

## WAT Operational Support Grant Program – Round 1 ( 2025)

### Who can apply?

You must be the registered owner of a Wheelchair Accessible Taxis (WATs) in NSW.

To be eligible, you must:

- Meet all criteria in the Grant Program Guidelines, and
- Be actively operating the vehicle at the time of application and payment

### How much funding is available in Round 1?

You can receive a one-off payment of \$2,500 per eligible WAT vehicle. This payment is made directly to the vehicle owner.

### What is the Metropolitan Transport District

The Metropolitan Transport District is often referred to as the Sydney Region, and includes the areas as listed in the Program Guidelines Appendix A, shown below:

#### \*Local Government Areas

Bayside	Fairfield	North Sydney	Willoughby
Blacktown	Georges River	*Northern Beaches	Wollondilly
Burwood	*Hawkesbury	Parramatta	Woollahra
*Camden	Hornsby	Penrith	
*Campbelltown	Hunters Hill	Randwick	
Canada Bay	Inner West	Ryde	
Canterbury-Bankstown	Ku-ring-gai	Strathfield	
City of Sydney	Lane Cove	Sutherland	
Cumberland	Liverpool	The Hills	
	Mosman	Waverley	

*\* Some LGA's are partly covered by the Metropolitan Transport District. If you have questions about area of coverage Metropolitan Transport District. Contact the Book and Ride service provider Spinal Cord Injuries Australia (SCIA) on 139 111 or email: [bookandride@scia.org.au](mailto:bookandride@scia.org.au), for any further clarification.*

### Can I apply if I operate outside the Metropolitan Transport District?

Yes. The grant is open to regional WAT vehicle owners, this includes areas such as Wollongong, Central Coast and Newcastle.

A regional WAT vehicle owner must meet the following criteria:

- complete at least one M50 job, or
- provide a confirmation email from your authorised Taxi Service Provider (TSP) showing recent WAT activity.

### What if I have more than one eligible vehicle?

You can use the same application for multiple vehicles. A WAT vehicle owner may receive \$2,500 for each vehicle, as long they meet the eligibility criteria. You will just need to enter each of the registration numbers in the registration field, separated by a comma as shown below:

1. Provide taxi registration number. \*

T12345, T56789

TfNSW will validate a taxi is registered as modified vehicle for performing WAT services to be eligible for the grant. For multiple entries, place a comma "," between each registration number

You will also need to ensure the total grant value requested totals \$2,500 per vehicle in the budget section of the application form i.e. for 3 WAT vehicles the value would be changed to \$7,500.

Total Amount Requested \* 7.500

What is the total financial support you are requesting under this grant?

### When will Round 2 open?

Round 2 is expected to open early 2026. Eligibility and application details will be shared closer to the launch.

### Do I need to sign a funding agreement?

Yes. You must sign and submit the Funding Deed as part of your SmartyGrants application.

*Should you have more than one vehicle you may use the same agreement for each vehicle application. Just make sure to upload it with each application separately.*

A copy of the funding agreement and instructions for completing it are available on the Transport for NSW website. [Accessible Point to Point Transport Initiatives | Transport for NSW](#)

### What is SmartyGrants?

SmartyGrants is the official online grant system used by the NSW Government. It simplifies the application and assessment process. For more information, please access the [SmartyGrants Help Centre](#)

### How do I complete the application form?

Step-by-step instructions are available in the Application Guide, copy available on the Transport for NSW website. [Accessible Point to Point Transport Initiatives | Transport for NSW](#)

### Can I apply using a mobile device?

No. There is no app available for this process. We recommend using a desktop/laptop computer. Compatible browsers are listed here [Supported browsers & handling timeouts](#)

### How do I register for Book & Ride?

You can register through your TSP.

A user guide is available via the SCIA or NSW Taxi Council:

- [nswtaxi.org.au/resources](https://nswtaxi.org.au/resources)
- [bookandride@scia.org.au](mailto:bookandride@scia.org.au)
- 139 111

### Are grants taxable?

Yes. Most grants and payments are considered assessable income and must be included in the tax return. You are responsible for seeking your own independent financial, legal or tax advice.

### When will I receive my grant?

If your application is complete and meets all eligibility requirements, payment will usually be made within 14 business days. Please note, payment timeframes may be extended due to high application volumes and the implementation of a new system.

**Need help completing your application?**

For questions about the grant program:

- Email: [watgrants@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:watgrants@transport.nsw.gov.au)

**For help with the online form (SmartyGrants):**

- Email: [service@smartygrants.com.au](mailto:service@smartygrants.com.au)
- Phone: 03 9320 6888
- Website: [SmartyGrants Help Centre](#)