

Sports Field Maintenance Funding Program

GUIDELINES

These guidelines should be read with council's [Community Grants Policy](#), and [Sunshine Coast Community Strategy 2019-2041](#) and associated Action Plan. You can view these documents at www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au

The Sports Field Maintenance Funding Program offers up to three years of funding as a contribution towards the cost of the maintenance of sports fields in the region. This program aims to provide consistent, equitable and appropriate support for sports field maintenance across the Sunshine Coast Local Government Area. The intent of the program is to partner with sporting organisations to maintain their facilities to competition level.

Competition standard sports fields are maintained to provide a smooth, level, and safe playing surface with consistent ball behaviour and reliable player traction, meeting the performance requirements of the relevant sport and governing body.

Eligibility

Who can apply?

Not-for-profit community organisations that:

- have formal tenure on Council or Crown Land or own their facilities freehold
- have policies and practices that encourage active and inclusive participation
- have primary responsibility for maintaining the sports field/s on a regular basis for all or a specified part of the year
- are willing to enter into a Maintenance Agreement with Council, committing to agreed performance standards relating to field maintenance and Workplace Health and Safety
- agree to regular site inspections.

Community organisations must also meet all of the following criteria:

- be a not-for-profit sporting organisation
- be Incorporated, or an Australian Public Company-Limited by Guarantee
- operate within the Sunshine Coast Local Government Area
- have appropriate insurance and adhere to sound Workplace Health and Safety practices
- be able to demonstrate viability
- have no debt to Council, or have entered into scheduled payment arrangements with Council which are being met
- have met acquittal conditions for previous Council grants
- have attended a Sports Field Maintenance workshop outlining the program expectations.

Who cannot apply?

- organisations operating on specialised, exclusive and/or restricted access areas. Examples of these activities are lawn bowls, tennis, croquet, archery, car club fields, pony and golf clubs
- government agencies or departments of local, state or federal government
- educational, religious or medical organisations, where the application is for the organisation's core business
- businesses and individuals
- organisations eligible under the Community Partnership Funding Program.

Eligible items** Items not listed below require written variation approval prior to expenditure and require a site visit by Council's Parks Community Sports Field Officer.

- Contractors fees
- Ground staff wages
- Fertiliser and soil amendments products
- Machinery and equipment repairs, parts and servicing
- Irrigation works
- Drainage works
- Commercial leasing or hiring of field-maintenance equipment.
- Herbicides and pesticides
- Turf and turf seed
- Line marking products
- Personal protective equipment (PPE) for volunteers & staff
- Fuel
- Soil testing

Program Details

The Sports Field Maintenance Funding Program offers up to three years of funding as a contribution towards the cost of the maintenance of sports fields. A Council Community Sports Field Officer will provide support to successful applicants in a range of ways which include:

- information on the level and type of maintenance required to achieve competition level
- development of an agreed Maintenance Schedule
- information about contractors available to carry out field maintenance.

Sports Field Maintenance Funding Program is conditional upon:

- Council's budget availability
- compliance with funding conditions
- priority being given to Sunshine Coast LGA suppliers in purchasing sports field maintenance goods and services
- delivering agreed outcomes
- attendance at a mandatory workshop covering maintenance standards, funding processes, compliance obligations.

Funding allocated will be a calculated contribution towards field maintenance costs, based on type of sport and the percentage of the year in which the applicant has responsibility for the maintenance of the field/s. Recommendations are reported to Council for endorsement.

Acknowledgement

As a condition of funding, successful applicants are required to actively and publicly acknowledge Council's support. The level of acknowledgement is determined by the amount funded and is outlined in the funding program agreement.

In addition, funding recipients must also ensure that Council's positive reputation is maintained at all times.



Payment

Sports Field Maintenance Funding Program funds must be claimed within three months of notification, except where an extension has been granted.

In some instances, there may be specific funding conditions that need to be met before payment can be made.

Acquittals

All Sports Field Maintenance Funding must be acquitted annually by 31 August each year.

Organisations will not be considered for further grant funding from Council if previous grant acquittals conditions have not been met.

Applicant Support

Applicants must discuss their application with a Council officer prior to starting an application. For further information or help completing online applications, contact the Grants Team and an officer will be in contact with you:

- grants@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au
- (07) 5420 8616
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Note: Office hours are 8.30am – 4.30pm, Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays).

Organisations that do not meet the requirements of this program may be eligible for funding for projects through the Community Grants Program. See Council's website for details.

If you do not have your own computer, you can access a computer at any of Council's libraries at no cost.

Please let us know if you have difficulty speaking English and we can organise an interpreter to assist you

