



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2024-2025

Ms Nicole Lawder MLA (Chair), Ms Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy Chair),
Miss Laura Nuttall MLA

ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE DURING PUBLIC HEARINGS

Asked by: Miss Laura Nuttall MLA

Addressed to: Chief Minister

Reference: Uncorrected Hansard Transcript [Page 91]

Hearing Date: 23 July 2024

Answer Due Date: 29 July 2024

MISS NUTTALL: Thank you, that really helps. A quick supplementary if that is okay. So the Capital of Equality ...(indistinct)...[3.09.24] applications that engage young people aged 12 to 25 and yet the minimum age for the application I believe is set at 18. Would you be able to explain the reason behind that age restriction?

Mr Barr: I believe that will relate to some legal requirements around the entity receiving the grant, that you might need to be an adult, so I think adults can auspice on behalf of minors but we will just double-check that that is correct.

Ms Barbaro: Yes, I think we need to take that on notice.

THE CHAIR: You will take that on notice?

Mr Barr: Yes.

Mr Barr MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Under the current Capital of Equality Grants Program guidelines individuals are eligible to apply for funding under two streams, which are Stream 1 - Connection Fund and Stream 3 - LGBTIQA+ Leadership.

Both streams require an individual applicant to be an Australian Citizen, permanent resident, or on a temporary Australian visa expiring no less than two years from the application date; have satisfactorily acquitted all previous grants from the ACT Government (except for the current year's funding), if applicable and to reside in the ACT or surrounding regions.

Additionally, Stream 3, which funds professional development opportunities for emerging and established leaders, requires applicants to demonstrate evidence of being a community leader (through a letter of support) and financial need for the grant.

There are no explicitly stated age restrictions for funding under either of the streams. However, Stream 1 requires successful applicants to enter into a deed of grant (contract) between the applicant and the Territory, which is legally binding. It allows projects to be auspiced by a registered not-for-profit organisation, thus enabling individuals to apply for funding under a condition that an auspicing body will be taking legal and financial responsibility for the grant.

Stream 3 is treated as a donation, with only a confirmation of funding issued via email. Currently, this stream requires applicants to have a bank account.

The publicly available grants guidelines are being updated. The Office of LGBTIQ+ Affairs will offer additional clarity for individuals under 18 in the updated guidelines, including requiring an auspicing body for Stream 1 applications and proof of parental/guardian consent for Stream 3 applications.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2024-2025

Signature:



Date: **31.7.24**

By the Chief Minister, Andrew Barr MLA