

OFFICE OF SPORT

Greater Sydney Sports Facility Fund



2019/20

Opens 1 July 2019

Closes 5pm 20 September 2019



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Message from the Premier

Communities across Greater Sydney will enjoy improved local sporting facilities under a \$100 million boost from the NSW Government, helping to fund initiatives including new and upgraded ovals, dressing rooms and canteens.

The new funds will help to create more open spaces at a time when many local sporting grounds are stretched to capacity, as part of the NSW Government's \$340 million Open Spaces and Greener Sydney package.

It is vital people have access to open and green spaces in their communities to improve liveability and provide families with the best possible quality of life. That is why we are making this investment to upgrade sporting facilities, a move which will give communities new synthetic fields or improved lighting and allow them to make the most of open spaces.

The Hon. Gladys Berejiklian MP
Premier



Message from the Minister

Sport plays a critical role in keeping communities healthy and connected. To maintain and grow our current levels of sport participation, investing in sustainable, multi-purpose, quality local sport facilities is important.

Local sport infrastructure contributes to the liveability of our communities and is an important contributor to the economy.

The Greater Sydney Sports Facility Fund in 2019 reflects our major commitment to grow sport participation through accessible, safe, and inclusive local community sport infrastructure. At a time of unprecedented growth in the participation of women and girls, a focus of the program will be to invest in the provision of female friendly sport facilities. I want local sport facilities to encourage, enable and support women and girls' sport participation. In 2019 the Government will prioritise investment on improving and building new local sport facilities to ensure all members of the community have places and spaces to increase their levels of physical activity and play sport.

\$33.4 million was invested in fifteen projects across Greater Sydney in round one (2018) of the Greater Sydney Sports Facility Fund. I am proud to announce this year another \$33 million is available. I am confident this year's funding will assist local councils and the sport sector to develop fit for purpose sporting facilities.

The Hon. John Sidoti MP
Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans

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About the Greater Sydney Sports Facility Fund

The NSW Government recognises the critical role local sport infrastructure plays in keeping communities healthy, active and connected. The NSW Government has committed \$100 million to the Greater Sydney Sports Facility Fund.

The Greater Sydney Sports Facility Fund will create spaces and facilities that enable communities to enjoy and take part in sport. The fund will support new and existing venues to improve participation and performance in sports at all levels.

The fund will focus on sporting facilities that deliver the best outcomes for the community. It will ensure that the best possible value for money is achieved.

Fund key objectives

The key objectives of the Fund are as follows:

- Increase the number and type of sporting facilities;
- Improve the standard of existing sporting facilities;
- Increase participation in sport.

The equitable provision of, and access to, high quality female friendly sport and active recreation facilities is critical to supporting and growing participation opportunities for women and girls.

The Greater Sydney Sports Facility Fund in 2019 will prioritise investment in the provision of sport facilities that support women and girls.

Available funding

\$100 million has been allocated to the Fund over three (3) years for sport facility projects. \$33.4 million was

committed in Round One (2018) of the 3-year fund. The NSW Government is allocating \$33 million in Round Two (2019).

The Greater Sydney Sports Facility Fund provides grants between \$500,000 and \$5 million.

For projects costing more than \$1 million a 25 per cent financial co-contribution of the grant amount requested will be required.

For all other projects, a financial co-contribution will be considered favorably.

All successful applicants must enter into a funding agreement with the Office of Sport. Grant payments will not be made until an executed funding agreement is in place and Office of Sport will not be responsible for any project expenditure until this time.

It is expected that projects will be completed within three years. Projects must commence in 2019/20 and be completed within the timeframe specified in the funding agreement.

Funding approval may have specific conditions that have been determined throughout the assessment process. Office of Sport reserves the right to recommend grant amounts that may differ from the amount requested in the application. Any such details will be specified in a written offer as well as the funding agreement.

Important dates

Fund opens
1 July 2019

Expression of Interest due
20 September 2019

Shortlisted projects notified
November 2019

Detailed applications or business cases due
January 2020





Eligible applicants

Eligible applicants are:

- 33 local government authorities in Greater Sydney;
- NSW state sporting organisations or the national sporting organisation where the state body is part of a unitary governance model;
- Incorporated, community-based, not-for-profit sporting organisations (clubs and associations whose primary purpose is to organise sporting activities/deliver sport programs) and organisations providing sport and recreation programs that benefit the community, such as PCYCs, YMCA and YWCA;
- Organisations that own and administer public parklands; and
- Private enterprises.

Project applications involving partnerships between groups are encouraged.

For a proposal to be eligible the land on which the facility is to be developed must be one of the following and substantiated with evidence e.g. land ownership and tenure, lease arrangements:

- Crown reserve land;
- Land owned by a public authority (for example municipal property);
- Land held for public purposes by trustees under a valid lease, title or trust deed that adequately protects the interests of the public;
- Land vested in NSW Aboriginal Land Councils under the NSW Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983; and
- Private land that benefits the community's interests in sport and recreation.

For projects located on public school land, a letter of support from School Infrastructure NSW must be provided at the EOI stage. A completed Joint Use Project Agreement is expected at the business case stage.

Funding for smaller projects

Projects seeking funds of less than \$500,000 and/or projects that are not the focus of the Greater Sydney Sports Facility Fund will be encouraged to consider an application under other grant programs e.g. Local Sport Grant Program, Community Building Partnership Program, Office of Responsible Gambling Infrastructure Grants.



Focus and aim of the Fund

The Greater Sydney Sports Facility Fund focus is on the development and construction of new sport facilities or the upgrade and/or expansion of existing sport facilities.

Specifically, applications should demonstrate how the project will:

- Increase sport participation
- Increase participation, access and usage of women and girls
- Promote inclusion in sport by removing barriers to participation for families, multicultural communities and people of all abilities to play sport
- Apply the principles of Universal Design
- Encourage the development of multi-use, multi-purpose, shared and co-located facilities
- Improve environmental sustainability.



Eligible projects

The strongest proposals will:

- Create sporting facilities capable of attracting and hosting regional, state and national championships and/or professional matches;
- Remove barriers to promote inclusion in sport such as upgrading the provision of disability access, amenities for female participation and officiating amenities; and
- Develop environmentally sustainable sport and recreation facilities such as through installing drainage or rainwater tanks, or upgrading lighting.

Types of projects that could be funded include:

- The development and construction of new sport facilities or the upgrade and/or expansion of existing sport facilities;
- Amenity buildings such as storage, kiosks, club rooms, change rooms and grandstands;
- Facilities classified as Tier 3 stadia under the NSW Stadia Strategy (typically facilities with a maximum capacity of 10,000 to 20,000 people with limited or no corporate facilities, but capable of hosting state level competitions and exhibition or pre-season

- matches for sporting teams playing in national competitions);
- Multi-sport, multi-purpose facilities; and
- Significant single-sport facilities, which provide benefits to other sports and/or the community.

Ineligible projects

Applicants must demonstrate that their project meets the fund objectives as outlined in these guidelines. Proposed projects will be assessed according to the criteria outlined in the fact sheet.

The Greater Sydney Sports Facility Fund will not fund projects or project components:

- For facilities classified as Tier 1 or 2 under the NSW Stadia Strategy;
- Preparation of Feasibility Studies, Business Cases and Masterplans;
- In ineligible locations;
- That do not meet relevant Australian standards (eg. lighting projects or netball court dimensions)
- On private land unless there is clear public benefit to the community's interest in sport and active

recreation and have documented consent from the land owner;

- Where little or no public access is available;
- Related primarily to operational expenditure, including but not limited to regular repairs and maintenance;
- For any costs associated with preparing and submitting the funding application;
- For the maintenance or construction of local roads, car parks or other core service infrastructure works that are the ordinary responsibility of council or other level of government;
- Related to engaging or paying permanent employees;
- Related to buying or upgrading non-fixed equipment;
- For the purchase or lease of land/facility;
- Related to administrative or running costs that are normally the responsibility of businesses, state or territory agencies, or local councils;
- Have already commenced or which would proceed without any NSW Government financial assistance;
- With requests for additional funding for the same project that has previously received NSW Government funding;

- Related to marketing, advertising or product or event promotion;
- Requiring ongoing funding from the NSW Government or Commonwealth Government;
- Arts, music, craft, and recreation facilities that provide experiences that do not meet the definition of sport and active recreation;
- General maintenance or replacement through normal wear and tear (e.g. painting, running costs and minor repairs to existing facilities);
- Playgrounds and playspaces;
- Bike paths/foot paths/shared paths;
- Equipment (including computers, office goods, footballs, clothing and footwear)
- Upgrading or redeveloping kitchen or public toilet facilities, except as part of a larger project that meets the objectives and focus of the program and;
- For the building or upgrade of licensed areas and gaming areas.

Each application will be checked for eligibility by Office of Sport staff. Applications with uncertain eligibility assessments will be referred to the Grant Assessment Panel for a final determination.



Frequently asked questions

Can applicants submit applications for more than one project?

Yes.

What criteria apply to the assessment of applications?

Expressions of Interest and detailed applications/business cases that are eligible and comply with the application requirements will be assessed against the fund's objectives, project focus and aim and three assessment criteria: Strategic Alignment, Affordability and Deliverability.

How much funding is available for projects?

The maximum grant amount is \$5 million. The minimum grant amount is \$500,000.

Will all applications receive funding?

No. The application process is competitive. It is anticipated there will be multiple applications competing for the funding available.

Successful applications will be those that best meet the objectives of the program and the assessment criteria, provide a cost-effective budget, and can demonstrate that the applicant has the capacity to deliver the project and maintain the infrastructure.

When are applications due?

Expressions of Interest must be submitted by 20 September 2019.

How do I prepare and submit an Expression of Interest?

Applicants must use the Office of Sport online grants system: sport.nsw.gov.au/clubs/grants/greatersydneyfacilityfund

Can one EOI be submitted for similar projects across multiple sites?

No. Each project requires a separate application.

Will priority consideration be given to facility projects that have been identified in the Future Needs of Sport Infrastructure Study?

The Grant Assessment Panel will take into consideration projects nominated by Councils and State sporting organisations under the Future Needs of Sport Infrastructure Study. Projects identified in FNOSIS help to demonstrate strategic alignment.

Do we need a letter of support from a State/national sporting organisation?

Projects with a capital cost greater than \$2 million must have a letter of support from the relevant state/national sporting organisation. Where the facility provides for a number of sports, a letter from each state sporting organisation is required.

How long do applicants have to start and complete a project?

Funding should be expended and the project completed within three years of the date formal funding agreements are signed.

How do successful applicants acknowledge the funding when projects are underway?

All successful applicants will receive detailed information about how they must acknowledge NSW Government funding for infrastructure projects. Projects funded by the Greater Sydney

Sports Facility Fund will typically require a statement of funding acknowledgment in the applicant's annual reports and media releases; and a statement and the NSW Government logo included on building signage, related websites and invitations, and other funding related materials.

Successful applicants will receive full guidelines, logo and signage template files.

What is the application process?

The Greater Sydney Sports Facility Fund is administered by the NSW Office of Sport. Before you apply please read the guidelines and related materials to make sure you understand all relevant requirements. You can find the relevant information at sport.nsw.gov.au/greater-sydney-sports-facility-fund

Applying for the Greater Sydney Sports Facility Fund is a two-step process.



1 Submit an Expression of Interest by 20 September 2019

- Applicants must supply high-level technical and administrative information about the project by 5pm 20 September 2019. The proposal must include a realistic budget and identify other funding partners.
- For projects over \$2 million, a statement of support from the relevant state sporting organisation is required.
- To submit an Expression of Interest, go to sport.nsw.gov.au/greater-sydney-sports-facility-fund
- The NSW Government will review Expressions of Interest against the fund objectives, focus and aim and eligibility criteria outlined in this document and assessment criteria contained in the fact sheet.
- Please read the 2019 Expression of Interest checklist.

An application or supporting document received after the closing time will only be accepted if a genuine human error has occurred or there are extenuating circumstances that can be proven. The final determination on whether a late application will be accepted will be made by the Grant Assessment Panel supported by the GSSFF probity advisor.



2 Submit further information

If an Expression of Interest is successful, the applicant will be requested to formally submit a detailed application (project plan and budget) or a business case, based on the scope of the project.

Relevant parties will be required to provide significantly more detail regarding their project, including information on their ability to carry out the project in the appropriate timeframe and the competitiveness of the proposal against factors such as value for money, sustainability and the level of contingency/risk. Please refer to the fact sheet for the assessment criteria. At this stage evidence of an approved or lodged Development Application is required.

The NSW Government, where applicable, can provide guidance on completing a detailed application. You can contact the Office of Sport at grantsunit@sport.nsw.gov.au or on 13 13 02 for assistance.

The Office of Sport may supply detailed applications to other organisations for eligibility assessment and proposal appraisal. The Office of Sport may consult relevant stakeholders such as other NSW and federal government agencies, local councils, Members of Parliament, independent experts and external parties.

The information submitted will be assessed against the assessment criteria.

Summary information about each proposed project may be published on NSW Government website, unless the applicant objects.

If you are successful

Organisations must not make financial commitments for funded activities until agreements have been executed. The funds must be spent on items or costs directly related to the project as specified in the application and funding agreement.

Payments will be made according to agreed project milestones. Organisations will be required to pay back unspent funds or funds that have not been spent in accordance with the funding agreement.

Requests for variations or changes to the project may be considered in limited circumstances, and may be rejected or accepted subject to certain conditions.

The information provided in the funding application will be used to create a funding and reporting schedule based on key milestones and key performance indicators. Information about projects may be used for material prepared by the NSW Government.



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