



Australian Government



NATIONAL CULTURAL POLICY

CREATIVE YOUNG STARS

Factsheet

The Creative Young Stars Program

Creative Young Stars is an Australian Government initiative designed to provide financial assistance for students and young people to participate in artistic, cultural, academic or community based activities, events or training.

Creative Young Stars helping students and young people reach their creative potential

The Government recognises that young people and their families can find it difficult to meet costs associated with participating in artistic, cultural, academic or community based activities, events and training. This Program will provide school children and young people with the financial assistance needed to take part in such activities, events or training. This will help develop their talents, build professional connections and open up pathways to further training and future employment.

Financial assistance available under the Creative Young Stars Program

The Australian Government has allocated \$8 million to the Creative Young Stars Program over two financial years 2013-14 and 2014-15. Grants of \$500 for eligible individuals and \$3000 for eligible groups are available.

Each electorate will have 23 grants of \$500 for individuals and four grants of \$3000 for groups to be awarded over two application rounds each financial year. In the first application round Federal Members of Parliament (MPs) can award up to 12 individual and two group grants in their electorate.

Creative Young Stars application process

In order to be eligible to apply for a Creative Young Stars grant, students and young people must be:

- 25 years or under at the time of completing the application form (where the applicant is a group, each member of the group must be 25 years or under)
 - if a participant is under 18, the minor's parent or guardian needs to apply on their behalf;
 - if all members of a group are under 18, the parent or guardian of one of the members of the group needs to apply on their behalf, or in the case of a group representing a school, training, arts or community organisation, an individual from that school or organisation can apply on behalf of the group;
 - if a Participant or members of a group are under 18, the minor's parent or guardian needs to have consented to their participation in the nominated activity;
- participating in an activity that falls within one of the following categories of activity: creative and performing arts, cultural activities, academic endeavour, school and community achievement and for which there is a financial cost to the participant (equal to or greater than the grant amount). The financial costs to be covered by the grant must be directly associated with the young person participating in the nominated activity and must be for fees, travel, accommodation, costumes/uniforms or equipment costs;
- participating in a nominated activity that takes place between 1 June 2013 to 30 June 2014;
- able to provide a letter of support or selection which is no longer than two A4 pages from a representative of an Endorsing Organisation such as a school, training, arts or community organisation and
- able to agree to the Terms and Conditions (refer to the Guidelines at www.youth.gov.au).

The types of activities, events or training supported by the Creative Young Stars Program

There are four broad categories of activity that will be supported under the Program (where the financial cost to the participant is equal to or greater than the grant amount):

Category of activity	Examples of nominated activities
Creative and performing arts includes support for visual arts, music, drama, dance and media arts, and new and emerging arts technologies.	<i>Participating in Battle of the Bands, art exhibitions and creative writing competitions.</i>
Cultural activities includes those designed to foster understanding, enjoyment and celebration of cultures, increase cultural knowledge, respect for difference and diversity.	<i>Active representation/participation in cultural heritage activities or events.</i>

<p>Academic endeavour will support young people to reach their potential across all domains of learning and celebrate commitment and achievement in academic areas.</p>	<p><i>Participation in debating or public speaking tournaments and mathematics, science or other academic competitions.</i></p>
<p>School and community achievement grants will be provided for commitment and active contribution to the school and broader community. Grants under this category may be awarded to recognise young people taking action to improve school and community life and environment and sharing their experiences with others.</p>	<p><i>Support representation at inter-school or regional student representative council activities, present innovative school or youth support initiatives at an interstate, national or international conference, or participate in a youth summit.</i></p>

The types of activities, events or training **NOT** supported by the Creative Young Stars Program

Sporting activities, sporting events and sport training are ineligible for funding under the Creative Young Stars Program. The grant cannot be used for other purposes such as spending money or travel for chaperones, teachers, coordinators, or family members not participating in the nominated activity.

Electorate details

You can find out which electorate you, or the participant you are nominating, live in by visiting the Australian Electoral Commission website at <http://apps.aec.gov.au/esearch/> . On the online application form, there is a 'Find my electorate' button to help you.

Where you are applying as a member of a group, or on behalf of a group that you are not a member of, you should list the electorate of the lead participant (i.e. the member of the group seeking the grant).

Application assessment process

Assessments will be made in each electorate and be overseen by MPs, supported by a Local Selection Committee organised by each electorate office. The Committee will include relevant community representatives.

The assessment criteria are:

- Demonstrated need for funding – this will be assessed based on information provided by the applicant in the application form and letter of support or letter of selection.
- Representative spread of successful applicants across each category of activity and primary, secondary school and youth.

In some instances, a MP may not organise a Local Selection Committee or choose to award grants in their electorate in which case the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations will do the assessment on their behalf.

