



Frequently asked questions

Get NSW Active program FY2024/25

October / November 2023



Transport for NSW proudly acknowledges the traditional custodians of the lands on which we work and pays respect to Elders past and present.

General questions

What is the purpose of the Get NSW Active program?

The NSW Government is committed to encouraging people to walk or cycle as part of their everyday travel. The Get NSW Active program provides councils with funding for projects that create safe, easy, and enjoyable walking and cycling trips.

When will applications open and close for the FY24/25 Get NSW Active program?

Applications for the Get NSW Active program open on 31 October 2023, and close six (6) weeks later at 11:59pm on 12 December 2023. Once the application period ends, no further submissions will be accepted, and changes cannot be made to submitted applications.

When will successful projects be announced?

Successful projects will be announced in April - May 2024.

Who do applicants contact for general questions?

Applicants are encouraged to submit all questions in writing to activetransport@transport.nsw.gov.au.

Who should applicants contact if they wish to make a complaint about the grant process?

If applicants wish to make a complaint about the grant process, they can [complete this form](#).

Who should applicants contact if they have a probity concern?

If applicants have any probity concerns, they can contact the independent probity advisor via rstein@procuregroup.com.au.

Who should applicants contact if they experience technical issues with the SmartyGrants system during the application process?

Applicants are encouraged to refer to the [SmartyGrants help guide](#) in the first instance. If the issue isn't resolved, send a message to activetransport@transport.nsw.gov.au.

Applications, Eligibility, Assessment

How do councils apply for Get NSW Active funding?

Councils apply via the [NSW Grants and Funding website application portal](#). It is recommended that applicants familiarise themselves with program guidelines, and application questions, and prepare their answers and documentation ahead of the closing date. Applicants can begin their application, save their progress, and return to complete the application later.

What resources are available to support councils with the application process?

The below resources are available to assist council with the application process:

- [Get NSW Active Funding Guidelines](#)
- [Cycleway Design Toolbox](#)
- [Walking Space Guide](#)
- [SmartyGrants Help Guide for applicants](#).

What is the maximum number of applications a council can submit?

The maximum number of applications is five (5), inclusive of all funding types (i.e., Active Travel to and from School or general active transport projects).

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For Active Travel to and from School projects, do applicants need to make separate applications for funding under Get NSW Active and Active Travel to and from School?

No. To streamline the application process and assessments, applicants only need to make one submission per project. If they are unsuccessful in securing Active Travel to and from School funding, they will be assessed alongside all Get NSW Active projects and are eligible for the remaining \$50 million funding pool.

How competitive is the application process?

Get NSW Active is an open competitive grants program. The selection process is competitive, as we receive numerous applications. Strong, well-documented applications that align with program objectives, as outlined in the Get NSW funding guidelines, have a higher chance of success.

Can councils apply for multiple projects in a single application?

Proposals to undertake multiple construction projects under one grant are eligible up to a maximum value of \$2,000,000 where the projects are of a similar facility type and have similar project outcomes. Two or more unrelated projects cannot be combined into one application. Each project must be submitted as a separate application.

What happens if insufficient applications are received for projects in the prioritised regions?

If there are insufficient shortlisted grants from councils in Western Parkland City (WPC) and Regional Outer Metropolitan (ROM) then funding will be given to the next highest ranked projects.

Can applicants request an extension on the closing date?

No. Once the application period ends, no further submissions will be accepted, and changes cannot be made to submitted applications.

How are applications assessed?

For strategy/plan projects, applications are assessed on the basis of: alignment with Get NSW Active objectives (60%), and project management approach and ability to deliver project (40%).

For design and construction projects, applications are assessed on the basis of: network connectivity (20%), design quality (20%), place outcomes (10%), safety outcomes (10%), and project management approach and ability to deliver project (40%).

What processes are in place to ensure that all applications are assessed fairly?

An independent probity advisor will oversee the whole process, including the assessment process, to ensure each application is given fair and impartial consideration. Applications will be assessed by an assessment committee of experienced subject matter experts and scored according to the criteria outlined in the Get NSW Active program FY2024/25 Funding Guidelines.

Funding

How much funding is available in the FY2024/25 Get NSW Active program?

There is \$60 million in total grant funding. Of the \$60 million funding, \$10 million is for projects that enable walking or bike riding to school, with the remaining funding for broader active transport projects.

What types of projects are eligible for funding?

For Active Travel to and from School projects, funding is available for construction only. For general active transport projects, funding is available for strategy/plan development, project design, and project construction.

Are particular project types prioritised for funding?

A \$0.5m share of funding is available for strategy/plan projects, and a maximum \$7.5 million share of funding is available for design projects. The remaining funding is for construction projects. This prioritisation of funding supports the development of future walking and cycling projects.

How is the funding distributed across NSW?

After grant submissions have been assessed, shortlisted grants will be prioritised as follows: 40% Regional Outer Metropolitan (ROM) based projects and 15% Western Parkland City (WPC) based projects. This prioritisation supports the development and delivery of active transport projects in parts of NSW where there has been a proportional under-investment relative to population (ROM and WPC). The share of funding reflects proportional population.

How much funding can be applied for per project?

For Active Travel to and from School projects, the construction project can be between \$50,000 and \$800,000. For general active transport projects, the specific amount of funding depends on the project type. For active transport strategy / plan, projects, applications must be between

\$30,000 and \$100,000. For design projects, applications must be between \$50,000 and \$1,000,000; and for construction projects, applications must be between \$50,000 and \$10,000,000. All amounts are excluding GST.

Are councils required to contribute funding, and if so, what percentage?

Up to 100% of the project cost can be funded under the program, however councils are encouraged to contribute to the project if possible.

Projects

What specific facility types are funded under Get NSW Active?

The following facility types are available for funding under Get NSW Active:

- walking connections
- raised pedestrian or shared crossings ('wombat' crossings)
- continuous footpath treatments
- kerb extensions
- separated bike paths
- quietways
- shared paths
- shared zones
- road closures.

What specific facility types are NOT eligible for funding under Get NSW Active?

The following facility types are NOT eligible for funding under Get NSW Active:

- Painted on-road cycling lanes and mixed traffic cycling projects with design speeds above 30km/h and/or unsuitable street environments
- Stand-alone pedestrian refuge projects
- Maintenance of existing assets
- Projects that primarily deliver bike parking
- Closed loop recreational projects
- Traffic Control Signal applications that have not received Agreement in Principle (AiP)
- Non-infrastructure projects such as behavioural change campaigns, events, promotions, or maps
- Projects that predominately focus on vehicular traffic improvements
- Standalone signage or wayfinding projects
- Standalone lighting projects or lighting of an existing facility.

Why are stand-alone pedestrian refuge projects not eligible?

Stand-alone pedestrian refuges are not eligible as the program is focused on facility types that best prioritise walking and cycling access and are

accessible to people of all ages and abilities (e.g., raised crossings).

Refuges may be eligible as a minor component of a larger project where applicants can demonstrate they are appropriate for the setting and in alignment with program objectives, and where other options are likely unachievable in the setting.

What types of information do applicants need to supply to support the application?

The information and documentation requirements will vary from project to project but will likely include some or all the following, plus additional documents specific to the project:

- map of the project
- coordinates for the start and end point (latitude and longitude)
- relevant strategy document(s) where the project has been identified
- design documentation
- consultation summaries/reports
- cost estimate for the total project value (excluding GST) separately detailing the base cost and contingency evidence of relevant approvals.

Is there a deadline for completion for projects funded under Get NSW Active?

Yes. Projects funded under Active Travel to and from School must be delivered within two (2) years of funding award. General active transport projects must be delivered within three (3) years of funding award.

When can councils start delivery of their funded project?

For projects that are successful in receiving funding under the Get NSW Active FY2024/25 program, projects can commence from 1 July 2024 or after the Funding Letter has been signed (whichever is later).

Key dates

31 October 2023	Applications open
8, 9, 10 November 2023	Information sessions
12 December 2023	Applications close, 11.59pm
Dec 2023–March 2024	Application assessment
April-May 2024	Successful projects announced