



REGIONAL SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE

Fact sheet
2018

OVERVIEW

The Regional Sports Infrastructure Fund will improve the quality and quantity of sport participation in regional communities and will invest in new and existing venues.

The NSW Government is determined to ensure regions remain vibrant communities. The Regional Sports Infrastructure Fund will ensure NSW has a network of spaces and places that enable quality sport and active recreation participation, and performance at all levels.

The Regional Sports Infrastructure Fund provides grants between \$1 million and \$10 million for regional sport hubs and regionally significant sport facilities.

ELIGIBILITY

Funding for the Regional Sports Infrastructure Fund is available for projects in all 92 regional local government council areas (outside of Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong), Lord Howe Island and the Unincorporated Far West. Eligible applicants are:

- local government authorities
- NSW state sporting organisations

- 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
- educational organisations (such as schools, TAFEs and universities) in conjunction with local councils and local or state sporting entities
- private enterprises.

Project applications involving partnerships between groups are encouraged.

For a proposal to be successful, the land on which the facility is to be developed must be one of the following and must be substantiated with evidence (e.g. of 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*
- private land that benefits the community's interests in sport and active recreation.

PURPOSE OF FUNDS

The Regional Sports Infrastructure Fund will give priority to proposals that establish regional sport hubs and enhance regionally significant sport facilities.

Proposals aligned with a state/national sporting organisation's facility strategies and which aim to improve participation in sport will be given priority.

WHAT IS A REGIONAL SPORT HUB?

A regional sport hub may include the following features:

- a multi-sport facility, which may include a sport administration centre, that supports participation at the community and pre-elite level
- the capacity to host national, state and regional championships
- a location that may complement already-established regionally significant sport facilities
- a main site with a combination of core sporting facilities as well as supporting services such as:
 - health and fitness facilities/services
 - general health and fitness
 - sports science
 - other allied health services
 - education and training facilities/services
 - aquatic facilities
 - additional administration for all sport and other partners.

WHAT IS A REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT SPORT FACILITY?

A project is considered 'regionally significant' if it meets the following broad facility criteria:

- it is a sport or recreation facility of regional-level significance to a state sporting organisation
- it is a single-sport facility that meets the standards required to host major regional, state or national level competitions, events and/or training
- it provides a range of participation outcomes (community, competitions, events and talent development)
- it caters for a broad catchment across multiple local government boundaries
- it delivers flexibility of use, and high-quality amenity, management and service levels.

ASSESSMENT

Eligible projects will be assessed against the fund's objectives, project types, eligibility criteria and three assessment criteria.

Criteria 1: Strategic alignment

The strategic assessment considers alignment of the project with a range of strategic priorities for sport and recreation, including NSW Government priorities, and state/national sporting organisation and local council strategic plans. The project's capacity to increase participation in sport and the use of sporting facilities will also be assessed.

The assessment also considers the urgency and continuing need for the project to be delivered.

Criteria 2: Affordability

All proposals need to demonstrate affordability of the project relative to the available funding, taking into account net lifecycle costs, and allowing for ongoing operating and maintenance requirements.

This also includes an assessment of a range of fundamental project planning requirements.

The assessment focuses on the robustness of the project cost planning, including if the funding is for a new or existing asset, how detailed and realistic the budget is, if other funding has been secured, and if the nominating organisation has an existing plan and budget in place to manage project costs.

The organisation must also have the capacity and financial sustainability to fund and manage ongoing operation and maintenance of the infrastructure over its lifetime.

Only projects with a minimum financial co-contribution of 25 per cent of the total grant amount will be considered, unless financial hardship can be demonstrated. Projects with greater financial co-contribution will be considered favourably.

Criteria 3: Deliverability

All applicants will need to demonstrate they have the capacity to deliver the project through robust strategies for procurement, project management and risk management.

Additionally, applicants will need to clearly demonstrate how any partnership model (including asset management) would be administered to deliver the project.



HOW TO APPLY

Applicants are required to submit their Expression of Interest (EOI) by 5pm on 4 May 2018. Once the EOIs have been assessed, successful applicants will progress to the next stage, where they will be required to submit a detailed application (project plan and budget) or a business case by the end of August 2018.

Applicants who submitted EOIs under the previous Regional Sports Infrastructure Fund program guidelines (published in 2017) can opt to proceed directly to step two. Detailed applications or business cases for these projects must be submitted by 4 May 2018. The project scope is expected to remain the same, but applicants may alter the funding requested and the project co-contribution to meet the requirements specified in the current program guidelines.

The Office of Sport may provide support for the preparation of a business case, including advice on technical studies, concept plans, designs and initial approvals.

A letter of support for the project must be provided by the relevant state/national sporting organisation.

2018 key dates

4 May 2018 EOI submissions close at 5pm

4 May 2018 submissions of detailed applications or business cases from previous applicants who opt to proceed to step two close at 5pm

End of August 2018 detailed application/business case submissions close

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Questions about the fund can be emailed to grantsunit@sport.nsw.gov.au

nsw.gov.au/regionalssportsinfrastructure