

Enabling Lives Initiative Grant 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 second tranche (2020 – 2024) continues to play a crucial role in driving innovation to address the needs of persons with disabilities, fostering community collaboration to enhance their Quality of Life. The funding aims to support the resource-intensive initial phase of launching projects and programs. To date, six grant calls have been conducted, supporting over 20 projects.

Building on the foundation from past ELI tranches, the third tranche of ELI (ELI3) seeks to:

- Enhance the role of SG Enable as a backbone organisation to achieve collective impact in the key focus areas at the grant level.
- Play the role as a venture builder to grow and catalyse high-potential social innovations to meet the needs and gaps in the disability sector.

2. What are the key focus areas for the ELI3?

ELI3 will be focusing on empowering families and post-18 persons with disabilities to thrive and lead meaningful lives. Specifically, the Grant seeks to engender change in the following areas:

- Living and care support in the community;
- Improving community participation & engagement; and
- Livelihood and economic empowerment.

3. How does ELI3 differ from the previous ELI tranches?

To ensure collective impact by the end of the tranche and to increase the success rate of projects and programs funded by ELI3, shortlisted applicants will collaborate with appointed Incubation Partner. This collaboration aims to mentor, develop, and incubate high-potential ideas through resources and training workshops. Known as the incubation process, this initiative helps shortlisted applicants enhance the quality of their applications, particularly in needs analysis and market research.

4. 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.

5. 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 (registered under Singapore Centre for Social Enterprise (raiSE)), 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 (registered under Singapore Centre for Social Enterprise (raiSE)), 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. 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. 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/organisations
- 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 between **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 between **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 the 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 are the non-supportable components for the Grant?

Refer below for the list of non-supportable components. The list of non-supportable components is not exhaustive and may be updated at any time by the ELI Grant Team. SGE reserves the right to make the final decision on claimable items and amounts.

Company Set Up Related	Staff Related	Operations Related
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secretariat Fees for company registration and start-up cost 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-employment Check-up Mobile claims Medical benefits Flexi-benefits Fees for conferences/events Entertainment costs Overseas Travel and accommodation costs Leave encashment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilities Bank charges Legal fees Debt/Loan/Fine/Interest repayments Other expenses not integral to project

5. 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**.

6. 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 submit the proposal via the e-application form from the Enabling Lives Initiative Grant website <https://www.eli-Grant.sg>.

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 and problem statement?

Yes, applications that do not fall under the current Grant Call theme and problem statement 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 Choose an item. approximately two to three 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 mainly on the following criteria:

- Collaboration
- Innovation
- Needs Analysis
- Reach
- Scalability/Adaptability/Adoptability
- Team Composition

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

- Persons with disabilities improve their ability to live independently in their communities.
- Persons with disabilities increase their participation in social, family and community life.
- Persons with disabilities increase their economic participation* for the stipulated project period (*Economic participation includes full/part time employment and alternative employment models such as micro-jobs, gig jobs, internships, etc.).
- Caregivers improve their ability to care and support persons with disabilities.

2. What is the evaluation process?

Upon receiving your completed application form, the ELI Grant Team will send an acknowledgement email. We may contact you to better understand your project/programme idea and request additional information if needed.

Shortlisted applicants must participate in the incubation process, which includes training workshops and customised guidance from the Incubation Partner. After completing the incubation process, applicants will submit their refined applications for evaluation. Those shortlisted after incubation process will 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, approved by Tote Board Approving Authority

For other enquiries, please email to eli-grant@sgenable.sg