



CONNECT GRANTS GUIDELINES

BHC's Vision is Creating Homes, Empowering Lives, Enabling Transformation.

We know that the homes we create provide a critical platform for people to move forward with their lives. To empower people and help them to transform their lives, some residents may also need support and opportunities to participate in employment, training, social and community activities.

To make this possible we have established the BHC Impact Fund- a minimum commitment of \$150,000 each year for services and programs to support better outcomes for our residents. This Fund will invest in programs, services and grants to assist residents to achieve better outcomes and move forward with their lives with dignity and hope.

About the Connect Grants

BHC's Connect Grants provide funds to address barriers surrounding digital access, literacy and empowerment. Connect Grants provide for up to \$1,000 to support costs associated with a resident's digital and connection goals and are open to all BHC residents in our affordable housing portfolio and their household members. Total funding for the program is \$15,000 per year, in three rounds of \$5,000 each.

What can be funded

The Grant funding is available to assist residents experiencing financial hardship to fund any opportunities for digital inclusion including:



Equipment - any costs associated with smart phones, computers, laptops, other technological items that seek to improve resident's wellbeing, education and learning prospects.



Digital Literacy - any training or education costs associated with improving resident's digital literacy confidence, skills and online safety.



Connection - any costs associated with ensuring residents are connected through mobile or internet access for general wellbeing or learning capabilities.

NB: To assist you identify which technology suits your requirements we have put together a preferred equipment list- view the list at bhcl.com.au/impact/grants-program. If you are seeking an item outside this list, please contact BHC to discuss your requirements.

Who can apply

- Any BHC resident or household member in BHC's affordable housing portfolio (NRAS, Opal, Coral)
- More than one member of the household can apply
- You must be applying for an activity or item that will improve your or a household member's education, employment or opportunity for connection

How to apply

To apply for a Connect Grant, follow these simple steps:

- Read these Guidelines to check your eligibility
- Read the FAQs to answer any questions you may have
- Check that you comply with timeframes for grant rounds
- Complete the short application form [here](#)
- If you wish to download a hard copy/paper copy based form please [click here](#) and send completed form through to impact@bhcl.com.au

Following each grant round, all applications will be evaluated against the criteria and all applicants will be advised of the outcome within 2 weeks of the closing date. Please note that where the number of applications exceeds the available funding, not all applications will be able to be supported, however residents are able to apply for subsequent rounds. Due to the number of applications, detailed feedback may not be provided.

Timeframes

Connect Grants provide up to \$1,000 per grant, depending on the application, available within the following timeframes:

- Round 1- Open from Monday 6 September 2021 to Friday 1 October 2021 - *Round finalised.*
- Round 2- Open from Monday 10 January 2022 to Friday 4 February 2022.
- Round 3- Open from Monday 2 May 2022 to Friday 27 May 2022.

NB: Each round will offer \$5,000 of funding, with a maximum of \$15,000 in total grant funding available for the 2021/2022 financial year.

Where extraordinary circumstances exist, consideration may be given to proposals submitted outside these timeframes. Residents are encouraged to contact your Housing Manager or the Community Development Team to discuss your individual circumstances.

Finding out more

For further information, any questions regarding the application process or for assistance with the application, please contact BHC's Community Development Team on 3307 3000 or speak with your Housing Manager.

To read stories of successful grant recipients, visit: bhcl.com.au/impact/case-studies



Educate and Participate Grants are delivered through the [BHC Impact Fund](#) - an annual commitment of funds to invest in programs and services to support BHC residents.

The Impact Fund is supported through contributions by Elevate Residential. We share this story through the [Elevate Residential Impact Commitment](#).

