



**STRONGER
COUNTRY
COMMUNITIES
FUND**

VS

**REGIONAL
SPORTS
INFRASTRUCTURE
FUND**

The NSW Government's Stronger Country Communities Fund (SCCF) and Regional Sports Infrastructure Fund (RSIF) both provide grants for sports infrastructure projects in the 92 regional local government areas (those outside of Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong), as well as Lord Howe Island and the Unincorporated Far West.

Round Two of the SCCF is providing an extra \$100 million in funding for local sports infrastructure, on top of another \$100 million in funding for community amenities. While both the SCCF and RSIF fund sports infrastructure projects, the key difference in the two funds is the eligible project type: **the RSIF is aimed at funding larger sporting facilities that deliver positive outcomes for the region, while the SCCF is aimed at local sporting infrastructure.**

The below table summarises the key features of the two funds.

	Stronger Country Communities Fund	Regional Sports Infrastructure Fund
Purpose	<p>The SCCF was established to help deliver local infrastructure projects to regional communities. The objective of the fund is to provide infrastructure that improves the lives of local residents.</p> <p>After unprecedented demand in the first round of the fund, the NSW Government has doubled the funding total for Round Two to \$200 million, with an increased focus on local sporting infrastructure.</p>	<p>The RSIF supports new and existing venues to improve participation and performance in sport at all levels.</p> <p>Funds are provided for two categories of facility:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • regional sport hubs • regionally significant sport facilities.

	Stronger Country Communities Fund	Regional Sports Infrastructure Fund
Total funding available	\$200 million (Round Two)	\$100 million
Grant values available	<p>\$50,000–\$1 million</p> <p>Grants of >\$1 million are only considered where there is a financial co-contribution of at least 25% of the grant value from council or another funding source.</p>	<p>\$1 million–\$10 million</p> <p>A financial co-contribution of at least 25% of the grant amount sought is required unless financial hardship can be demonstrated.</p>
Eligible applicants	<p>Funding is available for eligible councils, the Lord Howe Island Board and the Unincorporated Far West area. Eligible councils include the 92 regional councils (outside Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong). A full list of eligible councils is provided at nsw.gov.au/strongercountrycommunities.</p>	<p>Funding is available for projects in all 92 regional local government areas, Lord Howe Island and the Unincorporated Far West from eligible applicants.</p> <p>Eligible applicants are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.
Eligible projects	<p>Eligible projects should deliver local community infrastructure or sporting facilities.</p> <p>Projects must be for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the construction of new, or refurbishment/upgrade of existing community infrastructure such as community halls, playgrounds and toilet blocks • the construction of new, or refurbishment/upgrade of existing local sporting infrastructure such as change room facilities, walking and cycle pathways, public pools, indoor sports facilities or oval/court lighting • capital works related to street beautification and public ‘place-making’, such as murals, planter boxes, and town and tourism signage. <p>For more information, see the SCCF guidelines.</p>	<p>Eligible projects should deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sporting facilities capable of attracting and hosting regional, state and national championships, and/or professional matches • regional sport hubs • regionally significant sport facilities • multi-use facilities primarily intended to be used for sport, but which can also be used for other events that contribute to the local community or economy. <p>For more information, see the RSIF guidelines.</p>

	Stronger Country Communities Fund	Regional Sports Infrastructure Fund
Application process	<p>Online applications are open, and are due by 5pm on Friday 4 May 2018.</p> <p>Applications will be checked for eligibility and viability before undergoing a community-choice modelling process with other projects submitted for the same local government area, to determine community preferences.</p> <p>Sporting project applications will be checked by the NSW Office of Sport to ensure they align with long-term infrastructure planning.</p>	<p>Step one: Submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) by 4 May 2018.</p> <p>Step two: Submit further information – either a detailed application (project plan and budget) or business case by the end of August 2018.</p> <p>Note, applicants who submitted EOIs under the previous RSIF guidelines can opt to proceed directly to step two.</p>
Closing dates	<p>5pm, 4 May 2018: Online applications close</p>	<p>5pm, 4 May 2018: EOI submissions, and submissions of detailed applications or business cases from previous applicants who opt to proceed to step two, close</p> <p>End of August 2018: Detailed application/business case submissions close</p>

FOR MORE INFORMATION

visit the **SCCF** and **RSIF** websites.