

OFFICE OF SPORT

Regional Sport Facility Fund

Fact Sheet 2021/2022

Overview

The NSW Government recognises the critical role local sport infrastructure plays in keeping communities healthy, active and connected. The NSW Government has committed \$50 million to the Regional Sport Facility Fund (Fund) over two-years. The Fund will create spaces and facilities that enable communities to enjoy and take part in sport.

The Fund will assist eligible organisations to develop quality core sport infrastructure that will meet the current and future needs of the community. The Fund will support the development of well-designed and utilised new and improved sport infrastructure projects that can directly impact and support participation and performance opportunities 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. The Fund will give priority to proposals that strongly meet the program objectives, aim and focus and address the assessment criteria.

Eligibility

Funding is available for projects located in the local government authorities in regional NSW, Lord Howe Island and the unincorporated Far West.

Eligible applicants are:

- Local Government Authorities in Regional NSW, Lord Howe Island and the Unincorporated Far West (see attachment A for full listing)
- NSW State Sporting Organisations, State Sporting Organisations for People with Disability or the National Sporting Organisation where the state body is part of a unitary governance model
- Incorporated, community-based, not-for-profit sporting organisations, such as clubs and associations whose primary purpose is to organise sporting activities/ deliver sport programs
- Organisations providing sport and recreation programs that benefit the community, such as PCYCs, YMCA and YWCA

- Organisations that own and administer public parklands
- Private enterprises (for-profit organisations)

Project applications involving partnerships between groups are encouraged. A council may submit an application on behalf of a sporting club or association; however, council will be the grant recipient and responsible for project delivery.

For a project to be eligible, it must be one of the following, and as part of the application the applicant must provide a signed letter of consent from the landowner for the project on the land on which the facility is to be developed:

- 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 active recreation.

Additional information that should also be provided with the application includes evidence of applicant's tenure and lease arrangements.

For projects located on public land, a signed letter of consent from the landowner must be provided. For example, for projects located on public school land, a letter of support for the specific project must be provided from School Infrastructure NSW as part of the application.

Projects must have an approved Development Application as part of their application or demonstrate that a Development Application is not required, and should thereby be ready to be delivered (projects must be "shovel ready").

Further information on eligibility requirements is listed below in the eligibility screening assessment and are included in the [Eligibility Checklist](#).

Important dates

The following indicative dates apply to this funding round.

Monday 30 August 2021 **Applications open**

12.00pm, Friday 8 October 2021 **Applications close**

December 2021 onwards **Outcomes advised**

December 2021 onwards **Funding agreements executed for successful projects**

Projects to be completed before 30 June 2023.

Office of Sport reserves the right to amend any of these dates during the Program, at its absolute discretion.

Assessment

Eligibility screening

Office of Sport conducts a preliminary assessment of all applications ensuring that the:

- Applicant organisation is eligible to apply;
- Applicant is in an eligible location;
- Land on which the sport infrastructure will be developed is eligible and landowner consent for

the project has been provided;

- Applicant is registered for GST and is compliant with all Office of Fair Trading or Australian Securities and Investments Commission requirements and has an ABN/ACN;
- Grant request is between \$100,000 and \$1 million;
- applicant has provided evidence of DA approval (if required);
- For projects with a total project cost greater than \$1 million, evidence of a 25 per cent financial co-contribution of the grant amount requested has been provided;
- Applicant has confirmed letter/funding agreement of funding contributions from project partners;
- A letter of support from the relevant National/State Sporting Organisation or State Sporting Organisation for People with Disability has been provided for projects costing \$5 million or more;
- Applicant has completed a project plan or business case;
- Core project is eligible (identified ineligible costs or project scope).

The Office of Sport will undertake an eligibility check on all grant applications and make recommendations to the Grant Assessment Panel on ineligible projects. The Grant Assessment Panel has final determination on eligible projects.

Assessment Criteria

Eligible projects will be assessed against the fund's objectives, aim and focus, and four assessment criteria. The Grant Assessment Panel will consider the extent to which the applicant has addressed the assessment criteria and provided evidence.

Criterion 1: Strategic Justification

- Explain how the project aligns with a range of strategic priorities for sport and active recreation, including Premier's Priorities, State Outcomes, NSW Government agency priorities, Office of Sport strategies, State/National Sporting Organisation participation and facility plans, and local council plans.
- Provide detail of community profile, demonstrated need, key user groups, project beneficiaries and the project urgency.
- Describe community and stakeholder consultation, management and project support (provide relevant attachments).
- Explain how the project will lead to increased participation in sport and increased facility capacity and usage (attach a Facility Usage Schedule).
- Explain how the project will lead to additional participation and program content/scheduling for women and girls and/or improved inclusiveness.

Criterion 2: Project Scope and Inclusive Design

- Provide a clear scope of works proposed for the project.
- Provide documentation such as schematic and detailed design plans.
- Outline how the project has incorporated the design principles identified in the program guidelines such as universal design principles, environmentally sustainable design and operational efficiencies in design.
- Outline any best practice approaches in the design, development and delivery of the project that address the fund's aim and focus.
- Explain any placed-based planning showing the location of the project, if it is accessible, convenient and connected for priority user groups.

Criterion 3: Project Affordability

- Demonstrate affordability of the project relative to the available funding, considering net lifecycle costs, and allowing for ongoing operating and maintenance requirements.
- Provide details of the applicant's capacity to fund and manage ongoing operations.
- Provide a detailed budget including project costs and funding sources. The budget should clearly explain the project components that will be funded by the grant and the components to be funded by the applicant.
- Provide evidence of approval for committed funding contribution. For projects costing more than \$1 million, a 25 percent financial co-contribution of the grant amount requested will be required. For all other projects, a financial co-contribution will be considered favourably.
- Provide evidence of robust itemised cost planning

Criterion 4: Project Deliverability

- Provide evidence of the ability to commence construction within 6 months of funding being announced through the provision of mandatory documentation such as schematic plans and current cost plans (all projects are expected to have been fully completed by 30 June 2023).
- Demonstrate the capacity to deliver the project through robust strategies for procurement, project management and risk management.
- Demonstrate any partnership model (including asset management) that would be administered to deliver the project including joint use agreements.
- Completion of a project stages plan and project milestone template.
- Provide evidence of Development Application approval (if required).
- Demonstrate proven experience in delivering projects.
- Applicant meets key obligations for other Office of Sport funded projects where there is/has been a funding agreement with the applicant.
- List any assumptions, constraints and dependencies in delivering the project.
- Provide details of the project management and delivery team skills, experience and resources.
- Provide details on how the project will contribute to economic employment opportunities (estimated number of direct and indirect FTE and PTE positions)
 - o Job creation during design and construction (e.g. design team, project managers, contractors and supply chain opportunities including materials and maintenance), and
 - o Job creation during operation (e.g. facility managers and other economic benefits such as hosting future events that provide a visitor economy benefit)

How to apply

Applying for the Regional Sport Facility Fund is a simple process using the SmartyGrants platform (<https://sport.smartygrants.com.au/GCRSFF-2021-2022>).

Eligible applicants must complete the online application form (including supporting documents) via the [Office of Sport SmartyGrants page](#) by 12pm, Friday, 8 October 2021.

You can download a copy of the application form from the [SmartyGrants website](#) prior to commencing your application.

For more information

Questions about the Fund can be emailed to infrastructuregrants@sport.nsw.gov.au or visit www.sport.nsw.gov.au/regional-sport-facility-fund