



2008 Sport and Recreation Grant Program Q&A



When will applications open for the 2008 Sport and Recreation Grants?

The 2008 Sport and Recreation Grant Program will be administered via two rounds to accommodate the provision of additional assistance (for 2008 only) to support sport and recreation in a drought environment.

Round 1: Applications (online) for standard areas of assistance will open at **Midday Friday 26 October 2007** and will remain open for a four week period. Applications will close at 5.00pm on Friday 23 November 2007.

Round 2: Applications (paper-based) for drought related projects will open at **Midday Friday 9 November 2007** and will remain open for a six week period. Applications will close at 5.00pm on Friday 21 December 2007.

What were the outcomes of the recent review of the Sport and Recreation Grant Program? Will there be changes for 2008?

Interstate firm, Ross Planning was engaged to undertake a review of the grants program in mid 2007. This involved extensive consultation with the sport and recreation industry and benchmarking with other state and territory funding programs. The review report highlighted several best practice areas within the sport and recreation grant portfolio. It noted the program is well accepted by the ACT Sport and Recreation Industry and significant changes were not requested. A number of recommendations were however made to improve the outcomes received from the government's investment and to highlight potential areas to improve the administration of the schemes.

The following recommendations have been endorsed in relation to 2008 SRGP:

- Whilst acknowledged as a valuable initiative, the Sports Loan Subsidy Scheme (SLISS) will **remain closed for new applications** for 2008 with the view of possible reinstatement in 2009. Ongoing SLISS commitments will be honoured.
- The bonus scheme for triennially funded organisations will **not be** reinstated. Whilst a worthwhile initiative, to allocate funds would be drawing on the limited resources available to other schemes.
- Individual travel assistance will **no longer** be available through the SRGP. Request for travel assistance are few in number and the relatively small amount available does not warrant the administrative resources required by the program.

- The existing performance monitoring of triennially funded organisations through Key Result Schedules will be replaced with a **new approach**. Operational priorities for each organisation will be discussed through an individual case management approach. This information will be captured in a service level agreement that will address a number of key areas.
- Triennial funding will now be set for a 3-year period and will no longer be rolling funding. All current triennial organisations **will be** required to complete an application for operational assistance in 2008 and if successful enter into an agreement for three years.
- Generic criteria and guidelines **will be** readily available for each grant category.
- The capacity to support an annual theme through the grant program will be introduced. The 2008 funding cycle will promote “**drought proofing**” and will encourage eligible organisations to consider applications in this area.
- Organisations with outstanding debt or liability against any program area of Sport and Recreation Services, including the ACT Academy of Sport, **will not** be eligible to receive further funding or program support until such time that a satisfactory acquittal is produced or the debt or liability is recovered.
- Funding requests to support retrospective expenditure will **remain ineligible**. Only funds spent after the date of letter of offer will be eligible for acquittal purposes.
- Internal assessment of grant applications will continue to include consultation with appropriate staff within Sport and Recreation Services, including facility, program and high performance areas.

Due to timing and administrative needs, not all review recommendations will be introduced in 2008. Further work in relation to a number of recommendations needs to be undertaken in the new year for implementation in 2009.

So there will be further changes for the 2009 Sport and Recreation Grant Program?

As noted a number of recommendations from the 2007 review of the SRGP will take effect in 2009. These include:

- Implementation of **revised eligibility requirements** and peak body guidelines for operational assistance, including the definition of what constitutes sport, recreation and physical activity. Revision of these guidelines will be undertaken in 2008.
- Case-by-case consideration of sports suiting **potential amalgamation** for funding purposes. Such consideration would be in accordance with the national direction for the respective sport.

- Eligibility of **commercial operators** for initial seed funding (1 year) for any projects under the Community Development Assistance. Commercial operators may be better placed to run participation programs than not-for-profit organisations as they generally have staff and resources to ensure reliable delivery and outcomes.
- **Migration** to the ACT Government Grants Portal and review of processes to reduce duplicate information provision to the ACT Government.

What can I apply for under the 2008 Sport and Recreation Grant Program?

Categories that will be available within the 2008 Sport and Recreation Grant Program include:

Round One

- **Operational Assistance**
- **Community Development Assistance**
- **Capital Assistance (Non-drought related)**

Round Two

- **Capital Assistance (Drought related)**

Operational Assistance will still be offered at two levels; triennial and annual. Conditions of Triennial Assistance will change from a rolling funding scheme to a three year agreement requiring reapplication every three years.

Community Development Assistance remains unchanged from the 2007 Sport and Recreation Grant Program.

Please note the two categories of Capital Assistance will be available for 2008 only. Drought related projects refer to facility initiatives to sustain sport during ongoing dry conditions. You are advised to discuss applications within this category with the Sport and Recreation Water Taskforce Manager, David Jeffrey on 6207 5815.

The conditions and guidelines for each category will be available on the Sport and Recreation Services website when applications open (www.sport.act.gov.au).

My organisation currently receives triennial funding. Do we need to submit an application under the 2008 Operational Assistance Scheme?

Yes. As all current triennial agreements (2004-2007) expire at the end of this year, all triennial organisations will need to update their organisational profile and complete an operational assistance application form in order to receive triennial assistance in 2008.

If you have any concerns regarding this application please contact your Liaison Officer at Sport and Recreation Services.

How can I apply for a grant from the 2008 funding round?

In order to apply for a grant you will firstly require a **password and login code** for the Sport and Recreation online application system. If you applied for a grant in the 2007 Sport and Recreation Grant Program, your access details from the previous application remain the same. If you wish to confirm your access details please contact the Grants Coordinator, David Maloney on 6207 2055.

If you did not apply for a grant in the 2007 funding round but wish to apply for the 2008 funding round, also contact David Maloney on 6207 2055 to receive a password and login code.

Once you have your confirmed access details log on to www.sport.act.gov.au and follow the links to the Sport and Recreation Grant Program. **Click on the link to APPLY NOW!**

Once logged in to the system you will be required to complete the organisational profile. Upon completion of the organisational profile you can then proceed to apply for your category of choice.

I note the Sport and Recreation website looks different to last year. Is the login to the grants application system the same?

Yes. The Sport and Recreation Services website has recently been integrated into the Territory and Municipal Services website. The online grants database however remains unchanged. Click on the grants link and you will be directed to the login page at <http://grants.sport.act.gov.au>

The Minister recently announced a further \$1.6 million for the grants program to support sport in the drought environment. Does that mean there is more money available within the 2008 funding round?

The additional funding to sustain sport in a drought environment does mean more financial assistance to support the delivery of local sport in the ACT. Funding available will be for capital works facility improvements to better manage sport in times of water restrictions.

In order to allow adequate planning for applicant organisations, these funds will be administered separately to the initial round of the Sport and Recreation Grant Program under **Round 2: Capital Assistance (Drought related)**. Round 2 will open only a fortnight later than Round 1 and will require paper based application to assist administrative procedures.

Sport and Recreation Services will be working with the industry in the short term to ascertain needs and funding requirements in relation to Round 2 applications. For further information please contact the Sport and Recreation Water Taskforce Manager, David Jeffrey on 6207 5815.

I cannot access a computer to complete the online application. How can submit an application?

Sport and Recreation Services staff are available to assist you with the submission of your application. Please contact your Liaison Officer or David Maloney on 6207 2055.

When will we know if our application is successful?

Following the respective closing dates for each round of applications, the staged assessment process will commence.

Round 1: Applications will close at 5.00pm on Friday 23 November 2007.

Round 2: Applications will close at 5.00pm on Friday 21 December 2007.

The announcement of successful recipients for the 2008 Sport and Recreation Grants will be made late January 2008.

Who can I contact for assistance?

For queries relating to the Sport and Recreation Grant Program:

- Check out www.sport.act.gov.au and click on the Grants Program link; or
- Contact your Liaison Officer at Sport and Recreation Services or the Grants Coordinator, David Maloney on 6207 2055.