



Financial foundations: low-income young adults and money

What is this study about?

We are seeking to understand young adults' experiences of money, their challenges and what is needed to support them to achieve their financial goals and aspirations. The insights from this study will help BSL to develop tailored financial resources and programs that meet the specific needs of low-income young adults. They will also inform BSL's policy and advocacy work on economic security and financial wellbeing.

Who is conducting this study?

The Brotherhood of St. Laurence (BSL) is a social justice organisation working to prevent and alleviate poverty across Australia. Our mission is to pursue lasting change, to create a more compassionate and just society where everyone can thrive.

This study is conducted by Seuwandi Wickramasinghe, Senior Research Officer from the BSL Research and Policy Centre. It has been approved by the BSL's National Health and Medical Research Council accredited ethics committee.

What the researchers will do

We will review existing financial resources and tool kits in Australia and overseas for young people to identify available supports and gaps. We will also conduct online focus groups with low-income young people aged 18–24 years to find out about how they view money, the challenges they face, what resources they use to make financial decisions – how useful they are — and what they need to achieve their financial goals and aspirations.

If I want to participate, what do I need to do?

We ask you to complete an online screening survey first, so that we can select a suitable sample for focus groups. The survey should take around 5 minutes to complete. It asks tick-box questions about your age, level of education, your job status, your living arrangements and your income. We will also ask for your name and contact details so that if you are selected we can get in touch with you.

If selected, we will invite you to an online focus group which will take about 90 minutes. You will receive a \$50 Visa 'Load & Go' card to thank you for taking part in the focus group.

What will happen to the information I provide in this survey?

If you are not selected for the study, your information will be deleted. If you do participate, information will be stored securely before being destroyed five years after the completion of the project.

Information sheet – Screening survey

What are my rights?

You have the right to decline to answer any question in the survey. You can close your browser to withdraw your participation in the survey at any time.

Who should I contact if I have any questions?

You can contact **Seuwandi Wickramasinghe**, Senior Research Officer at swickramasinghe@bsl.org.au
Work and Economic Security, Research and Policy Centre, Brotherhood of St. Laurence.

Who should I contact if I have any concerns?

If you have any concerns or complaints about the conduct of this research project, which you do not wish to discuss with the research team, you should contact the **Human Research Ethics Committee** at hrec@bsl.org.au.

All complaints will be treated confidentially. In any correspondence please provide the name of the researcher(s) or the name of the research project.