

Office of Sport

Essential Community Sport Assets Program

Information session

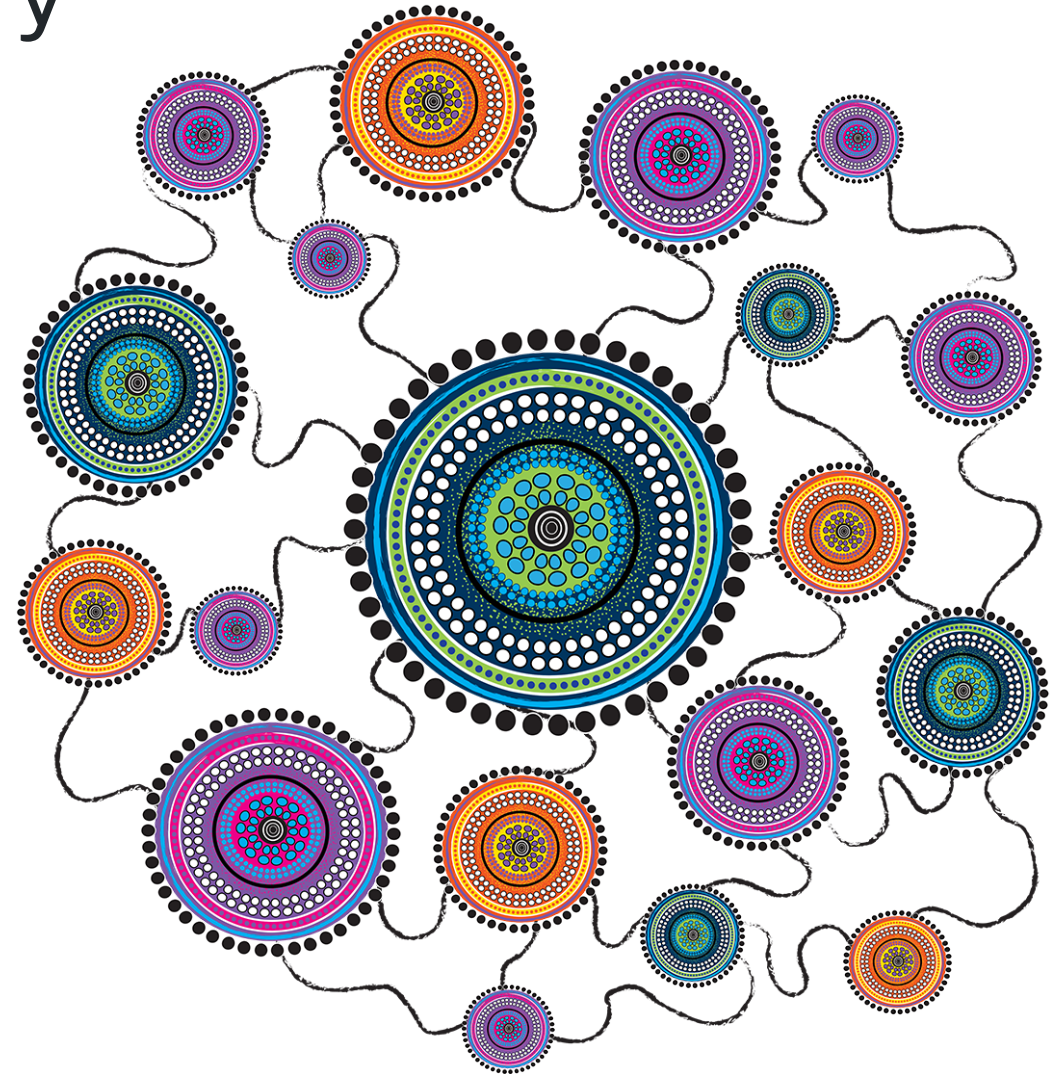
John Egan
Director, Office of Sport

21 November 2022



Acknowledgement of Country

I would like to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the Land on which this meeting takes place, and to show my respect to Aboriginal Elders past, present and emerging.



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About the Essential Community Sport Assets Program (“ECSAP”)

- The Sport Infrastructure Recovery Fund announced in May 2022 is part of the broader \$207 million 2022 Community Local Infrastructure Recovery Package.
- The \$55 million Sport Infrastructure Recovery Fund will be delivered in two stages:
 - \$12 million Sport Priority Needs Program (funding support to 61 projects)
 - **\$43 million Essential Community Sport Assets Program.**
- The **ECSAP** will provide the opportunity for 74 eligible local government areas impacted by the 22 February 2022 onwards and 27 June 2022 onwards storm and flood events to assess, repair, reconstruct and build flood resilience into sport facilities.





Important Dates

Stages

Dates

Applications opened

Thursday 3 November 2022

Applications close

2pm, Friday 9 December 2022

Outcomes advised

February 2023 onwards

Funding agreements executed for successful projects

Within 3 months of notification of outcomes

Commencement of projects

31 December 2023

Projects to be completed

31 December 2025

Program Purpose



The purpose of the ECSAP is to provide financial support to eligible Local Government Areas (LGAs) for the repair, restoration, and betterment of directly damaged local community sport facilities.

ECSAP supports applicants to:

- Undertake detailed damage and technical assessments, feasibility studies, planning and detailed design to mitigate risks for impacted essential community sport facilities
- Repair, reconstruct and support betterment of community sport facilities to ensure:
 - the return of safe, inclusive, and accessible facilities for users
 - facilities are more resilient to future disasters
- Promote and support environmental sustainability and climate resiliency measures in facility design, construction, and operation.

Program Objectives



- Repair and reconstruct directly damaged community sport facilities to enable the return of activities as soon as possible.
- Increase the future utilisation of community sport facilities through incorporation of betterment and inclusive design principles.
- Upgrade community sport facilities to be more resilient to future extreme climate events.

Funding Availability

There will be two streams of funding under the ECSAP. These include:

Stream one - total funds: \$33 million

- Eligible: Local councils in the Australian Government natural disaster declared LGAs
- Minimum grant amount: \$150,000
- Maximum grant amount: \$1,000,000.

Stream two - total funds: \$10 million

- Eligible: Community sport organisations in Australian Government natural disaster declared LGAs
- Minimum grant amount: \$15,000
- Maximum grant amount: \$500,000.

Funding Approval and Process



- 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. The Office of Sport will not be responsible for any project expenditure until this time.
- Funding approval may also have specific conditions that have been determined throughout the assessment process.
- The Office of Sport reserves the right to recommend grant amounts that may differ from the amount requested for a project in the application. Any such details will be specified in a written offer as well as in the funding agreement. Applications should identify the risk of each project not proceeding should the full grant amount requested not be approved.
- Where appropriate, projects may be referred to other funding programs for consideration.

Eligible Applicants



The ECSAP comprises an allocation up to \$43 million in funding for eligible community sport infrastructure projects in 74 eligible LGAs that were included in the Australian Government declared natural disasters from:

- **22 February 2022 onwards:** NSW severe weather and flooding disaster. Australian Government reference Number (ARGN 1012)
- **27 June 2022 onwards:** NSW floods and storms (ARGN 1025).

Eligible Applicants



Eligible applicants for stream one and two must be from one of the 74 eligible LGAs, which are listed in Appendix A of the Guidelines. Stream one and two are targeted at different organisations:

Stream one (\$33 million)

- Local councils.

Stream two (\$10 million)

- NSW Office of Sport recognised NSW State Sporting Organisations (including National Sporting Organisations 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)
- Organisations providing sport and recreation programs that benefit the community, such as PCYCs, YMCA (“the Y”) and YWCA
- Private enterprises (companies established under the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth), incorporated associations established under the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009* (NSW) or incorporated limited partnerships established under the *Partnership Act 1892* (NSW)).

Eligible Projects



The ECSAP Guidelines give examples of both eligible and ineligible project types and project components and costs.

Please take the time to review this section of the ECSAP Guidelines carefully. Ineligible project scope and components will not be funded.

Note that applicants should submit a landowner consent form for the project on the land on which the project is located. For projects located on public land a signed letter of consent or declaration from the appropriate authorised delegate must be provided.

Betterment



A key component of the ECSAP Guidelines and intent of the funding is to ensure that any projects funded contain a component of works that support future resilience and enhancement.

This includes repairing or building-back an asset that can better withstand future natural disasters while delivering benefits associated with improved climate resilience and generating productivity, economic and social outcomes.

Accessibility and Inclusion / Universal Design



Many population groups including people with disability, the aged and those less mobile, First Nations peoples and people from culturally and linguistically diverse communities often experience compounded issues during and after a natural disaster. This includes access to appropriate services, communications, and infrastructure. Building back damaged sport facilities provides a unique opportunity to improve accessibility to important community assets.

Applicants:

- Must demonstrate consideration of accessibility and inclusion measures in their application
- Will be asked to identify how projects go above and beyond the base line compliance standards and support people to participate independently with equity and dignity
- Are encouraged to adopt universal design principles within their project design and to demonstrate their commitment to accessibility and inclusion as a key part of their application.

Application Process



Step 1: Check your eligibility

Before applying, you need to read the guidelines and related materials to make sure you understand all relevant requirements, including how to identify whether projects you have identified are eligible.

You can find the relevant information including guidelines on the [Office of Sport's website](#).



Step 2: Prepare your application

Applying for the ECSAP is a simple process using the SmartyGrants website sport.smartygrants.com.au/ECSAP-2022-23.

It is important and good practice to start preparing your application as early as possible. You can download a copy of the application form from the SmartyGrants website prior to commencing your application.

Complete the application by filling in each of the sections for each project submission.



Step 3: Submit your application

Applications must be submitted through the SmartyGrants website before the closing date and time.

Successful submissions will receive a SmartyGrants system generated acknowledgement email containing a PDF copy of the application which will confirm the time the application was submitted.

Late Applications

Submissions

- Late applications can only be made where an applicant has substantially completed an application in SmartyGrants prior to the closing date/time.
- If for some unforeseen reason you are not able to lodge your application on time, you must contact the Grants Infrastructure Team at the Office of Sport at infrastructuregrants@sport.nsw.gov.au or phone 13 13 02 at the earliest possible time and within one hour of the closing date/time.
- A late application will only be considered where its acceptance would not compromise the integrity of the process. The final determination on whether a late application will be accepted will be made by the Office of Sport supported by a probity advisor.

Documentation

- If any document is not available prior to the closing date/time and you would like to submit this for consideration you must contact infrastructuregrants@sport.nsw.gov.au within one hour of the closing date/time.
- Late supporting documentation will only be accepted for applications already submitted in SmartyGrants and where its acceptance would not compromise the integrity of the process. The final determination on whether late supporting documentation will be accepted will be made by the Office of Sport supported by a probity advisor.

Supporting Documents

Documents available on the ECSAP web page to assist your application include:

- Program Guidelines
- Frequently Asked Questions
- State/National Sporting Organisation Statement of Support Form
- Landowners Consent Form Template
- Budget Template
- Facility Use Schedule
- Standard Funding Agreement Template.

Assessment criteria and process

All applications will undergo an initial eligibility check. Eligible applications will be assessed against the Fund's objectives, focus, and aim and the following assessment criteria:

- Strategic alignment and community need (30%)
- Project scope, inclusive design and resilience building (25%)
- Project affordability (20%)
- Project deliverability and applicant capability (25%).

The eligibility and assessment criteria are detailed in the ECSAP Guidelines which are available on the web page. An eligibility checklist is also available on the web page.



Key points to take away from this session:

SmartyGrants

- Please visit <https://sport.smartygrants.com.au/ECSAP-2022-23> and allow yourself time to familiarise yourself with the portal. As applications are now open, you can download a preview application form from the SmartyGrants website prior to commencing your application.
- Please remember that to be considered eligible, the project must be submitted through the SmartyGrants website.

Frequently Asked Questions

- Frequently asked questions are available on the ECSAP website to support you in preparing your application.

Support for Applicants

Call: 13 13 02

Email: infrastructuregrants@sport.nsw.gov.au

Website: <https://www.sport.nsw.gov.au/grants/sport-infrastructure-recovery-fund/sport-priority-needs-program>

Questions



Q: Is a financial co-contribution required for the ECSAP?

A: No

Q: What if projects are less than the minimum grant request?

A: Grant request must be a minimum of \$150,000 under stream one and \$15,000 under stream two.

The NSW Government offers other funding and assistance packages for smaller grant requests. This includes natural disaster financial assistance to help sporting and recreation clubs directly affected by a declared natural disaster including flood, fire or storm damage. This low interest rate loan up to a maximum of \$10,000 can help meet the costs of restoring essential club facilities, equipment or other assets that have been damaged or destroyed by a natural disaster. Further information can be found at: [Disaster relief loans - Sporting and recreation clubs \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/disaster-relief-loans-sporting-and-recreation-clubs).

Further information on NSW Government grants and funding including the Local Sport Grant Program is available at: [Grants and funding | NSW Government](https://www.nsw.gov.au/grants-and-funding).

Questions

Q: When will successful projects need to be delivered by?

A: It is anticipated that ECSAP and associated expenditure will conclude by 31 December 2025.

Q: What works constitute project commencement?

A: Project commencement varies depending on the project. It may include the awarding of contracts, engagement of consultants, undertaking detailed damage assessments, feasibility studies, detailed designs and technical reports, and preparation of business cases. It may include the physical construction or preparation of materials offsite. For large and complex projects, it may be approval from council to proceed with the project through a council resolution or executive minute.

Q: What works constitute project construction commencement?

A: Physical works that are part of the project construction. These works include, but are not limited to, early works construction packages, site clearing and demolition, earthworks or building works and the physical construction or preparation of materials offsite.

Questions

Q: Is there funding available for clean-up and equipment?

A: No. The ECSAP does not include costs incurred in the clean-up and make safe of community sport facilities. Exemptions may be considered in exceptional circumstances where works were required to be undertaken to ensure safety and/or accessibility to the public or property. This will be determined by the Office of Sport.

Q: How will applications be assessed?

A: Applications will be assessed in line with the ECSAP Guidelines. The ECSAP is administered by the Office of Sport in two stages:

- Eligibility check
- Merit assessment.

Q: How do I apply?

A: Applying for the Essential Community Sport Assets Program is a simple process using the SmartyGrants platform. You can download a copy of the application form prior to commencing your application. Applications must be lodged by **2pm on Friday 9 December 2022**, via SmartyGrants

Questions

Q: Can applicants include projects that incorporate Infrastructure Betterment?

A: Yes. The purpose of ECSAP is to support future resilience in sport facilities and to promote and support environmental sustainability and climate resiliency measures in design, construction and operation.

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

A: All successful applicants will receive detailed information about how they must acknowledge NSW Government funding for infrastructure projects. Successful applicants will receive full guidelines, logo and signage template files.

A condition of funding will include the publication of successful projects for each LGA to be published on council's website and that publicly available project delivery updates are provided to the community.

Q: When will the first milestone be paid?

A: The first milestone payment will be made on execution of the Funding Agreement. This is expected to be in early 2023. The Office of Sport will support successful applicants to finalise project milestones, establish and execute a funding agreement.

Thank You
