## ***The Writer’s Space* Fellowships FAQs**

**How much is the application fee for the program?**

Application fees are used to pay professional assessors to read your work. Application fees are $45 per application, unless you are a financially current alumni member using your annual fee waiver. If you have a Healthcare card, the application fee is $30.

Please get in touch if you are facing financial hardship and require full application fee subsidy. Email rebecca@varuna.com.au.

**If I am successful, are there any fees for participating in the program?**

There are no fees for participating in this program.

Residency fellowships include meals and accommodation for one week.

**What about travel costs?**

Fellowship recipients will need to meet their own travel expenses to and from Varuna. Healthcare card owners or those facing financial hardship can apply to the [Varuna Travel Assistance Fund](https://www.varuna.com.au/varuna-travel-assistance-fund) for a travel subsidy of up to $300.

**Am I required to take my fellowship at a specific time of year?**

Residency Fellowships will need to be taken between 5 September to 12 September, subject to availability in the house. Online Fellowships will take place between 5 September and 30 September with some scheduled activities during that period but are designed to be flexible to enable participants to work at their own pace with their dedicated writing time.

**Is this your only fellowship for writers with disability?**

We also welcome writers with disability or who are D/deaf to apply to our 2022 Varuna Residential Fellowships round which will take place in June 2022. As part of the Varuna Residential Fellowships, we award our Jerra Studio Flagship Fellowship for writers with disability that have had difficulty accessing opportunities to pursue their writing career due to their disability.

**When will I be notified regarding the outcome?**

You will be notified of the outcome of your submission by email, and the fellowship recipients will be announced on our website in July 2022.

**Will I receive feedback upon my work?**

Selectors do not discuss the selection process or offer individual feedback to unsuccessful applicants. If you would like to receive more specific feedback on your manuscript, Varuna can provide writers with structured and ongoing support through our *Writers Conversation* service.

**I’ve missed the deadline. Can I still submit an application?**

No. Unfortunately no applications will be accepted after the deadline date.

**I do not have a complete manuscript yet. Can I still apply?**

Absolutely.

**Is there a word limit for my submission?**

Yes, the word limit is 10,000 words.

**What do you mean when you say writers with disability or who are d/Deaf?**

The aim of this program is to support writers who may have previously experienced barriers to developing their skills such as the lack of physical access, communication barriers, discrimination, or other people's attitudes. This includes, but isn't limited to, writers with sensory or physical conditions, hidden conditions, ongoing medical conditions, writers with cognitive or learning disability or mental health conditions.

**What access facilities does Varuna have for writers with disabilities or who are D/deaf?**

We now have a wheelchair-accessible studio and a [Disability Inclusion Action Plan](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5bb7de23a9ab95700a37b17c/t/5fd85ff2aa13016ef02ce189/1608015862442/VARUNA%2BDIAP%2BFINAL.pdf) so we can work on eliminating potential barriers to accessing our programs. We encourage writers with disability to email rebecca@varuna.com.au to discuss specific access requirements which may be required during a residency. More information can be found on our accessibility page of our website <https://www.varuna.com.au/accessiblity>.

**Can a support worker stay with me during my residency?**

If you notify us in advance of your residency that you would like a support worker to stay with you, we can help you make arrangements for them to stay in a nearby holiday house. If you receive NDIS funding, we can provide any information required to ensure your NDIS support can be used to assist your stay.

**Can I apply for more than one Varuna fellowship at a time?**

Yes; for example, the Varuna Residential Fellowships will open later in 2022, and you are welcome to apply for both.

**I received a Varuna Residential Fellowship two years ago. Can I apply for a *The Writer’s Space* Varuna Fellowship this year?**

Yes.

**Can I apply for a fellowship submitting work that is already under contract with a publisher?**

Yes.

**I work with another writer collaboratively. If our application is successful, can we come to Varuna together?**

If your writing is genuinely a joint work, please contact rebecca@varuna.com.au to explain your specific requirements. We will try to accommodate you if we possibly can.

**Can I submit more than one application?**

No.

**Who is eligible to apply?**

Applicants need to be an Australian citizen or have a permanent residency visa, be over 18 years old and identify as a writer with disability or who is D/deaf. Recipients of the 2021 Writer’s Space Fellowships are not able to apply in 2022.

**I applied to The Writer’s Space Fellowship in 2021. Can I apply again?**

Yes, if you applied to the program last year and were unsuccessful you are welcome to apply in 2022.

*For general information on Accessibility at Varuna including Varuna’s Disability Inclusion Action Plan, go* [*here*](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5bb7de23a9ab95700a37b17c/t/5fd85ff2aa13016ef02ce189/1608015862442/VARUNA%2BDIAP%2BFINAL.pdf)*.*