Workforce Qualification Assistance Grant

Information Session February 2020



Overview of session

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Purpose

- The National Quality Framework Review, the Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) Workforce Action Plan (WAP) Reviews and ECEC Census data have highlighted that sufficient supply of qualified Early Childhood Teachers (ECTs) remains an ongoing issue for the sector in Queensland.
- Services operating without appropriately qualified staff will not meet legislative requirements under the National Law at the end of 2021.
- There is significant evidence that children participating in a quality program delivered by an early childhood teacher, in the year before school, contributes to positive learning outcomes.
- The purpose of this grant is to support the early childhood and education and care sector to increase the number of qualified Early Childhood Teachers (ECTs) to deliver quality early learning programs to all Queensland children regardless of their location or circumstance.

Eligibility

Queensland early childhood services that are required, under National Law, to comply with *Education and Care Services National Regulations* 130 to 134 (Requirement for an early childhood teacher in centre based services).

Priorisation of Funding

All applications will be assessed against selection criteria outlined in Section 6. Applications will be prioritised as follows:

- Priority 1: Services with staff who are due to complete their ECT qualification by the end of 2021 and maybe experiencing barriers to completion.
- Priority 2: Services that have no staff working towards appropriate ECT qualifications and do not currently employ an ECT.

Use of Funding

Funding is available for eligible services to procure and implement:

- relief staff to support ECT student placement and study leave;
- travel and accommodation costs associated with ECT placement and study leave; and
- purchase of equipment and resources for the service to support its educators to complete legislatively required ECT qualifications;
- any activities or incidental costs that will reduce barriers for educators to complete their ECT qualification.

❖ Applications for funding are to be submitted for individual services.

Selection Criteria

Selection Criteria	Supporting Evidence Required
1. Approved Providers' demonstrated willingness, ability and commitment to supporting services' ongoing staffing compliance.	 Provide a brief statement outlining the current qualifications held by staff currently employed by the service and the steps taken by the service to support staff in gaining appropriate qualifications.
2. Demonstrated workforce plan and implementation of sustainable attraction and retention strategies.	Provide a detailed workforce plan clearly identifying the strategies in place to attract, upskill and retain staff to ensure compliance and sustainability.
3. Demonstrated value for money	 List proposed expenditure plan and associate costs, including any co- contribution, in the budget table provided in the Application Form.

Application Assessment – SC1

Approved Providers' demonstrated willingness, ability and commitment to supporting services' ongoing staffing compliance.

 Provide a brief statement outlining the current qualifications held by staff currently employed by the service and the steps taken by the service to support staff in gaining appropriate qualifications.

Application Assessment – SC2

Demonstrated workforce plan and implementation of sustainable attraction and retention strategies.

 Provide a detailed workforce plan clearly identifying the strategies in place to attract, upskill and retain staff to ensure compliance and sustainability.

Application Assessment – SC3

Demonstrated value for money

• List proposed expenditure plan and associate costs, including any co-contribution, in the budget table provided in the Application Form.

Assessment of applications

Every application will be assessed upon receipt for eligibility.

A panel of assessors review and assess every application against:

- the two priorities
- the responses to each of the three criteria

Timeline

Frequently Asked Questions will be updated on the night of 25 February after all information sessions have been conducted.

Applications Close 28 February 5pm

Successful and unsuccessful applicants will be notified by 30 April 2020

If you are successful you will be sent a Service Agreement for signing which must be returned by 1 June 2020 to ensure payment by 30 June 2020

Questions?



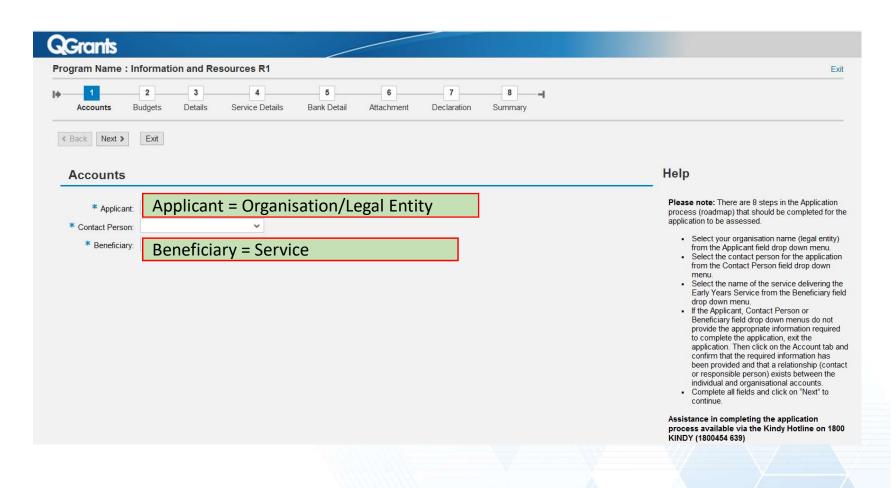
QGrants - Applications

CREATE APPLICATION

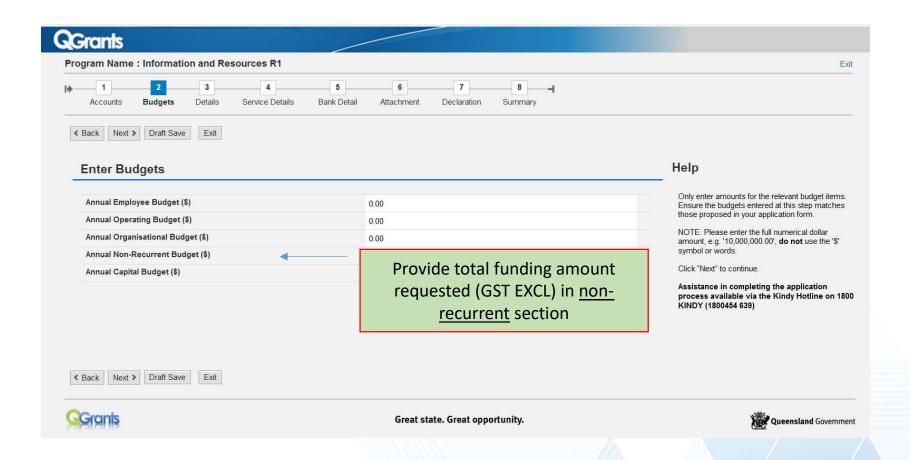
Under the application tab:

- select 'new'
- then select 'EYS Sector Support' as the grant program.

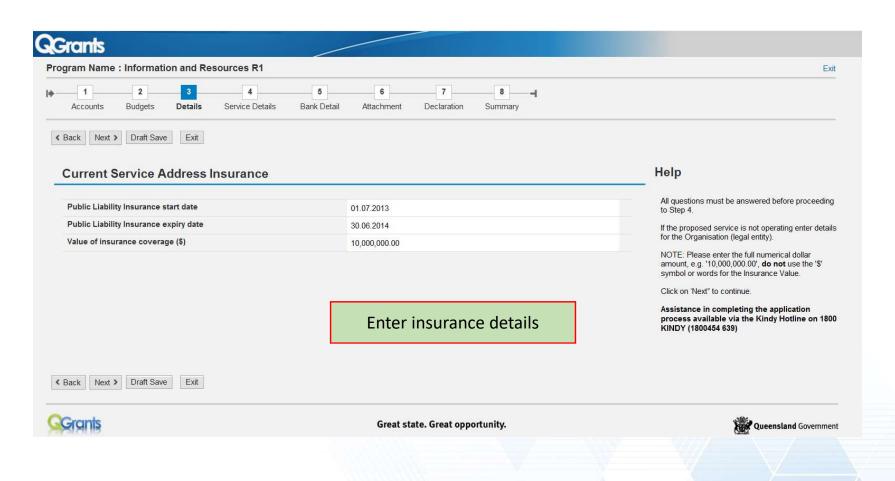
Step 1: Accounts



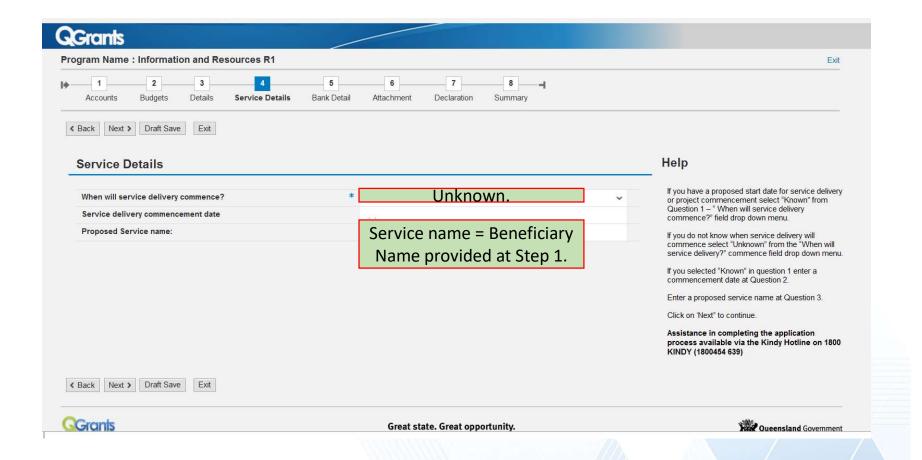
Step 2: Budget



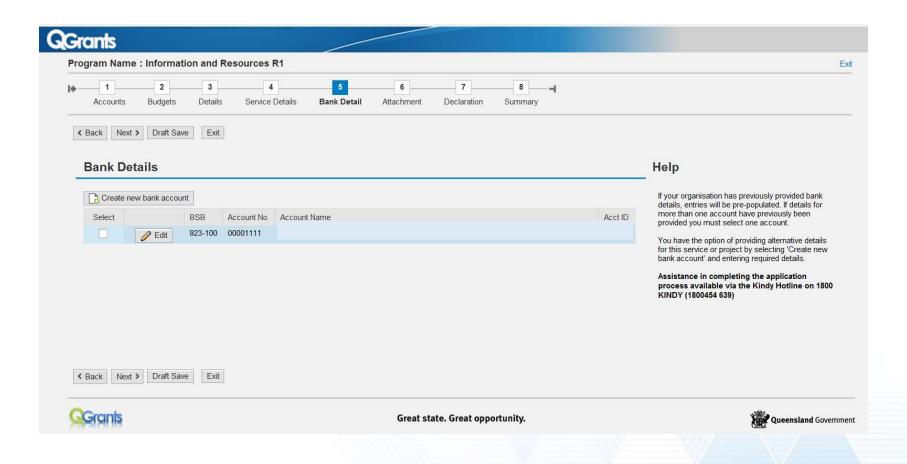
Step 3: Details



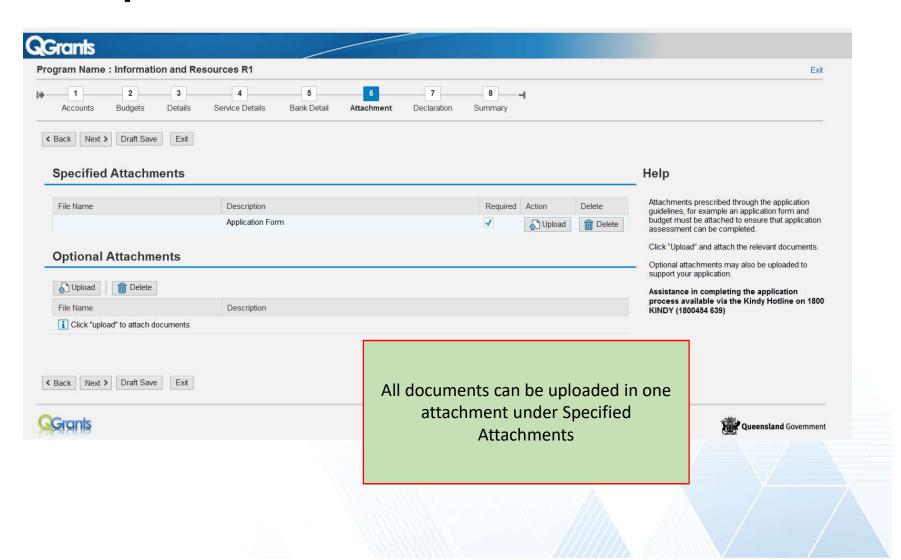
Step 4: Service Details



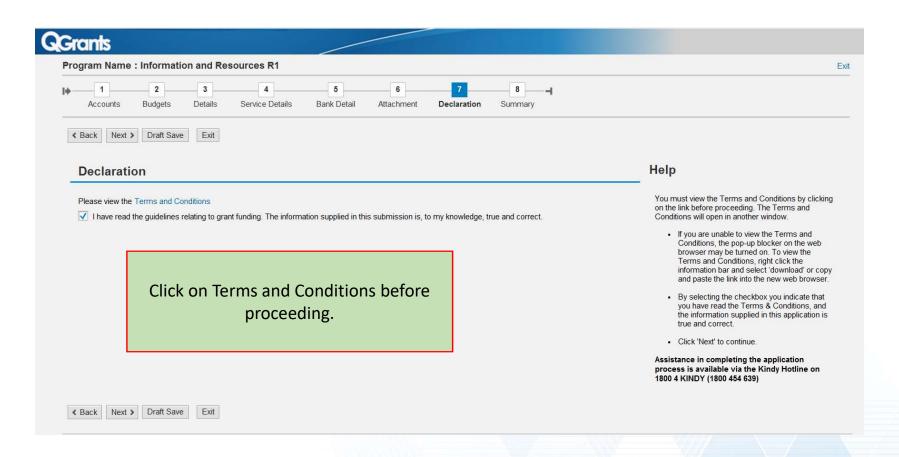
Step 5: Bank Details



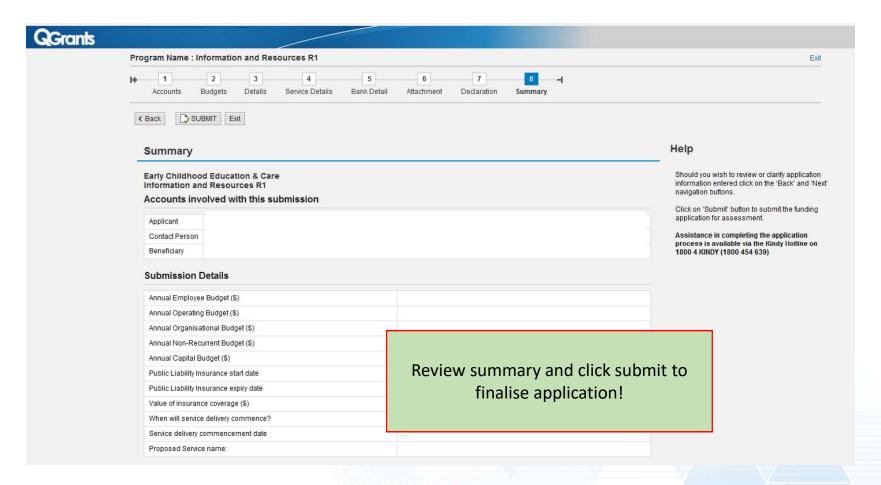
Step 6: Attachment



Step 7: Declaration



Step 8: Summary



Qgrants Support

All applications must be lodged via QGrants prior to 5pm, 28 Febraury 2020.

Refer to QGrants Application Guide

https://earlychildhood.qld.gov.au/funding-and-support/grants-tenders-and-funding/grants-management/grants-management

Contact us **ASAP** if you are having difficulty lodging your application through QGrants

Telephone: **3328 6687**

Email: WorkforceQualificationGrant.qed.qld.gov.au

QED Contact Officers

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