



ASPIRE FOUNDATION Funding Explanation

Overview

The Aspire Foundation was established in 2001 to address the barriers to education and employment faced by those experiencing disadvantage. Aspire strongly believes that all people should have access to training that leads to education and employment pathways, and imparts a lifelong desire for learning. The key objective of the Aspire Foundation is to contribute to projects which assist disadvantaged groups and individuals to access high-quality vocational education and training by providing grant funding.

Who is eligible to apply?

Applications for funds are invited from not-for-profit educational and/or community organisations.

What sort of projects will be funded?

Projects must meet one or more of the following criteria:

1. Assist people to access vocational training, particularly those that are educationally disadvantaged.
2. Address the barriers to education, training and employment that many groups and individuals face.
3. Provide pathways to training and/or employment.
4. Provide project participants with tangible vocational or LLN skills at the completion of the education/training program.
5. Improve the motivation, engagement and retention in education of disadvantaged groups through the development of exciting and relevant training.

Funding will not be provided for:

- Individuals or political parties.
- Capital works or maintenance of buildings.
- Ongoing employment of staff.
- Travel.
- Commercial gain.
- Projects involving children less than 15 years of age.

Selection process

The Aspire Foundation gives priority to organisations operating on a limited funding basis. We look for innovative approaches and projects developed based on identified educational needs within the community.

Final approval of projects will be at the discretion of Aspire's Board of Directors. Applications will be assessed based on the following selection criteria:

1. The project's focus on outcomes, rather than intentions.
2. The extent to which the proposal is based on a demonstrated need in the community.
3. The extent to which the project is sustainable and can be adopted by other staff in your organisation.
4. Endorsement by your organisation's management.
5. The project's demonstrated capacity to achieve its objectives.
6. The project's evaluation is built into the project plan.

Applications will not be accepted unless they include an overview of timelines and the project budget.

**Amount of funding**

The maximum amount of funding that will be provided for an individual project per annum is \$15,000. Funding will be allocated based on the funds required to run specific projects.

Conditions of funding

During the project Aspire asks that you provide several progress reports. This will include a final report with a written evaluation and financial statement due within 30 days after the completion of the project. Aspire will provide templates for these written reports. Content required will include updates on project timelines, outcomes, performance against the budget, and other content representing the project such as photos, stories, links to articles etc.

Aspire may wish to use this information and other relevant content collected on the Aspire website; in promotional campaigns; and as content on Aspire's social media. This will be negotiated with successful applicants upon signing of the grant contract. Aspire's contribution must also be acknowledged on project materials such as articles, other promotional materials and at all public events related to the project.