



Information for Leaders

The Family Support Fund (FSF) is an initiative of the Chief Commissioner, Neville Tomkins OAM JP that commenced in 2017. He wanted to ensure that Scouting was accessible to all families, youth members and young Leaders.

It allows for young people from families of financially disadvantaged backgrounds to participate fully in the Scouting program. It also assists young Leaders and Rovers in genuine need of financial assistance.

The Fund reinforces Scouting as a fully inclusive organisation. We encourage you to promote the Fund so as to help grow and retain membership in your Group.

More information about the Family Support Fund, eligibility rules and what Grants cover can be found on the [Family Support Fund page](#) of the Scouts NSW website.

Once the FSF Management Committee receives a Grant Application from a youth member/ young Leader in your Group, you will be sent a Family Support Fund Group Leader Reference Form to complete. It is important that you provide as much information about the family as you can. You must also identify what assistance the Group, District and Region is providing the youth member/ young Leader. The FSF is to supplement, not replace, assistance from the Group, District and Region.

In the case of new Members wishing to join, please simply provide what information you know.

Please be reminded that these Applications are Confidential and should not be shared with anyone else in the Group. You will need to be very discreet in how you request information from Section Leaders.

You will be expected to **return your completed [Group Leader Reference Form](#) within a week to 10 days** so that we can advise Applicants if their Application was successful within three to four weeks. You will also be notified at this time and be given an outline of what costs the FSF will cover and what is expected from the Applicant.

For more information please email FSFhelp@nsw.scouts.com.au.