NYF PARTNERSHIP GRANT CALL
(15 November 2023 to 31 January 2024)

1. Background

1.1 The National Youth Council (NYC) seeks to provide opportunities for youth to share their views, hear diverse perspectives, as well as take action on issues that matter to them. We also aim to imbue youths with values and skills to thrive in a globalised world while keeping a strong Singaporean heartbeat.

1.2 NYC is inviting partners to submit proposals for the NYF Youth Programmes/ Capability Development (YPCD) grant.

2. Partnership Grant Call Period

2.1 The NYF YPCD grant will be open for application from **15 November 2023 to 31 January 2024**[1].

2.2 Applications for NYF YPCD grant will only be accepted during the partnership grant call period. Projects should fall within the specified themes, unless otherwise specified, and will be evaluated on a first-come, first-served basis.

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[1] This is the final partnership grant call for the Financial Year of 2023.

3. **Partnership Grant Call Themes**

Themes	Outcomes

1. <u>Social Capital – Increase Opportunities for Bonding between Youths</u>
 	
The impact of the pandemic has increased social anxieties globally. 48% of US Teens expressed concerns about social anxiety as they transition back from the pandemic ([Morgan Stanley, 2021](#). 60% of youths in China experienced difficulty forming new friendships ([SCMP, 2023](#)).
 	
In Singapore, the pandemic did not dampen the quality of youths' bonding social capital, over the years (Youth STEPS, 2019 – 2022). However, the quantity in terms of the number of close friends and social ties have dipped. More youths were likely to share that they have no close friends (8% in 2022, compared to 4% in 2013) and that their number of social ties have contracted significantly over the pandemic (National Youth Survey, 2022). Data from National Youth Survey (2022) also show that friendship diversity across domains (e.g., income group, race and educational background) had also declined over time.
 	
To help youths to form friendships beyond their existing networks, projects should provide opportunities for youths to build their bonding social capital. Projects should fulfil **at least one** of the following objectives:
(i) Strengthen social networks of our youths (i.e. form deep bonds, increased network diversity);
(ii) Increase appreciation of values, beliefs and perspectives of youths from different background; or
(iii) Strengthen interpersonal skills (e.g., communication skills, teamwork, problem solving skills, conflict resolution, cooperation, empathy, reading social cues).
 	
Examples of projects that could be supported include:
  a) Programmes that allow youths from different schools to interact, have meaningful exchange, and sustained interactions with each other.
  b) Community service initiatives that allow youths from diverse backgrounds to work together to address a common need.
	Mandatory
	➢ Youths are better equipped to put themselves in the shoes of others to understand how they feel.
	
	➢ Youths are better able to respect values and beliefs of people who are of a different background (e.g. race, culture, nationality, socioeconomic status).
	
	➢ Youths have greater respect for the opinions of others, even if they do not agree with it.
	
	Additional longer-term outcomes:
	➢ Youths have people whom they can turn to for support.
	
	➢ Youths have people that they can talk with about their problems.

Themes	Outcomes
c) Youth-led interest-based communities e.g., in arts, sports, music, outdoor adventure, among youths from diverse backgrounds, to interact and promote mutual understanding. d) Platforms that equip youths with skills and provide opportunities to form sustained connections with their peers. Events-based projects which are ad-hoc, once-off exposures, or primarily consist of passive audiences will <u>not</u> be eligible for funding. Projects need to be designed, curated and facilitated to strengthen bonds among youths through sustained connections.	
2. <u>Social Capital – Enhance Bridging to Valuable Networks</u> Social capital was identified as key to employment outcomes, building resilience and life satisfaction (Youth STEPS). Based on a Social Mobility Study by Access Singapore (2023), 52% of youths aged 16 to 24 years old and 63% of youths aged 25 to 34 years old agreed that strong social connections are necessary to get attractive jobs in Singapore. Youths (43%: 15 – 24; 39%: 25 to 34) also believed that the biggest factor towards improving their social-economic status is access to strong networks. In contrast, 4 in 10 job-seekers perceived lack of connections as the top barrier to the pursuit of a chosen career path. This is especially so among youths from a lower social-economic status (Youth STEPS). Partnerships that seek to bridge the social gap and increase access to valuable social capital could lead to youths gaining access to critical information, and opportunities for personal and career development. Projects should fulfil *at least one* of the following objectives to: (i) Enable youths to identify and build professional/ industry connections and valuable social networks; or	Mandatory ➢ Youths increased connections to networks, relevant to their personal and career aspirations. ➢ Youths feel that they are better able to build professional connections. ➢ Youths increased confidence about their future as a whole. Optional: ➢ Youths have increased access to career information, opportunities and resources through the connections made. ➢ Youths have increased awareness of options available to them to attain their employment goals. ➢ Youths know how to seize opportunities to learn and grow as a person.

Themes	Outcomes
(ii) Develop a growth mindset and confidence for the future. Examples of projects may involve: a) Access to a mentor and/ or experienced industry professional who also could connect and bridge youths to broader relevant professional networks. b) Tailored opportunities for youths to showcase their strengths to supporters (e.g. funders, partners, prospective employers). c) Platforms to connect with successful professionals, and social changemakers, who could aid the youths in exploring diverse sectors and alternative career pathways. Projects which involve multiple touchpoints and/ or sustained engagements will be considered more favourably. Bridging Social Capital projects that aim to support youths from less-privileged backgrounds or fewer access to opportunities will be prioritised.	➢ Youths challenge themselves to grow. ➢ Youths believe that they have the ability to succeed in the things they want to do.

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3. Eligibility Criteria and Funding Considerations

1. Who Can Apply?	a) Not-for-profit organisations or not-for-profit young start-ups b) Social Service Agencies (SSAs) c) Institutes of Higher Learning (IHLs) d) Social Enterprises (SEs), whose business or key initiatives are primarily focused on engaging and developing youths Note: All organisations must be registered in Singapore
2. What Can Be Funded?	a) Projects must be targeted at youths (aged 15 to 35 years old) and involve Singaporeans/ Singapore Permanent Residents (PRs). b) Projects which involve other age groups and nationalities should ensure that Singaporean/ PR youths form at least 50% of the project's participants. c) Projects should not undermine Government agencies/ public institutions. d) Projects should not have content held objectionable by the public, or that may adversely affect social cohesion in Singapore. e) Project should not be utilised as platforms to solicit feedback on or suggest changes to Government policies. f) Projects which have not started. Pilot-tested projects with new run(s) and innovative programme elements may be supported.

3. What Are NYC's Key Considerations for Funding?	Projects should: a) Meet a critical gap or emerging need in the youth sector. b) Possess unique value proposition and creates impact to the youth/ youth sector. c) Demonstrate sufficient risk mitigation strategies. d) Provide outcomes and project evaluation. Where possible, projects which meet the following criteria will be considered more favourably: e) Involves linkages, collaborations and/ or partnerships with other youth sector organisations or government agencies. f) Involves a wide audience and/ or engages youths from underserved segments. g) Actively develops youths to be an active collaborator in the project implementation. h) Adopts a clear business model to ensure long-term sustainability and/ or plans to sustain positive impact independent of funding from NYC. i) Has significant media impact.

4. Funding Quantum

Successful applicants can receive funding from the National Youth Fund of *up to* $100,000, or *up to* 80% of total allowable project cost, whichever is lower.

Projects that involve collaborations between two or more organisations may be considered for higher funding, based on the merits of the project.

Projects that demonstrate exceeding merits in terms of project scale and impact may be considered for higher funding, beyond $100,000 per project. These applicants will be required to pitch the project to an external panel for evaluation.

Please note that the NYF grant goes towards offsetting the project deficit.

5. Submission

- Application is open from 15 November 2023 to 31 January 2024, 2359h.
- All applications are to be submitted online via OurSG Grants portal (https://oursggrants.gov.sg)

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- Applicants are advised to submit your applications at least <u>2 months</u> before the start of the project, as the average processing time per project is 2 to 3 months. Projects which qualify for a significant grant (more than $50,000) would require a longer processing time of 3 to 6 months for the project assessment. These applicants are advised to submit applications at least 3 months before the start of the project.
- Applications will not be accepted outside of the partnership grant call period. Applications will be evaluated on a <u>first-come, first-served</u> basis and may be subject to availability of funds. NYC reserves the right to reject applications which are not aligned with grant requirements.

6. Enquiries

- During the partnership grant call application period, interested applicants may sign up for the "*AskPL* Grant Consultation Clinics" for a 1-on-1 consultation session with NYC's Partnership Managers. Details are available on the <u>National Youth Fund</u> webpage.
- For enquiries, please email **Partnership_Enquiries@nyc.gov.sg**

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q1: Can I apply to the NYF YPCD grant for an existing youth programme?
A1: Yes, the programme/ project would need to have strong alignment with the priority themes and make a strong case for how the NYF grant will help in the growth and impact of the programme. Existing programmes should demonstrate innovative elements in the project application, when compared with previous project runs. Projects that are already receiving funding from NYC will not be considered.

Q2: My organisation is already receiving funding from NYC. Can I still submit a fresh application?
A2: Organisations that are currently receiving funding from NYC may still submit their application, subject to NYC's consideration to fund.

Q3: Can my organisation submit more than one application in the same partnership grant call?
A3: Yes. However, if projects are inter-related, organisations are encouraged to package them into a single grant application.

Q4: Can I submit an application if I missed the grant call period?
A4: No. Applications outside the grant call period are not accepted. Please submit at the next applicable grant call.

Q5: Can I submit an application via email?
A5: No. All applications are to be submitted online via OurSG Grants portal (https://oursggrants.gov.sg).

Q6: Can individuals or non-registered groups apply for the YPCD grant?
A6: No. Individuals or non-registered groups can apply for the Young ChangeMakers (YCM) grant instead. More information of the YCM grant can be found here.

Q7: I am a For-profit organisation. Can I also apply for the grant?
A7: For-profit organisations with strong social mission(s) (i.e. Social Enterprises), whose business or key initiatives are primarily focused on engaging and developing youths, can apply for the grant.

Q8: Can my organisation generate profit from a project that receives funding from the NYF?
A8: No. The NYF funds goes solely towards supporting up to 80% of the allowable project expenditures, on a deficit basis. The funds will cover any project shortfall (should there be any income generated) and organisation should not profit from the grant. Please refer to the table below for illustration.
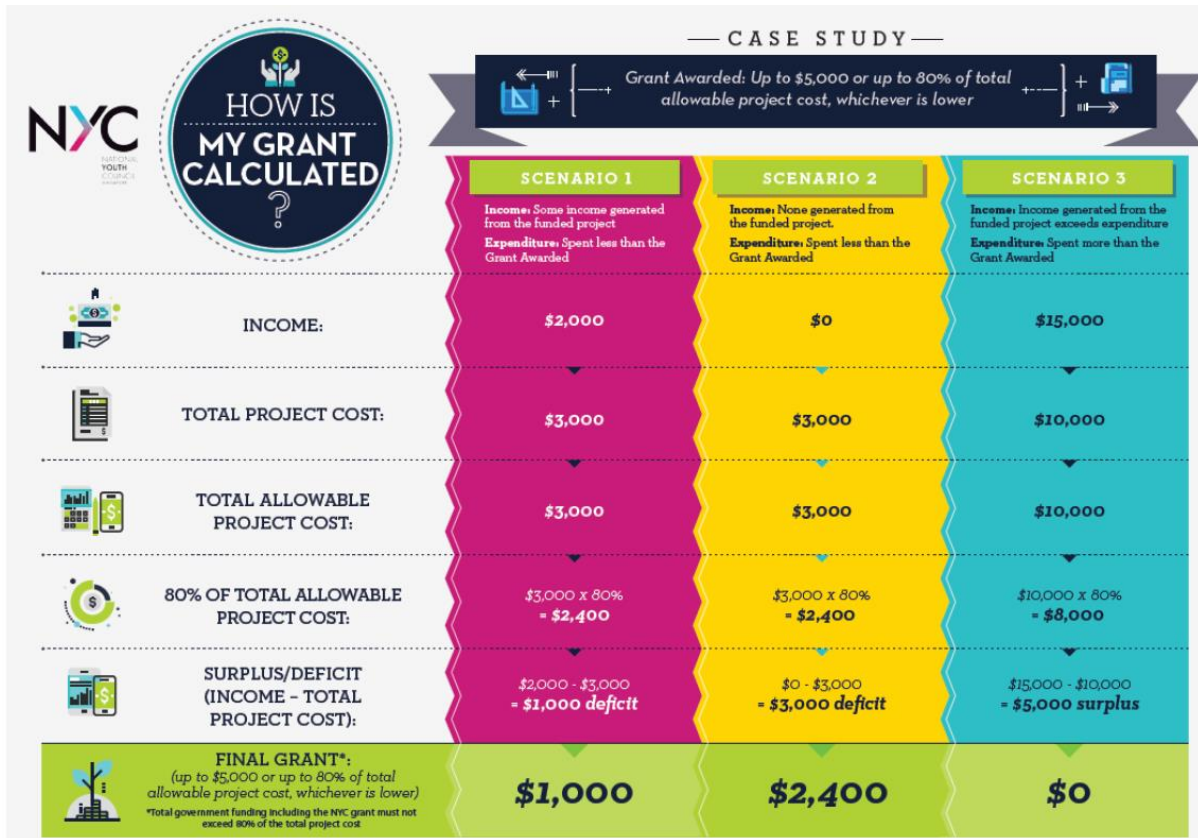
Q9: Can I apply for/ receive other sources of funding in addition to the NYF for my project?

A9: Applicants are encouraged to apply for other sources of funding[1] for the same project as the NYF grant is provided on a cost-sharing basis. Applicants are required to declare their funding sources in the application form.

Q10: Do I need to engage an auditor to audit the Statement of Accounts for my project?

A10: For projects with an approved grant quantum of up to $50,000, applicants are required to submit signed and endorsed Statement of Accounts (SOA) and all scanned copies of receipts of the project expenses to NYC at the closure of the project. An appointed auditor from NYC will contact you to ensure satisfactory supporting documents have been submitted. For projects with an approved grant quantum exceeding $50,000, applicants will have to engage an auditor and submit financial statements for the approved project that are externally audited by a Public Accountant. The cost of engaging the auditor can be included in the project budget.

Q11: How will the grant be disbursed?

A11: The first tranche disbursement of the grant will typically be on an advance basis, upon acceptance of the Letter of Award (LOA). The remaining grant will be given out on a reimbursement basis, upon completion of project milestones and submission of relevant documents (e.g. Project Progress/ Final Report, SOA). The project milestones will be set and agreed by both applicant and NYC before the commencement of the project. For most

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[1] Both Government and non-Government sources of funding are allowed.

projects, the grant will be disbursed over two tranches, on an advance and reimbursement basis.

Q12: **What project expenses are allowable or non-allowable?**
A12: The NYF funds <u>direct project costs</u> such as venue rental, logistics, manpower, F&B and transport costs. Manpower costs, if any, must be pro-rated based on the time spent on the project, and will be benchmarked against industry/ market cost norms. The grant does not fund start-up costs, overhead costs (e.g. rent, utilities, business licenses), capital costs (e.g. fixed assets), and gifts, including tokens of appreciation, cash prizes, vouchers and awards such as trophies, medals, etc.

Q13: What are the available venues/ spaces within NYC that my project could tap upon?
A13: Venue booking at *SCAPE and The Red Box are subject to availability and the prevailing subsidised rental rates.

Q14: If my project takes place over a few years, do I need to submit a new application yearly?
A14: No. Please provide an estimated project duration including preparation, implementation, and closure phases of the project. The proposed project duration could span across a few years. Project milestones will be set and agreed by both applicant and NYC before the commencement of the project.