

Grant Opportunity

Special Education Needs Programme

1. Learning disabilities (LD) are neurological disorders that affect a person's ability to learn in one or more areas, such as reading, writing, or doing mathematics. A variety of factors such as genetics, brain injury or environmental toxins that contribute to LD.
2. In Malaysia, children with LD are eligible for special education services through the Ministry of Education (MOE) and these services may include:
 - Special education classes – Classes equipped with additional learning support for children with LD.
 - Resource rooms – Only available in mainstream schools to provide support to children with LD who are struggling in one or more areas.
 - Individualised education plans (IEPs) – IEPs are written documents that outline specific needs of a child with LD and the services that will be provided to meet those needs.
3. Currently, some of the challenges faced by children with LD in Malaysia include (i) lack of awareness about LD; (ii) lack of resources available for children with LD that includes shortages of qualified teachers, specialized equipment and accessible facilities; and (iii) negative attitudes towards children with LD as people perceive them as a burden or a source of shame.
4. To alleviate the issues surrounding Special Education Needs (SEN) and LD, YP aims to focus on these two areas:
 - a. **upskilling SEN teachers (SE)** with the current teaching pedagogy and best practices; and
 - b. **supporting MOE through early detection of SEN in underserved communities (ED).**
6. Therefore, YP would like to invite interested and eligible organisations to apply for YP Grant to support any of the focus areas under the SEN programme.

Project: Special Education Needs Programme (1/3)

Pillar Description	Powering Knowledge (Education) pillar in Yayasan PETRONAS aims to enable high quality STEM Education to advance human capital of Malaysia and inclusive education support for deserving students.
Project Description	<p>The focus of the programme is to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Empower and upskill SEN teachers with the current teaching pedagogy and the best practices in managing LD among students 2. Roll out early detection of special needs assessment in underserved communities so that the targeted communities can seek necessary care in the early stages.
Purpose of Proposal (either or both focus areas)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. (SE) SEN Educators: To provide SEN educators with the necessary skills, knowledge, and new teaching methods and strategies to meet the needs of the LD students. 2. (ED) Early Detection: To provide underserved communities with access to early detection and assessment, ensure the parents are well informed and the special needs students obtain the necessary care and assistance in accommodating their learning needs.
Target Group	<p>Malaysian; and</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SE : At least 50 Special Education Needs teachers under the Ministry of Education. 2. ED : B40 families/students with special education needs
Area(s) of Intervention	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SE: Best in class practices for SEN teaching approach, pedagogy and curriculum; Establishing peer-learning group to sustain the programme impact. 2. ED : Early assessment tool for early detection of special learning needs in alignment with Bahagian Pendidikan Khas, KPM, and identify the necessary care and assistance required upon diagnosis to the underserved communities.
Types of Project	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SE: SEN teachers upskilling; OR 2. ED :Early detection/diagnosis and assessment for underserved communities.

Project: Special Education Needs Programme (2/3)

Proposal Requirement

All proposals MUST clearly outline the plan, methodology, baseline study and impact measurement to track the progress against target impact to support the programme objective and purpose.

Also, each proposal of the following focus areas must include the following:

1. SEN teachers upskilling:

- Provide professional development opportunities, including mentoring, on-going support and coaching for special education needs teacher.
- Creating a resource library for SEN teachers to make references on the best practices in managing students.
- Mapping out SEN teachers upskilling programme journey, developing training modules and conducting training to the teachers effectively.
- Engagement or involvement of the local authorities (such as Ministry of Education, Ministry of Women Family and Community Development and Ministry of Health) during the planning and implementation phases.
- Additionality: Proposals outlining plans for credential coursework and training to integrate mainstream educators with SEN students at schools are desirable.

2. Early detection/diagnosis and assessment for underserved communities:

- Mapping out and identifying underserved communities in rural parts of Malaysia and have means to mobilise the roll out work at the targeted communities.
- Provide clear strategy in rolling out early detection assessment tool and incorporating plans for early intervention programme.
- Engagement or involvement of local authorities (such as Ministry of Education, Ministry of Women Family and Community Development and Ministry of Health) during the planning and implementation of the programme.

Project: Special Education Needs Programme (3/3)

Guiding Principles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project must provide services or benefits to Malaysian citizens regardless of race, religion and descendant or political affiliation, focus will be on B40 communities• Project must provide measurable impact with proven value creation to the beneficiaries.• Impact of the project can continue beyond the time period.• Project is cost efficient i.e. can benefit as many beneficiaries as possible for the least cost.
Grant Duration	At least 1 year period, inclusive of monitoring outcome and sustainable impact
Funding Estimate	RM 1,000,000.00 per project
Restrictions	Refer Exclusion List