

The Natural Disaster Relief Scheme assists Sporting and Recreation Clubs directly affected by a declared natural disaster.

Assistance under this scheme by its nature is not compensatory therefore applicants need to be in urgent and genuine need of assistance.

1. Objectives

Restoring essential facilities, equipment or other assets that have been damaged or destroyed by a declared natural disaster.

Note: Assistance does not cover costs unrelated to the Sporting and Recreation Club, loss of revenue or commitments overdue at the time of the disaster, such as; trading accounts, lease or hire purchase instalments, interest on borrowings or loan repayments.

2. Amount

A loan to a maximum of \$10,000 is available.

3. Eligibility

To be eligible the Sporting and Recreation Club must:

- a) Operate within a Local Government Area that has been declared a natural disaster and intend to re-establish within that Local Government Area.
- b) Have suffered significant loss or damage as a result of a natural disaster.
- c) The Sporting and Recreation Club must be unable to effect the necessary repairs or replacements, which are not recoverable through insurance, from their own resources and have exhausted alternative sources of assistance.
- d) Be in urgent and genuine need of financial assistance.
- e) Lodge a claim within six months of the date of the declaration of a natural disaster.

Assistance is NOT provided to clubs that have sizable commercial operations or gaming areas – such clubs may include golf clubs, bowling clubs etc.

4. Interest

The interest rate is a concessional rate of interest, fixed for the term of the loan. The rate is currently 0.45%

5. Term

A repayment term of up to five years dependent upon the amount borrowed and the club's ability to repay.

6. Repayments

Monthly repayments of principle and interest.

7. Security

Agreement from the members of the Committee of the club that the loan will be repaid.

Note: In assessing this requirement the Authority will take into account all cash reserves, investments, undrawn overdraft balances plus loans with redraw facilities.

Funds will not be released until all security requirements have been satisfied.

8. Additional assistance

Further assistance may be provided to sporting and recreation clubs and associations for clean-up and removal of debris. A grant of up to \$2000 is available to any single applicant from NSW Treasury.

To obtain an application for the grant assistance, contact NSW Treasury on 02 9228 5181 or send a request via e-mail to natural-disasters@treasury.nsw.gov.au

9. Fraudulent claims

- a) By signing the application form, you are declaring that the information provided in the application form and supporting documentation is true and accurate.
- b) Providing inaccurate, untrue or misleading information may be a breach of criminal law for which serious penalties may apply.
- c) If any information provided in an application or supporting documentation is found to be inaccurate, untrue or misleading, legal action may be taken against you, including action to recover the funds.

10. Important Information

- a) Guidelines are correct at the time of publishing.
- b) RAA reserves the right to amend, alter or change these guidelines at any time, and it is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that they check the relevant website prior to application.

- c) The guidelines that apply to your application will be the guidelines that are current at the time your application is received by RAA.
- d) While RAA has taken all care in preparing these guidelines, RAA will not be liable in any way for any errors, omissions or variation to information in these guidelines or for not advising an applicant of any errors, omissions or variations to information in these guidelines.

11. Assessment

- a) Applications will be assessed against the eligibility criteria. RAA reserves the right to request further information from you or from any business or individual you have engaged, to assist in assessing your application and to verify any information provided in your application.
- b) Failure to provide such information may result in RAA refusing your application.
- c) RAA also reserves the right to refuse an application, at its discretion, for any reason or for no reason irrespective of whether the eligibility criteria have been met.
- d) Applications submitted may be subject to audit by RAA or its agents in order to determine compliance with scheme guidelines.

12. Applications

Applications for assistance under the program must be made on RAA's application form and be accompanied by the documentation stated in the application form.

Complete applications will be assessed in order of receipt. Incomplete applications will not enter the assessment queue until all required information is provided.

Applicants should note that past financial assistance under this program or any other program is not a reliable indicator of eligibility for future financial assistance under this program.

Before applying for financial assistance under this program or making any decision, applicants should seek advice from their legal, business and financial advisers to determine their eligibility for and the terms of the financial assistance.

Applications and claim forms can be submitted online, by email, post, or in person. Applications and claim forms that have been emailed can be tracked most efficiently.

Apply Online: <https://www.raa.nsw.gov.au/disaster-assistance/loan-application-online-form>

Email: rural.assist@raa.nsw.gov.au

Post: Locked Bag 23, Orange NSW 2800

In Person: 161 Kite St, Orange NSW 2800

Applications must be received by the NSW Rural Assistance Authority NO later than the closing date.

Applications received after the advertised application closing date, in any other circumstances will NOT be accepted.