

Digital Devices Grant Round 2 - Guidelines

The Digital Devices Grant program funds organisations in the Be Connected Network to provide loan devices and data to socially isolated or disadvantaged older Australians.

This grant program aims to combat social isolation for Australians aged 50+ by supporting those who are not currently connected to the internet at home.

75% of the Be Connected Network have said that some or all of their learners lack devices to use at home. This is a barrier for accessing essential information and support services, connecting with friends, family and social groups, shopping online, and continuing to improve their digital skills.

Funding through this program will deliver internet connected devices to these learners on a loan basis to improve their connection to the community.

About the Digital Devices Grant Program

Be Connected is an Australian government initiative committed to increasing the confidence, skills and online safety of older Australians. Be Connected aims to empower everyone to use the internet and everyday technology to thrive in our digital world. Good Things Foundation manages the Be Connected Network and Grants program.

One-off grants are available to Be Connected Network Partners through this funding round to purchase digital devices to loan out to older Australians who are socially isolated and require them to connect online.

At the end of the loan period, the devices must be returned to the Network Partner for ongoing use in their Be Connected program.

Grant amount and term

The total fund available for this program is \$1,200,000. Organisations can apply for either a \$2,500 (+GST if applicable) or a \$5,000 (+GST if applicable) one-off grant to assist socially isolated older Australians.

Grant funding must be spent on loan devices by 29 January 2021 and distributed to the selected learners as soon as possible after purchase.

Eligibility - Who can apply?

Organisations who would like to apply for a Digital Devices grant must:

- Be a registered Network Partner within the Be Connected Network
- Currently providing digital literacy support to older Australians aged 50+ through an active Be Connected Activation, Building Digital Skills or Capacity Building grant
- Acquitted previous grant/s awarded by Good Things Foundation

If you are not sure whether your contract is still active - please contact Good Things Foundation to check.

What do I have to do for the grant?

The grant will support Network Partners to purchase digital devices with data to loan to older Australians.

Network Partners will manage the loan process - responsible for repairs of faults, managing breakages, and ensure appropriate and thorough cleaning processes are in place between loans.

To assist Network Partners manage the loan process, Good Things Foundation has developed [Device Usage Guidelines](#), which outlines the conditions for use of a loan device, and a [Device Loan Agreement](#) for learners to sign before they accept the device.

Successful applicants will be required to:

- Purchase digital devices with 6 months prepaid sim cards/dongle with data and arrange safe transportation of devices to older Australians aged 50+
- Ensure devices are set up and ready to use prior to loaning them to learners - the device should have the sim installed, charged and ready for use. The Be Connected learning portal should be bookmarked along with any other apps or programs appropriate to the learner e.g. Zoom, Skype, govt apps etc.
- Detail who will receive the loaned device and how they were identified
- Outline how they will deliver the device to the learner
- Ensure the learner is aware of the Device Usage Guidelines and signs the Devices Loan Agreement prior to accepting the device
- Support learners use their loaned device by showing them how to switch the device on and guiding them through their first experience so they feel comfortable in using the device
- Show learners how to access the Be Connected learning program and support them develop their digital skills through online tech sessions
- Purchase devices by 29 January 2021 and forward copies of invoices (for devices only) to Good Things Foundation after purchase
- Have a continuity plan for the use of devices after the grant term has ended - outline how having additional devices will build capacity in your Be Connected

program e.g. allow you to host additional sessions to more people; be able to loan devices to learners to practice between classes; conduct outreach sessions etc.

What we are looking for?

With limited funding available, up to \$1,200,000 of grants will be awarded under this funding opportunity. Eligible applications will be competitively assessed on their merits with priority given to applications that can demonstrate the organisation:

- Has the capacity to deliver their Be Connected digital literacy program through a digital platform
- Is willing to support learners through a digital platform once devices have been loaned
- Has identified users in their community who do not have access to a device
- Has a continuity plan for the use of the devices after the grant term has ended
- Is willing to include their own devices to loan to learners
- Demonstrates good value for money

Use of Funds

You are required to clearly outline your proposed expenditure in the budget you submit with your application. You must specify the type and number of devices you plan to purchase, their costs, and where you plan to purchase them.

Funds can only be used for:

- Purchase of devices for the purpose of loaning them out to older Australians aged 50+
- Six month prepaid data (sim card; dongle with data)
- Protective case for devices
- Delivery costs for purchasing devices

Please note, funds cannot be used for ongoing operational costs or activities, staffing, administration and project management cost or to purchase software.

Grant recipients will be required to purchase their devices and email copies of invoices to connect@goodthingsfoundation.org by **Friday, 29 January 2021**.

Payments

The full amount of the grant, plus GST if applicable, will be transferred to your nominated bank account from 14 December 2020, once a contract has been accepted online and an invoice has been emailed to connect@goodthingsfoundation.org.

Project timeline

Activity	Date
Online applications open	Monday, 2 November 2020
Deadline for applications	Friday, 27 November 2020 by 23:55 (AEDT)
Communication of results to all applicants	Friday, 11 December 2020
Payment date	Monday 14 December 2020
Deadline for purchase of devices and submission of invoices to Good Things Foundation	Friday 29 January 2021
Project start and finish date	1 January to 31 July 2021
Final report	31 August 2021

Reporting

Successful applicants will be required to submit a final report and financial acquittal within one month of the contract ending. In the report, we would like to know:

1. What digital devices were purchased and quantity
2. How many learners aged 50+ were loaned devices
3. How many of these learners were new to Be Connected
4. How many of these learners registered on CaptureIT
5. What level of support did you provide learners throughout the loan period
6. Where are the digital devices now, and how are they being utilised in the ongoing delivery of your Be Connected digital literacy classes
7. How the grant funds were spent - please include an expenditure statement, certified correct by an office holder in your organisation, accounting for the expenditure of grant funds
8. Learner journey and good news stories - please share some quotes/stories from learners so Good Things Foundation can create case studies

How do I apply?

Applications close on Friday, 27 November 2020. You need to log in to the [Be Connected Network Partner site](#) and submit your application online. Applications that are late or incomplete will not be accepted.

Unfortunately, no bulk grants will be awarded under this funding opportunity. Larger organisations who have previously received bulk grants, will have to submit individual applications for each registered Network Partner location.

Application form

Question 1 will be pre-filled but you should double check that the information is correct.

Question 2 will check that you qualify for the grant and be asked which contract you would like to apply for.

Question 3 is where you tell us about your project.

Application Questions:

1. Your organisation and application details

The following fields will be pre-filled. Please check that your details are correct.

- 1.1. Organisation name
- 1.2. Network Partner number
- 1.3. Centre address
- 1.4. Primary contact
- 1.5. Telephone number
- 1.6. Email address

2. Conditions of grant

Please ensure that you can select yes to all of the qualifying criteria outlined below:

- We are currently providing digital literacy support to older Australians aged 50+ through an active Be Connected Activation, Building Digital Skills or Capacity Building grant
- We agree to purchase devices and data for the purpose of loaning them to socially isolated older Australians aged 50+
- We will purchase all devices by 29 January 2021
- Following the purchase of devices, we will email copies of invoices to Good Things Foundation
- We will ensure the learner is aware of the Device Usage Guidelines
- We will ensure the learner signs a Device Loan Agreement prior to them accepting the device
- We will support learners set up and use their loaned device
- We will support learners develop their digital skills through online tech sessions
- We will utilise returned devices in the ongoing delivery of Be Connected classes
- We are willing to accept a different contract size if we are not successful with our first choice

You will then be asked to select which contract would you like to apply for - please select one from the dropdown.

Contract Size	\$2,500 to purchase digital devices to loan out to older Australians aged 50+ who are socially isolated	\$5,000 to purchase digital devices to loan out to older Australians aged 50+ who are socially isolated
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3. The Project

3.1. Which target audience(s) are you aiming to reach

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders
- Culturally and linguistically diverse individuals
- Individuals based in outer regional, rural and remote areas
- Older people
- 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
- People with a physical disability

3.2. How will you spend your grant funds - Please provide an itemised and costed budget and mention type and number of devices you will purchase, and where they will be purchased from (Word limit: 100 words)

3.3. Please detail who will receive the loaned device and how they were identified (Word limit: 200 words)

3.4. Please outline your process to set up and deliver the device to learners and how you will support them use their loaned device? (Word limit: 200 words)

3.5. Capacity to deliver through a digital platform - Please outline how you will support learners develop their digital skills through online tech sessions (Word limit: 200 words)

3.6. Please outline your continuity plan for the use of devices after the grant term has ended (Word limit: 200)

Review, save and submit

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