

Building Digital Skills grants

Good Things Foundation is delighted to be leading the Be Connected Grants program as part of the Be Connected program funded by the Department of Social Services. The Be Connected program (also referred to as Digital Literacy for Older Australians - DLOA) aims to support people over the age of 50 who do not engage with digital technology to thrive in a digital world and it includes a \$20m grant program which will run until June 2020.

Good Things Foundation is inviting all partners in the Be Connected network to apply once they have registered 24 people on the Be Connected learning website (12 people if you're in an outer regional, remote or very remote area).

The application process will be open in phases throughout the year to ensure that organisations can apply for funding when the time is right for them. Please see the table below for specific information.



	Application open	Application close	Delivery dates
Round 1	19 March 2018	6 April 2018	1 May 2018 - 30 June 2019
Round 2	1 May 2018	31 May 2018	1 July 2018 - 30 June 2019
Round 3	2 July 2018	27 July 2018	1 September 2018 - 30 June 2019
Round 4	3 September 2018	28 September 2018	1 November 2018 - 30 June 2019
Round 5	1 November 2018	30 November 2018	2 January 2019 - 31 December 2019
Round 6	1 February 2019	1 March 2019	25 March 2019 - 25 March 2020

The Project

The aim of the Building Digital Skills grants are to enable organisations to support older Australians to develop their digital literacy skills and confidence. There are **6** different contract sizes available to apply for. You will be asked in the application which contract you would like to apply for and if you would be willing to accept a different contract size if you are not successful with your first choice. Please be honest when answering this question as it will help us with assessment and allocation.

If you have multiple locations across Australia you are able to submit a bulk application for more than one grant. To do this you need to gain approval from Good Things Foundation, select "Applying for a grant for multiple organisations? - Please call us to get approval submitting an application of this type" from the dropdown and then email details of the multiple locations to connect@goodthingsfoundation.org. Please note, all locations need to be signed up-to the Be Connected Network as a Partner.

Successful applicants will be expected to meet the following requirements as part of the funding program:

Contract size	\$2,500	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$15,000
Number of Older Australians supported to gain digital literacy skills (measured through the Be Connected website)*	50	100	200	300

*Learners must be registered on [the Be Connected website](#) and complete at least 2 courses in over 30 minutes while logged in.

Delivery and how this is measured

All delivery will be measured by registered learners completing 2 courses or 10 activities from any of the topics on the Be Connected website. Completion of 2 courses or 10 activities should take 30 minutes or longer. We fully expect that the learner journey will continue beyond these minimum delivery goals and best practice would be to complete 4 or more courses.

Other requirements include:

- Attendance at training webinars and/or face-to-face events
- Providing an overview budget of how you expect to spend the grant and, on completion of delivery, sharing a grant acquittal to show actual expenditure.
- Providing good news stories/leads for case studies

As part of the Be Connected program, Good Things Foundation is pleased to offer a specialist program for organisations who are based in outer regional, remote and very remote areas. We've reduced the targets because we appreciate that it's more difficult to engage with and support individuals in these areas.

Contract size	\$2,500	\$5,000
Number of Older Australians supported to gain digital literacy skills (measured through the Be Connected website)	25	50

The additional requirements as listed above remain the same.

To check if you qualify to apply for a specialist contract, please use the [Doctor Connect website here](#). Simply type your organisation's address into the Doctor Connect government locator. Select the tick box "ASGS Remoteness Areas (2016)" found under the heading Australian Bureau of Statistics remoteness classifications. RA 1 (green) and RA 2 (pink) are Metro and Inner Regional. RA 3 (orange), RA 4 (blue) and RA 5 (yellow) are Outer Regional, Remote and Very Remote. If your location is categorised in one of the following, you can apply for a specialist contract:

- Outer regional
- Remote
- Very remote

If your organisation is categorised as being located in Major Cities or Regional, you do not qualify to apply for a specialist contract. If you select the wrong category and are successful, we will amend your contract to the correct region and you will be notified via your notification email.

Payment Schedule

For all contracts 100% payment will be released up front.

What can the grant be used for?

The funding can be spent on activities that can be justified as supporting older Australians to gain basic digital skills and confidence such as:

- new devices including computers, laptops, tablets, smartphones
- upgrading software for devices
- broadband fees
- digital mentor expenses, including training to be a digital mentor
- printing of learning materials for older Australian learners
- police checks for all staff and mentors involved in delivering the Be Connected coaching and support, if not in place already
- public liability insurance, if not in place already

The funding **cannot** be used on building materials and capital works.

Points to note

1. As part of the Be Connected program, there are a range of grants available to organisations in the Be Connected network to support older people in their communities to embrace digital. The one off Activation grant is designed to get you started in the Be Connected network, and to support learners through the Be Connected website. Activation grants are available until August 2019, with applications assessed and funding awarded on a monthly basis. You can apply for a grant at any time.

If you've registered 24 people onto the Be Connected website (12 people if you're in an outer regional, remote or very remote area), even if you do not hold an Activation grant, you are eligible to apply for a Building Digital Skills Grant in March, May, July and September 2018. You will be asked to acknowledge that you've registered 24 people (12 people if you're in an outer regional, remote or very remote area) before you start the application and we will double check that this requirement has been fulfilled.

2. Organisations must have an Australian Business Number (ABN) to be eligible to apply for this round of funding and accept a contract. If your organisation does not have one please click [here](#) to register. You will be required to enter your ABN number in the 'your payment details' prior to starting this funding application.

3. Successful organisations will need to accept the contract online and submit an invoice to Good Things Foundation to receive the funding. If organisations are GST registered, GST should be included on the invoice separately - templates will be provided.

4. Please note that we will not award more than \$150,000 net in any financial year to a single organisation. If you have multiple locations across Australia you are able to submit a bulk application. To do this you need to gain approval from Good Things Foundation, select "Applying for a grant for multiple organisations? - Please call us to get approval submitting an application of this type" and then email details of the multiple locations to connect@goodthingsfoundation.org

Application form

Step 1

Please select your organisation from the drop down box - the organisation you select is the organisation you are applying for funding for. In this section you should only be able to see the organisations that are attached to your account.

All eligibility criteria must be met before you can begin your application. For this funding opportunity you do need to provide an ABN number. You can input this, if you've not already done so, in the "your payment details" tab.

Step 2

Conditions of the grant

Please ensure that you can select yes to all of the qualifying criteria outlined below. Please note, if you aren't able to answer yes to all these points, you should not continue with your application.

- We have the potential and are willing to support a number of seniors (aged 50+ and as outlined in the table above) to gain digital literacy skills.
- I agree to undertake police checks for all digital mentors. Please note, if you are successful you won't be able to accept the terms and conditions of the grant until you have current police checks in place.
- I agree to ensure that our organisation has public liability insurance. Please note, if you are successful you won't be able to accept the terms and conditions of the grant until you have current police checks in place.
- We have fully accessible premises.
- We have an Australian Business Number - if you've not already supplied us with this information, you will need to input your Australian Business Number before you are able to apply.

You will then be asked to select which contract would you like to apply for, please select one from the dropdown. To check if you are eligible to apply for a specialist contract please refer to the information on page 3 and 4.

Contract size	\$2,500	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$15,000	\$5,000 (specialist)	\$2,500 (specialist)
Number of Older Australians supported to gain digital literacy skills (measured through the Be Connected website)*	50	100	200	300	50	25

At this stage we recommend that you click on the save and continue button before moving on.

Step 3 - Application Questions

The Project

Which target audience(s) are you aiming to support with your grant and through your digital literacy sessions?

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- Culturally and linguistically diverse individuals
- Older people (aged 50+)
- People with chronic/life limiting health conditions
- People with learning disabilities
- People with mental health conditions - mild
- People with mental health conditions - moderate
- People with mental health conditions - severe
- People with sensory impairments
- Physically disabled people

Please note that we expect every applicant to be supporting older people to gain digital literacy skills.

What would you like to call your project?

Give your project a short title, something we can use in publicity.

1. Your idea

Please tell us about the program that you'd like to deliver, including activities, objectives and intended benefits for your target demographic. We want you to tell us in a concise way exactly what funding from Good Things Foundation will allow you to do. You might want to shape your response around the following bullet points:

- *What you plan to do (outputs) and what effect this will have (outcomes)*
- *Who will benefit from your activity*
- *How you will embed the Be Connected website through blended learning to support your seniors to learn how to use the internet*
- *How many free one-on-one or small group sessions you will run each month?*
- *How you will spend the funding*

This question has a 250 word limit.

2. Why is this important in your community?

What is the need for this program and how do you know this need exists?

This question has a 100 word limit.

3. How much will it cost?

Provide an itemised budget to show how you will use the funds to deliver this program

This question has a 50 word limit.

4.Capacity

Provide evidence of your organisation's capacity to register the required amount of learners (eg. you have 300 older Australians who already access your services)

This question has a 100 word limit.

5.Getting your audience involved

Please tell us about the methods you will use to engage older Australians in your Be Connected program. In this answer we want to know:

- What marketing strategies you will use to engage with older Australians to encourage them to attend your digital literacy sessions
- Which partners you already work with or plan to work with and how they will support your delivery
- What networks/organisations you will work with to engage with new seniors
- Any specific campaigns you would plan or already have planned e.g. events during Adult learners week or Seniors week

Please give examples of your current practice, identify specific relationships you have with others and detail how these will support your project.

This question has a 200 word limit.

6. Measuring Impact

Please tell us about how you will capture evidence that shows how well your program is working

- You provide evidence of the impact of the project
- The project delivers against the outputs and outcomes in your application

In this answer we are looking for:

- How you will establish a baseline (the situation before the project began) against which the impact of the project can be compared
- How you will measure the progress of the project, so that you can make changes if necessary to ensure you deliver all outputs and outcomes
- How you will measure the overall final impact of the project
- What methods you will use to gather evidence for each stage of the evaluation, for example using an online survey or by interviewing the people who will benefit

This question has a 200 word limit.

Please note, the evaluation process should be relative to the contract size you are applying for. For example, we would expect to see a more in depth evaluation from an organisation who is applying for \$15,000 than \$5,000.

At this stage we recommend that you click on the save and continue button before moving on to submit.

Please ensure that you are happy with your application before submitting. Please note, once you have submitted your application you will be unable to edit it but you will be able to view the content in the “your applications” tab.

Remember you can contact our Network Team at any time if you have any questions about the application process. They can be contacted on (02) 9051 9292 or connect@goodthingsfoundation.org and are very happy to help.