



FLYING START PROFESSIONAL NETWORK GRANTS FACT SHEET FOR GRANT APPLICANTS

Grants are available to support those working in the early childhood sector to expand or establish networks that promote collaboration.

IMPORTANCE OF THE EARLY CHILDHOOD WORKFORCE

Early childhood professionals play a vital role in supporting the learning, wellbeing and development of young children.

The Government of South Australia is investing in a landmark strategy to build and grow a strong and valued early childhood workforce to support the roll-out of 3-year-old preschool from 2026.

COLLABORATION AND SUPPORT

Professional networks offer those in the early childhood sector opportunities to share insights and learnings with their peers, and to collaborate and problem solve while engaging in reflective practice.

As members of a network, early childhood professionals can gain individual career development by enhancing practice and strengthening their skills, which in turn enables an even greater impact when working with children and families.

FLYING START PROFESSIONAL NETWORK GRANTS

These grants support the creation or expansion of professional networks. They aim to connect early childhood, allied health and community service professionals to better address child developmental vulnerability and support the delivery of 3-year-old preschool.

Three types of professional network grants are available:

- up to **\$37,000** for metropolitan and inner regional networks (type 1)
- up to **\$57,000** for outer regional and remote networks (type 2)
- up to **\$185,000** for Aboriginal networks (statewide, type 3).

Initial funding will be offered for 2 years.

WHO CAN APPLY

A range of organisations can apply for the grants, including early childhood service providers and associations, local government, Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations, Regional Development Australia committees and other community-focused businesses with experience in professional capacity building.

ELIGIBILITY FOR FUNDING

Networks must meet specific criteria, including membership, meeting frequency, geographical location, and purpose, to be eligible for funding. Funding is not guaranteed and will depend on the quality and geographic spread of applications.

Funding cannot be used for networks with a single early learning service type, pedagogical approach or ownership, or business as usual activities.

MORE INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Helpful materials including guidelines, an application checklist and frequently asked questions (FAQs) are available online.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply for a Flying Start Professional Network Grant or for more information, visit flyingstart.sa.gov.au/workforce-grants

Grant applications close Friday 21 March 2025.

