



Frequently Asked Questions

Get NSW Active program, Get Kids Active program and the Active Routes to School initiative FY2026/27

November 2025



Transport for NSW acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we work and pays respect to Elders past and present.

Get NSW Active program

About the program

What is the purpose of the Get NSW Active program?

The Get NSW Active program provides councils¹ with funding for projects that make it easier, safer and more convenient for people of all ages and abilities to choose walking and riding as a preferred mode of transport.

What types of funding are available via the Get NSW Active program?

There are three types of funding available under the Get NSW Active program including: Get NSW Active, Get Kids Active, and Active Routes to School.

Get NSW Active and Get Kids Active grants are provided to improve the planning, development and delivery of functional and safe walking and riding infrastructure.

Active Routes to School grants fund an education and behaviour change initiative where Transport for NSW partners with the Department of Education and NSW councils to provide fully funded, in-classroom lessons for Year 5 students.

¹ The Get NSW Active program is open to all NSW local councils, Lord Howe Island Board, and the Far West Unincorporated Region (referred to as 'councils' in this document).

When will applications open and close for the FY2026/27 Get NSW Active program?

Applications for the Get NSW Active program open on 5 November 2025, and close at 4:00pm on 12 December 2025. 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 2026.

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

The maximum number of applications is three (3), inclusive of all funding types (i.e., Get Kids Active, or general active transport projects). Note, applications to the Active Routes to School initiative does not contribute to the application count.

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 FY2026/27 Grant Guidelines](#)
- [Cost estimate template](#)
- [School principal letter of support template](#)
- [Cycleway Design Toolbox](#)
- [Walking Space Guide](#)
- [SmartyGrants Help Guide for applicants](#).

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

No. To streamline the application process and assessments, applicants only need to make one submission per project. If they are unsuccessful in securing Get Kids Active

funding, they will be assessed alongside all Get NSW Active projects and are eligible for the remaining \$50 million funding pool.

Are behaviour change programs that encourage children to walk or ride school eligible for funding?

The \$10 million for Get Kids Active projects includes \$500,000 for the Active Routes to School behaviour change initiative. Up to 10 eligible councils may be reimbursed up to \$50,000. Refer to page 13 of the Get NSW Active FY2026/27 Grant Guidelines for more information about the Active Routes to School initiative.

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 Active FY2026/27 Grant Guidelines, have a higher chance of success.

Can councils apply for multiple projects in a single application?

Applications can include multiple facility types that complement each other to improve active transport accessibility at a particular location (e.g. a footpath, kerb extension and a raised crossing). Two or more unrelated projects cannot be combined into one application (even where the facility type is the same).

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.

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 way to preview the application questions and prepare a submission offline before completing it online?

Yes. The application form is available to download as a PDF from the application portal, by selecting the 'Download preview form' button at the top of the page.

How are Get NSW Active and Get Kids Active applications assessed?

For strategy/plan projects, applications are assessed on the basis of: Aims and objectives of the strategy/plan (60%), and project management (40%).

For design and construction projects, applications are assessed on the basis of: Project design and strategic merits (60%) including network connectivity, design, place, and safety; and project management (40%).

How will applicant contributions impact on assessment score?

The assessment panel will consider applicant contributions as evidence of organisational commitment to the project and reduced project risk.

If a project was unsuccessful in receiving funding in a previous year, can it be resubmitted in FY2026/27?

Projects that were unsuccessful in gaining funding in previous years can be resubmitted. Applicants are encouraged to consider any feedback that was given on the unsuccessful

project and to update the application to address current program Grant Guidelines requirements before resubmitting.

How many projects can a council receive funding for?

Councils can be awarded a maximum of three (3) grants to a total cumulative value of \$5 million, to ensure that the program is delivering benefit to communities across NSW. Note, applications to the Active Routes to School initiative do not contribute to the application count (and funding awarded under the initiative does not contribute to the \$5 million maximum value).

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 FY2026/27 Grant Guidelines.

Do applicants have to complete the cost estimate template as part of the application?

A cost estimate template has been provided for applicants to complete as part of their application. The purpose of this template is to provide clear guidance on the minimum level of information required to be submitted. Applicants can submit alternative cost estimates where the detail is at least equivalent to that in the template.

Funding

How much funding is available in the FY2026/27 Get NSW Active program?

There is \$60 million in total grant funding. Of the \$60 million funding, \$10 million is for Get Kids Active projects that enable walking or riding to school, including \$500,000 for the Active Routes to School initiative, with the remaining funding (\$50 million) for broader active transport projects.

What types of projects are eligible for funding?

For Get Kids Active projects, funding is available for construction (\$9.5 million) and Active Routes to School behaviour change (\$500,000). For Get NSW Active general active transport projects, funding is available for strategy/plan development (\$0.5 million), project design (\$5 million), and project construction (\$44.5 million).

How much funding can be applied for per project type?

Program	Project type	Minimum	Maximum
Get NSW Active	Strategy/plan	\$30,000	\$100,000
Get NSW Active	Design	\$50,000	\$1,000,000
Get NSW Active	Construction	\$100,000	\$5,000,000*
Get Kids Active	Construction	\$100,000	\$800,000
Active Routes to School	Behaviour change	\$50,000	\$50,000

* Project value can be greater than the maximum funding limit where co-contributions are being made. All amounts are excluding GST.

Are particular project types prioritised for funding?

Yes. A \$0.5 million share of funding is available for strategy/plan projects, and a maximum \$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 riding 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).

What is the maximum amount of funding each council can receive?

Councils are limited to receiving a maximum of \$5 million combined value in funding.

How can the Get NSW Active program support a project that will cost more than \$5 million?

For projects estimated to cost more than \$5 million councils can still seek funding through Get NSW Active. Funding can be sought for separable stages of a project. To be eligible to seek funding through this method, each separable stage proposed needs to contribute value as a stand-alone project. Alternatively, councils can apply for funding for projects exceeding \$5 million by providing a co-contribution or alternative funding source that makes up the difference in cost. Note, Get NSW Active will not contribute to future cost variations.

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** (including new footpath (single section), new footpath (multiple sections), widened footpath, raised crossing, continuous footpath, treatment, kerb extensions, reallocation of road space to walking space, shared zone)
- **separated bicycle paths**
- **quietways**
- **shared paths.**

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
- Mixed traffic cycling projects with design speeds above 30km/h and/or unsuitable street environments.
- Stand-alone pedestrian refuge projects (note: in some cases, pedestrian or cycling refuges may be acceptable as part of a broader walking or cycling upgrade)

project. You will need to provide a rationale in your application.)

- Maintenance, remediation or renewal of existing assets.
- Projects that primarily deliver bike parking (for example bike storage cages).
- Closed loop recreational projects, e.g., walking/cycling circuits within open space that do not contribute to the broader network.
- Non-infrastructure projects such as behavioural change campaigns, events, promotions, or maps (except for applications made under the Active Routes to School initiative).
- Projects that predominately focus on car traffic management.
- Standalone signage or wayfinding projects.
- Applications for multiple stages. For example concept and detailed design, or design and construction. Standalone lighting projects or lighting of an existing facility.

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

Yes. Projects funded under Get NSW Active must be delivered within three (3) years of funding award.

When can councils start delivery of their funded Get NSW Active project?

For projects that are successful in receiving funding under the FY2026/27 program, projects can start from 1 July 2026 or after the Funding Letter has been signed (whichever is later).

Get Kids Active program

About the program

What is the Get Kids Active grant program?

The Get Kids Active grant program provides funding to NSW councils to deliver better amenity through infrastructure projects. These projects aim to make it safer, easier, and more enjoyable for children and their families to walk or ride to and from school.

The Get Kids Active grant program is administered under the broader Get NSW Active grant program.

What are the benefits of the Get Kids Active infrastructure projects?

Benefits of the program include:

- Improved safety through upgraded and wider footpaths and safer street crossings
- Enhanced comfort and appeal with new street trees and shaded routes
- Encouragement of healthy travel behaviours from an early age
- Support for long-term active transport use by creating positive perceptions of walking and riding
- Timely delivery of community benefits, with projects completed within two years
- Wider neighbourhood benefit to all walkers and riders that enjoy the improved infrastructure.

How many schools will benefit from the Get Kids Active grant program?

In the FY2025/26 funding round, 24 schools across NSW directly benefited from the Get Kids Active grant program, with projects being constructed within 500m of each school. These 24 schools add to the 30 schools supported in the previous funding year. A similar number of schools are anticipated to benefit in the FY2026/27 funding round.

How much grant funding is available?

For FY2026/27, there is \$10 million allocated for Get Kids Active, out of a total \$60 million allocated to the Get NSW Active grant program. This includes \$500,000 for the Active Routes to School initiative.

What is the funding eligibility criteria for the Get Kids Active grant?

To qualify for funding in the FY2026/27 grant round, NSW councils must:

- Propose infrastructure that improves safety and connectivity for walking and riding across neighbourhoods.
- Nominate projects within 2000 metres of a school.
- Show evidence of school engagement and provide a letter of support from the principal (or delegate).
- Commit to completing the project within 24 months.

What types of projects are eligible for funding?

Funding is available for construction projects which benefit any type of school, including primary, high, combined, religious and independent. Projects must:

- Provide access to a school or schools.
- Upgrade access primarily within 2000 metres of the school entry and along a route with clear and uninterrupted connection to the school.
- Align with technical and urban design requirements of the Get NSW Active program.

The Get NSW Active program provides funding for a wider range of projects.

Learn more about eligibility and the grant funding application by visiting:

www.transport.nsw.gov.au/get-nsw-active

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

Yes. Projects funded under Get Kids Active must be delivered within two (2) years of funding award.

When can councils start delivery of their funded Get Kids Active project?

For projects that are successful in receiving funding under the FY2026/27 program, projects can commence from 1 July 2026 or after the Funding Letter has been signed (whichever is later).

Active Routes to School initiative

About the program

What is the Active Routes to School initiative?

Active Routes to School is an educational, behaviour change initiative designed to encourage primary school students and their families to leave the car at home and walk or ride to and from school.

The initiative includes:

- Three one-hour classroom lessons which are delivered by the NSW Department of Education to Year 5 students in primary schools around NSW.

- These lessons meet NSW curriculum requirements across Geography, Mathematics, and PDHPE, incorporating Aboriginal knowledge and road safety education.
- Teaching students to identify and map real-world travel routes, later transformed into maps by council officers to share with the school community
- Enabling real neighbourhood change through local council delivery of line marking and wayfinding on the routes proposed by the students.

Who can apply for the initiative?

NSW councils can apply for an Active Routes to School grant via the [NSW Government Grants and Funding website](#).

What are the benefits of the initiative?

This initiative encourages walking and riding to school to increase children's physical activity, reduce car dependence, improve road safety awareness around school, and develop confidence. This initiative also equips children with skills to navigate their neighbourhood and assist in the transition to new high school travel patterns.

How are Active Routes to School applications assessed?

Applications are assessed on the basis of potential for active transport mode shift (60%) and complexity and completeness of the network (40%).

What is the application criteria to receive grant funding?

Councils are required to:

- Nominate a council officer that will work with Transport and their nominated school to ensure the success of this initiative.
- Include a letter of support from the relevant local primary school to be involved in the initiative.
- Articulate the demand and/or interest in walking and riding within the school catchment.
- Confirm that the existing footpath network surrounding the school is suitable for developing a series of walking and riding routes for students.

What does the grant funding cover?

The grant covers costs associated with developing a map and relevant street wayfinding. The cost of the three in-classroom lessons is funded by Transport for NSW. Councils will be expected to work closely with the partner school, Environmental Education Centre, and council's own GIS officer to develop the maps for classroom lessons, undertake road safety checks, confirm routes and develop a final map of the active routes to school, and install street wayfinding.

When can councils start delivery of their funded Active Routes to School project?

Active Routes to School initiative projects can start in 2026 or 2027 aligning with NSW primary school calendars, or after the Funding Letter has been signed (whichever is later).

Is there a deadline for completion for projects funded under Active Routes to School?

Yes. Activities associated with this initiative must be completed at least six (6) months prior to the participating Year 5 students finishing primary school.

How many schools will benefit from the Active Routes to School grant?

In FY2026/27 we aim to provide funding for up to 10 council submissions at the value of \$50,000 each. This would therefore benefit up to 10 council-school partnerships across NSW to access the initiative.

Key dates

Date	Activity
5 November 2025	Applications open for all Get NSW Active funding options
12 November 2025, 10am	Online information session
12 December 2025, 4.00pm	Applications close
December 2024 – March 2025	Application assessment
April – May 2026	Application notification
May – June 2026	Funding accepted

Contact us



activetransport@transport.nsw.gov.au