

Enabling Lives Initiative (ELI) Grant (2020 - 2024)

Frequently Asked Questions

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General

1. What is the ELI Grant about? What does it fund?

The Enabling Lives Initiative (ELI) Grant is a renewed tranche of up to \$20 million in grants to bring together the best ideas from the community of non-profit organisations, social enterprises and innovators to create scalable, impactful innovations for persons with disabilities. The Grant is funded by Tote Board and administered by SG Enable.

The ELI Grant, formerly known as the Tote Board Enabling Lives Initiative Grant, was first launched in 2015. Since then, there have been 10 Grant Calls (with two thematic Grant Calls a year), with a total of over 40 projects supported under the first tranche (2015 – 2020).

The renewed tranche (2020 – 2024) remains relevant in spurring innovation to meet the needs of persons with disabilities, bringing together the community to improve the Quality of Life of persons with disabilities. The funding seeks to support the initial resource-intensive phase of embarking on projects¹ and programmes.

2. What are the key focus areas of the Grant?

The ELI Grant will focus on the following key areas:

Living Independently: Empower persons with disabilities to better manage life transitions and encourage greater levels of independence and self-sufficiency.

Realising Potentials: Enable persons with disabilities to thrive and have opportunities for meaningful employment and experiences by developing their skills and knowledge.

Connecting Communities: Engage the community to increase the accessibility of services, facilities and opportunities to create a more inclusive society.

3. Who are the target beneficiaries of projects¹/programmes supported by this Grant?

The main target beneficiaries of the projects/programmes supported by the Grant are persons with disabilities. The Grant will consider all worthy projects, but priority will be given to projects that answer to the grant call theme.

4. What are the disability profiles supported under this Grant?

The Grant funds projects/programmes that serve at least one of these 4 disability types:

- .1 Physical Disabilities
- .2 Sensory Disabilities (Visual Impairment and/or Deaf or Hard of Hearing)
- .3 Intellectual Disabilities
- .4 Autism

¹Refers to development and adaptation of products, prototypes and toolkits, online platforms and applications.

Eligibility Criteria

1. Who is eligible to apply for the Grant?

The Grant is open to all registered Social Service Agencies, Non-Private Hospitals, Social Enterprises, Institutes of Higher Learning, Research Institutes and Commercial Entities. Commercial entities are to partner with at least one of the other entities to be eligible for the Grant.

2. Can individuals apply?

No. The Grant only accepts applications from registered Social Service Agencies, Non-private Hospitals, Social Enterprises, Institutes of Higher Learning, Research Institutes and Commercial Entities. Commercial entities are to partner with at least one of the other entities to be eligible for the Grant.

3. Can I apply jointly with another partner organisation?

Yes. In fact, applicants that seek collaboration and partnership with another organisation will be evaluated more favorably. There is no limit to the number of collaborators or partners in a single application. A single organisation can also be part of more than one application.

4. I am a past/existing Grantee of the Tote Board Enabling Lives Initiative Grant (2015 – 2020). Can I re-apply for funding for my completed project/programme?

Yes. We recognise some projects/programmes may require a longer germination period before they achieve longer-term sustainability. The ELI Grant supports a stepped-down funding of up to 70% co-funding for projects/programmes that have performed well and require a second round of funding.

The projects/programmes re-applying for funding must be completed by the time the Grant Call closes. Such applications will be evaluated with all other applications as part of the ongoing Grant Call. Only one repeat application is allowed per project/programme.

5. I am a past/existing Grantee of the Tote Board Enabling Lives Initiative Grant (2015 – 2020). Can I still put in an application for a new project/programme idea?

Yes. You can submit an application for a new project/programme even if you are already an existing grantee at the point of application. All good ideas are welcomed!

6. What types of projects/ programmes are eligible for funding?

The Grant funds new innovative ideas and supports scaling up of existing projects and programmes such as development and adaptation of products, prototypes and toolkits, online platforms and applications, and programmes and services.

Projects/programmes that are solely research-based will not be supported unless the research serves to support the process required to deliver the final project/programme.

7. What types of projects/programmes are not eligible for funding?

Funding will not be extended to:

- Projects/programmes that do not benefit persons with disabilities in Singapore
- Projects/programmes that involves investments or are speculative activities/transactions
- Existing mainstream government projects/programmes or services
- Projects/programmes that are already receiving other funding from Tote Board
- Projects/programmes that do not directly benefit persons with disabilities (e.g. projects/programmes that are solely research-based, or projects/programmes used solely for internal organisation capability-building)
- Projects/programmes that only benefit an individual
- Projects/programmes that promote a religion, or a certain political ideology or party
- Commercial projects/programmes that are solely for profit-making

8. What should the value of my project/programme be in order to be eligible for the funding?

All projects/programmes should be of a minimum value of \$80,000.

Funding Guidelines

1. What is the funding quantum for first-time applicants of a new project/programme?

The Grant will fund up to **50% to 90%** of the project/programme's eligible expenses. The final funding amount and components will be decided by the Evaluation Panel, and in some situations, Tote Board. Grant applicants are expected to co-fund, or seek other funding sources to cover the remaining expenses not covered by the Grant.

The final funding amount and funding components to be funded will be decided by the Evaluation Panel, and in some situations, Tote Board based on merits of the proposal and the applicant's organisation type.

2. What is the funding quantum for projects/programmes that have performed well and require a second round of funding?

The Grant will fund up to **50% to 70%** of the project/programme's eligible expenses. The final funding amount and funding components will be decided by the Evaluation Panel, and in some situations, Tote Board. Grant applicants are expected to co-fund, or seek other funding sources to cover the remaining expenses not covered by the Grant.

3. What are eligible expenses that are claimable under the Grant?

Eligible expenses for claims are costs directly related to project/programme development such as Expenditure on Manpower (EOM) and Other Operating Expenditure (OOE) such as marketing and outreach, equipment, software and consumables, third-party research and consultancy. Daily and recurring operating costs of the organisation and manpower costs that are not related to the project/programme or which would have been incurred regardless whether the project/programme is awarded, will not be funded.

4. What is the funding duration for projects/programmes?

All projects/programmes must be of a **minimum duration of 1 year** and up to a **maximum of 3 years**.

5. Can I charge beneficiaries for the products/programmes/services that will be supported under the Grant?

We generally discourage charging for products/programmes/services that are supported under this Grant. Subject to approval, applicants may charge a nominal fee for their project/programme. The fees charged must be kept affordable, and any revenue made should only be used towards payment of the project/programme's overheads and running costs as well as expenses not covered by the Grant.

Details of the pricing model, income derived from such fees charged and what it will be used for will have to be declared in project/programme progress reports.

Application for the Grant

1. When can I apply for the Grant?

Applicants can put in an application when a Grant Call opens. Please check the Enabling Lives Initiative Grant website at <https://www.eli-Grant.sg> for all Grant Call schedules.

2. How do I apply for the Grant?

Applicants can download the application form from the Enabling Lives Initiative Grant website (<https://www.eli-Grant.sg>). The completed application form and supporting documents are to be submitted by email to eli-Grant@sgenable.sg with subject title: ELI Grant Call <Number> Application – <Project/ Programme Name> by <Organisation’s Name>.

3. What documents do I need to provide when applying for the Grant?

Applicants must complete the prescribed application form. Additional documents or information may be required for submission after the projects/programmes have been shortlisted.

4. Can I submit more than one application during each Grant Call?

Yes. There is no limit to the number of applications one can put in. However, applicants are strongly encouraged to focus their efforts on developing their project/programme idea, and to put up a strong proposal. Each application should also be of a different project/programme idea.

5. Can I submit an application for projects/programmes that do not fall under the current Grant Call theme?

Yes, applications that do not fall under the current Grant Call theme will still be accepted. However, priority will be given to applications that fall under the current theme.

6. What support will I receive as an applicant?

A briefing is typically held to share with applicants the intent and mission of the Grant, as well as the theme and problem statement of the current Grant Call. The session also aims to provide a platform for ideation and cross-fertilisation of possible solutions between sector and non-sector players and for collaboration amongst stakeholders.

7. How can I track the status of my application?

Applicants will be updated periodically on the status of their application via email or telephone by the ELI Grant Team.

Applicants can also write to eli-grant@sgenable.sg with their enquiries.

8. When will I know the outcome of my application?

Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their applications approximately three to six months after the Grant Call closes.

9. I was informed that my application is unsuccessful. Can I make an appeal for my application to be re-evaluated?

There is no appeal process for unsuccessful applications. However, applicants are welcome to submit their revised proposals in the subsequent Grant Calls.

Evaluation

1. What are the evaluation criteria?

Projects/programme will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Innovation
- Collaboration
- Feasibility
- Sustainability

All proposals are required to meet at least one of the desired outcomes of the Grant:

- Persons with disabilities experience increased psychological and emotional well-being
- Persons with disabilities show improvements in their life skills (such as independent living skills, functional skills etc.) as much as their potential allows
- Persons with disabilities are able to make informed decision and planning via better support and access to information, programme and product navigation
- Persons with disabilities have more opportunities to participate in social, family, economic and community life

2. What is the evaluation process?

Upon receipt of your completed application form, the ELI Grant Team will send you an acknowledgement email. We may further get in touch with you to better understand your project/programme idea. You may also be requested to provide more information where necessary, and to further develop and refine your project/programme idea. Shortlisted applicants will be required to pitch their project/programme in person to the Evaluation Panel.

Depending on the funding amount that is sought, the evaluation and approving authorities are as follow:

| Funding Amount | Evaluation and Approving Authority |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Up to \$1 million Singapore Dollars | Evaluation and approval by Evaluation Panel. |
| Above \$1 million Singapore Dollars | Support by the Evaluation Panel, evaluation and approval by an appropriate Committee/Board within Tote Board. |