviours and minimise risk factors affecting young people.
- Promote the valuable contribution that young people make to the community.
- Open pathways for training, education and development for young people within their community.
- Provide more opportunities for young people to engage in climate change action and implement environmental sustainability practices.

Eligibility

To be eligible for a Quick Response Youth Grant you are required to:

- Be a young person aged between 10 and 25
- Live in the Mount Alexander Shire
- Want to run a project for young people in Mount Alexander Shire

On special occasions it may be appropriate to consider a grant from an applicant that does not meet these criteria, especially if the proposal demonstrates that the project is important for young people in our Shire. If this applies to a project you are involved with, it is recommended that you discuss your project with the Mount Alexander Shire Council Youth Development Officer.

There are some situations that mean that you might not be able to apply for a Quick Response Youth Grant including:

- If you have a QRYG already that you have not completed or not reported back to Council;
- If your project has already begun or completed (e.g. you've run out of money to do something);
- If your project benefits you and nobody else (e.g. a trip overseas or a new saxophone for you);
- If your project is really the responsibility of the State or Federal Government- (e.g. something a school or health service should already or may already be doing).

If this is the situation we still encourage you to contact the Mount Alexander Shire Council Youth Development Officer to discuss as there may be a way to make it work for you.

Guidelines

The Youth Grants are flexible in supporting young people to organise and plan activities, events or projects which interest them. Some key guidelines are listed below that should be considered before applying:

1. Each project must involve five or more other young people who either have roles working on the development of the project or participating in the outcome.
2. Each project must aim to be safe and manage risk responsibly. This includes demonstrating provision for first aid support either with assistance from a professional or by ensuring the risk of each project is considered depending on the nature of your activity.
3. Each project must be drug and alcohol free.
4. If you wish to apply for a Youth Grant for fundraising purposes you must be using the grant to run a project to raise funds. You must be aiming to raise at least twice the amount of the grant.
5. Applications must be able to demonstrate that they are committed to plan, organise, make decisions and manage the grant and the project. We encourage you to work with your peers and adults to achieve this.
6. Please discuss your project/idea with staff from Council's Youth Development Team to establish the requirements/eligibility for your project.

Project Examples

- A class of students decide that they want to get involved in their local CFA and apply for a grant to assist in their training costs or team building activity.
- A group decides to run a drug and alcohol awareness campaign in their community, including a fashion show to raise money for Beyond Blue.
- A group decides to run a leadership weekend in partnership with the Scouts or Girl Guides.
- A group wishes to organise a skate workshop and community BBQ for 30 young people with the assistance of their local neighbourhood centre.
- A group decides to run a monthly open mic event at a local venue in Castlemaine.

How to Apply

You should submit a Youth Grant Quick Response Application Form one month prior to your proposed starting date.

If you want to discuss your idea or need help completing the Application Form, contact Shannon Lacy, Youth Development Officer on 5471 1826 or by email on s.lacy@mountalexander.vic.gov.au

What happens next?

1. An Assessment Panel, comprised of young people will assess the application (usually within a week of receiving the application). The assessment will be made in line with the Community Grants Program assessment criteria. The applicant will receive verbal and written notification within one week of the meeting.
2. The successful applicant will be required to sign a funding agreement with Mount Alexander Shire Council and complete a short acquittal and evaluation at the completion of their project.

The **QRYG Application Form** is available online at www.mountalexandershireyouth.com.au, or via email by contacting Council's Youth Development Team at youth@mountalexander.vic.gov.au.