

Family Services Community Grant

Frequently Asked Questions

How has the FSCG program been restructured for 2019?

The 2019 Family Services Community Grants (FSCG) program, presented by Toys“R”Us, has been structured to reflect the need for more collaborative service delivery approaches and build the scope of promising evidence-based practices across the country.

The FSCG program is committed to enhancing services to improve the quality of life for individuals with autism and their families by acting locally and thinking nationally. Based on the current needs, the FSCG program;

- drives collaboration,
- fosters innovation,
- promotes replication,
- establishes open sharing of resources, learnings and practices.

To this end, Autism Speaks Canada will focus on two key streams of funding. Both streams will be collaborative in nature, where a minimum of two (2) organizations must jointly submit for a grant:

- (i) Innovation Grants
- (ii) Replication Grants

Key Areas

To promote services to underserved communities, special consideration will be given to programs which are developed that intentionally support any of the following 10 key areas:

Note: the 10 key areas are not mandatory to be eligible for the Family Services Community Grants, however, special consideration will be provided for applications which have developed programs accessible for any of these areas.

Aging and Autism

- Program delivery targeted to support senior citizens with ASD.

Cultural and Language

- Programs focused on addressing challenges related to cultural and linguistic diversity.

Dual Diagnosis

- Autism plus another health-related issue (mental health, obesity, epilepsy, ADHD, etc.)

Housing

- Addressing housing solutions to support independence and enhance quality of life

Indigenous Communities

- Inclusion and addressing of needs specific to, and collaborating with, Indigenous peoples including First Nations, Aboriginal, Inuit, Métis, Non-Status and Native communities both on and off-reserve.

Innovative Use of Technology

- Implementation of technology for innovative program delivery methods (e.g.: screening, intervention, networking, virtual reality, etc.)

Rural and Remote Communities

- Focus on capacity building in rural and remote communities.

Self-Advocate Leadership

- Inclusion of individuals with lived experience in program development and support in leadership roles.

Sexual & Gender Diversification

- Equitable gender involvement, inclusion of individuals with diversities of sex characteristics, orientations and gender identities, programs addressing sexual and gender diversification.

Social Inclusion

- Inclusion of individuals with ASD in broader community and engagement of non-ASD community.

What is the main difference between Innovation Grants and Replication Grants?

Innovation Grants

The intention of innovation grants are to promote cooperation and partnership to enhance innovative service delivery approaches. The maximum award for each grant is \$40,000. Each grant will be awarded to a project involving two or more organizations. All partner organizations must show an active role and responsibility in program creation, implementation and evaluation.

Area of focus

Innovation grants will be awarded to proposals that address *new and unique service delivery solutions* to support the needs of individuals with ASD across Canada. Funds are provided to support programs to deliver service, build evaluation surrounding the program and demonstrate impact in the community. Projects must focus on capacity building to establish promising practices and build evidenced-based service delivery. Funded projects will inform service delivery methods for other communities across the country.

Replication Grants

The intention of replication grants is to increase the availability of evidence-based programs for individuals with ASD across Canada. The maximum award for each grant is \$40,000. Each grant will be awarded to a project involving two or more organizations. All partner organizations must show an active role and responsibility in program creation, implementation and evaluation.

Area of focus

Replication grants will be awarded to proposals that address the *expansion of evidence-based services*. This includes site expansion to a new geographical community or population, program adoption from another service agency, and hub & spoke model. Funds are provided to support programs to deliver service, build evaluation surrounding the program and demonstrate impact in the community. Projects must focus on capacity building to establish promising practices and build evidenced-based service delivery. Funded projects will inform service delivery methods for other communities across the country.

How can I apply?

The Family Services Community Grants program uses an online application system. Organizations can apply by here: [Online Grants Portal](#). The organization registering an account will be listed as the lead organization for the submitted proposal. Lead organizations must have a registered charitable number. The contact person for the application does not have to be associated with the lead organization. Once an organizational account has been made, you will be directed to apply for either an innovation or replication grant.

If you already have a profile from a previous year, you can use the same log-in information. If you do not have an account, you can set one up by making a log-in ID, password and completing a user profile.

Do I have to answer all of the questions in the application?

All questions marked with an asterix (*) require a response for application forms to be submitted successfully.

What if I run out of space in the open text fields?

You will need to edit your answer to fit into the maximum character field size indicated in each question.

Can individuals apply for an Autism Speaks Canada Family Services Community Grant?

Autism Speaks Canada will not award grants to individuals or fund an individual or family for participation in personal programs. We encourage individuals to ask local providers and organizations to submit proposals that will meet our stated goals. Grant awards will be addressed to the lead organization identified in the application with a valid registered charitable status number.

What kind of organizations may apply?

Lead organizations submitting an application must be a registered charitable organization in Canada. If the lead organization partners with external organizations, these partners can include service providers, researchers, educational institutions, ministries and municipalities, professionals, healthcare institutions and corporations.

Can funding go towards programs for individuals with other disabilities?

While integrated programs will be considered, the application must indicate how many individuals with ASD will be participating in the program as well as the rationale for an integrated program setting.

What is the maximum amount an organization may request?

Applicants for both innovation and replication grants may request up to \$40,000 CAD.

How many applications can I submit?

An organization can be listed on an application (combined as a lead organization or collaborating partner) in a maximum of five (5) submissions.

How long is the grant period? Is it multi-year?

The grant period is for a one year duration from January 1, 2020-December 31, 2020. The proposed program must occur within this timeframe.

Do you fund equipment or infrastructure?

No. The following items are not funded through the Family Services Community Grants program:

- Equipment/Supportive Technology – i.e. iPads, iPods, Smart Boards, etc.
- Sensory rooms, baseball fields, building construction, kitchen equipment
- Tuition, scholarships or registration fees for individuals to attend a program
- Food for participants
- Organization budget shortfalls

Can we apply for conference sponsorship through the Family Services Community Grants program?

No. For questions related to conference sponsorship please contact us at familyservices@autismspeaksca.ca.

Do you fund staff salaries?

Yes, but only if the staff member is going above and beyond normal working hours to provide services; OR if a new staff member is being hired to run the program.

When and how will we be notified about the status of their application?

All interested applicants must submit a Letter of Intent Form by June 14th, 2019 to be considered for the Grant Proposal. Upon review of your Letter of Intent, you will be notified of the status of your application. This notification will indicate whether or not you should proceed with completing the full application. If invited to complete a full proposal, the deadline for applications is July 19th, 2019. Decisions on grant awards and notifications will be made in December 2019.