

BUILDING BLOCKS



FACT SHEET IMPROVEMENT STREAM OVERVIEW

Building Blocks is critical to support the roll out of funded Three-Year-Old Kindergarten across the state and to help meet the growing demand for Four-Year-Old Kindergarten.

Grants support local councils and early learning providers to build, expand and improve kindergartens or make them more inclusive.

Grants also support early years providers purchase Information Technology equipment.

INTRODUCING BUILDING BLOCKS

Building Blocks is a planning and funding program run by the Victorian Government to help deliver the early childhood infrastructure Victoria needs over this decade.

Building Blocks grants simplify and replace previous grant schemes - the Children's Facilities Capital Program and the Inclusive Kindergartens Facilities Program – used to upgrade our kindergarten services and make them more inclusive.

Those programs funded upgrades to buildings and playgrounds and invested in equipment that made a big difference to how Victorian kindergarten services meet the educational and social needs of children of all abilities.

Building Blocks grants will still achieve those goals, while being better equipped to create the extra kindergarten places we need for the future.

There are three grant streams – capacity building, improvement and inclusion.

Capacity Building grants provide funding to increase capacity for Three and Four-Year-Old funded Kindergarten.

Inclusion grants provide funding to upgrade facilities, or purchase equipment, to provide safe and inclusive environments for children of all abilities.

IMPROVEMENT BUILDING STREAM

Funding is available for projects that upgrade and improve early learning facilities, or invest in IT equipment:

There are three grant categories available:

- Early Learning Facility Upgrades
- Minor Infrastructure
- Information Technology



TABLE 1: OVERVIEW OF IMPROVEMENT STREAM GRANTS

GRANT TYPE	MAXIMUM GRANT	MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS
Early Learning Facility Upgrades	\$300,000 (ex GST)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Learning Facility Upgrades must improve the quality of the learning environment. • Your project must be for a facility in Victoria that is, or will be, licensed to provide a funded Three and Four-Year-Old Kindergarten program, and must offer or intend to offer both programs. This can be sessional and/or integrated with long day care. If you are unable to deliver both programs, please contact the VSBA Early Childhood Grants team to discuss your options. • Applicants are also encouraged to consider the potential for renovated facilities to support the provision of other early childhood services. • Although not a requirement, upgrades that increase capacity of licensed places at existing facilities will be viewed favourably in the assessment process. • Applicant co-contribution is expected.
Minor Infrastructure	\$50,000 (ex GST)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor Improvements must enhance the quality of the learning environment. • Your project must be for a facility located in Victoria that is, or will be, licensed to provide a funded Three and Four-Year-Old Kindergarten program, and must offer or intend to offer both programs. This can be sessional and/or integrated with long day care. If you are unable to deliver both programs, please contact the VSBA Early Childhood Grants team to discuss your options.
Information Technology	Up to \$1,500 (ex GST)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information Technology grants support the purchase of desktop, laptop or tablet computers and televisions for use in the delivery of educational programs or service administration.