

Frequently Asked Questions

Athlete Pathway Travel Grants Program

1. What is the Athlete Pathway Travel Grants Program?

The *Athlete Pathway Travel Grants* Program has two funding categories:

Category 1: State Sporting Associations

State sporting associations recognised by Sport and Recreation Victoria (or if no state sporting association, the relevant Australian Sports Commission recognised national sporting organisation) can apply for up to five grants per funding round on behalf of Victorian teams or individuals for travel to compete at national championships and/or an event or series of events constituting national selection trials.

- Grants of up to \$6000 are available for teams with a maximum of \$1000 per team member.
- Grants for individuals are available up to a maximum of \$2000.

Category 2: Community Organisations

Victorian community organisations delivering sport and active recreation opportunities can apply for up to two grants per funding round of \$750 each to assist athletes, coaches, officials and teams with the travel costs of training and competition. A maximum of two grants will be approved to any organisation in any calendar year.

2. What is the purpose of the program?

The *Athlete Pathway Travel Grants* Program is part of the Victorian Government's commitment to make sport more inclusive, increase local participation and the accessibility of sport, stimulate local economies, and build sustainable grass roots sport and recreation and volunteer opportunities.

The *Athlete Pathway Travel Grants* Program supports developing Victorian athletes and others engaged in sport and active recreation by assisting with the costs of travel required to maximise their potential and opportunities to participate.

State sporting associations and community clubs can apply for grants to help athletes on the development pathway from community to national representation level.

Sport and Recreation Victoria manages these grants to support the increased health and well-being and social connectedness of all Victorians.

3. When do applications close?

Applications for 2016 Round 1, for activities starting between 1 January 2016 and 30 June 2016, close on 30 September 2015.

Applications for 2016 Round 2, for activities starting between 1 July 2016 and 31 December 2016, close on 10 March 2016.

4. When will the applicant hear whether they have been successful?

Applicants will receive written notification of the outcome of their application within three months of the closing date of the funding round.

5. Who is eligible for the grant funding / who can apply?

Only state sporting associations recognised by Sport and Recreation Victoria or, where there is no recognised state sporting association, a national sporting organisation recognised by the Australian Sports Commission can apply for funding under Category 1.

Victorian community organisations delivering sport and active recreation programs can apply for funding under Category 2.

Individuals are not able to apply directly from the *Athlete Pathway Travel Grants* Program. Individuals seeking support from this program should contact their state sporting association or club.

6. What type of activities will be considered for funding?

Applications under Category 1 can be made for travel and accommodation costs associated with competing at a national championship or an event or series of events constituting national selection trials. Applications may be submitted for an individual athlete or team/squad.

Applications under Category 2 can be made for travel and accommodation costs for athletes, coaches, officials or teams that are required to travel to train or compete. For example an athlete that is regularly required to travel to train with a state squad, or a regional club that is required to travel to a number of other towns in order to compete in their local competition.

7. What will not be considered for funding?

The *Athlete Pathway Travel Grants* Program will not fund:

- costs other than travel and accommodation
- travel that occurs before the eligible commencement date for each funding round (i.e. the following 1 January or 1 July)
- travel costs for people accompanying athletes (for example parents)
- athletes who receive financial or in-kind assistance from the Victorian Institute of Sport or the Australian Institute of Sport
- athletes who have received a grant under this program in the previous funding round
- athletes aged under 12 years as at 1 January in the year of the grant (some exceptions in gymnastics may be considered)
- applications from schools, hospitals, or individuals
- applications seeking more than the eligible maximum amounts for that category
- late, incomplete, or handwritten applications.

8. How much funding is available for each grant?

State sporting associations can apply for grants of up to \$6000 for teams with a maximum of \$1000 per team member, or for individuals up to a maximum of \$2000.

Victorian community organisations delivering sport and active recreation opportunities can apply for grants of \$750.

9. Will applicants be required to match funding?

No. Matching funding is not required.

10. How long do successful applicants have to complete their activity?

The activity must be completed within 12 months of receipt of the grant funds.

11. How do applicants submit an application?

To apply, go to www.sport.vic.gov.au/grants

Make sure you have the information you need on hand, and click on 'Start new application' to submit your application through Grants Online. You will receive an Application Number when you submit an application online. Please quote your Application Number in all correspondence relating to your application.

You can attach documents to your online application as long as they are in an acceptable file type (eg Word, Excel, PDF, or JPEG) and don't exceed the maximum file size.

12. What are the assessment criteria for applications?

Applications will be assessed according to eligibility and the travel details provided in the application form. Applications should describe the event or activity for which funding is sought and its importance to the recipient, details of the team or individual, and how the proposed travel will assist the recipient's development within a sporting pathway.

For Category 1 applications, preference will be given to:

- applications to travel for the purposes of representing Victoria
- athletes that reside in areas identified as disadvantaged
- athletes who have (or for athletes under 18 years of age whose parent/guardian has) a Commonwealth Health Care Card.

For Category 2 applications, preference will be given to:

- travel for representative sport (state, association or region)
- requirements to travel greater distances to train or compete
- applicants who have not received a travel grant in the last two years
- applicants residing in areas identified as disadvantaged
- athletes who have (or for athletes under 18 years of age whose parent/guardian has) a Commonwealth Health Care Card.

13. Who can applicants contact for further information or help in completing their application?

For preliminary information on this or any other grant program contact the Grants Information Line on 1300 366 356 for the cost of a local call (except from a mobile phone) on any weekday between 8:30am and 5pm (except for public holidays).

Full guidelines can be found at www.sport.vic.gov.au/grants