

LEARNING, EMPLOYMENT AND PARTICIPATION (LEAP) GRANTS GUIDELINES

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

About the LEAP Grants

BHC's Learning, Employment and Participation (LEAP) Grants provide funds to address financial barriers to education, employment and social participation opportunities, including digital connections. LEAP Grants provide for up to \$800 to support costs associated with a resident's education, employment and participation goals and are open to all BHC residents in our social and affordable housing portfolios and their household members.

The intent of this grant is to support residents who are not eligible for existing funding/grant opportunities available in the community. As part of the grant process, BHC may refer residents into other existing programs available in the community should they be suitable. Only applications which cannot be supported through existing community programs will be considered.

Funds Available: LEAP Grants can provide financial support of up to \$800 per successful application. BHC will support successful applicants by purchasing items on their behalf, or making direct payments for services or fees. Cash will not be provided directly to applicants.

What can be funded

The Grant funding is available to assist residents experiencing financial hardship to fund any education, employment or participation opportunities including:



Education - any formal or informal education or course fees relating to primary or secondary school, TAFE or tertiary studies, as well as associated costs such as textbooks, course supplies.



Employment - any costs associated with accessing employment or getting ready for work such as uniform costs, getting "interview-ready" supplies etc.



Participation - any costs associated with programs or activities that encourage community or social inclusion such as volunteering, personal development, skills development, local/place-based community development, artistic or sporting related activities.



Digital technologies - any costs relating to computer equipment, access to home-based or mobile internet connections, digital training and skills to support goals in the above areas.

What is not included?

White goods and household items, please see BHC's Kickstart Grant for support with these types of items.

Eligibility

- Current BHC residents or household members (e.g. children / dependents) in BHC's social and affordable housing portfolio including Coral, Opal and NRAS tenancies. NB: Only one member of the household can apply each round.
- Resident applying is not in rental arrears / owes money to BHC, OR if they are the resident must be engaged in a current payment plan and be making the required repayments.
- Applicants must explore and confirm they are not eligible for funding / support through any existing programs in the community.
- Applications must be for a specific activity or item that will improve the resident's education, employment or participation outcomes
- Each resident can only be successful once each financial year
- Applications cannot exceed the total value of \$800

How to apply

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

- Read these Guidelines to check your eligibility
- Check that you comply with timeframes for grant rounds
- Complete the short application on our website
- If you wish to download a hard copy/paper copy based form please visit our website and send completed form through to impact@bhcl.com.au



Scan to visit the
BHC website

Time Frames

LEAP Grants provide up to \$800 per successful grant, available within the following time frames:

- Round 1 - 18 September - 16 October 2023
- Round 2 - TBC

Will I have to share my story of receiving grant funding?

All grant recipients will be asked to provide feedback to BHC about the Grants program, what you liked and what we can improve, and how the funding helped you and/or your family. This information will be used for internal purposes to ensure that the program is achieving its aims. Any data used externally (e.g. number of participants, types of activities funded over the year etc.) will not be able to identify participants.

So that we can continue to raise funds and awareness to support initiatives like this, you will also be given the choice to be involved in external promotion of the grant. This could take many forms and you can remain anonymous if you wish. The ways that we might promote the grant include photographs, social media, verbal comments you make to us that we have your permission to share, and stories shared through events and media articles. This participation is completely voluntary.

What Happens Once I Submit My Application?

Once the grant round closes, applications will be assessed based on their response to the assessment criteria outlined in the application form. This process may take up to 8 weeks from the closing date for applications. BHC will contact all applicants to advise of the outcome of their application.

Are All Applications Successful?

Unfortunately there is a chance not all applications will be successful. Where applications have not addressed the assessment criteria, or where there is insufficient funding available, an application may be deemed unsuccessful. If unsuccessful, residents are welcome to apply again in the next round (if available). For any further feedback about an unsuccessful application, applicants are welcome to contact BHC's Community Development Team (see details below).

Finding out more

For further information, any questions regarding the application process or for assistance with your 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



The Learning, Employment and Participation (LEAP) 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](#).

