

Australian Paralympic Committee

Para-sport Equipment Fund



Guidelines

The Para-sport Equipment Fund is a joint initiative of the Australian Paralympic Committee (APC) and Sport Australia.

The purpose of the Fund is to assist in addressing the additional costs associated with sport participation in established Paralympic sport pathways for Para-athletes compared to their able-bodied counterparts. Specifically, the fund will address the cost of equipment specific to Para-sport which may need to be customised for individuals. This has been identified as a significant barrier on the Para-sport pathway at all levels.

The Fund will be administered by the Australian Paralympic Committee and promoted to all people living with a disability who are interested in participating in Para-sport.

Applicants will be required to address pre-determined selection criteria in their application.

Eligibility

To be eligible for **Individual** funding, athletes must:

- Be an Australian citizen or permanent resident living in Australia
- Have an eligible impairment according to the International Paralympic Committee's (IPC) [Standard of Eligible Impairments](#). These are:
 - Ataxia
 - Athetosis
 - Hypertonia
 - Impaired muscle power
 - Impaired passive range of movement
 - Intellectual impairment
 - Leg length difference
 - Limb deficiency
 - Short stature
 - Vision impairment

Australian Paralympic Committee Para-sport Equipment Fund



- Provide a quote from a registered business for the requested equipment. In some cases, the APC will purchase and supply the equipment to the applicant. This equipment will be made available on a loan basis for the duration of its reasonable working life or until such time as it is not in regular use for the purpose for which it was loaned, at which time it will be made available to other sport programs by the APC or returned to the APC in good working order.
- Use the equipment for sport/s in the Para-sport pathway. For more information, click [here](#).
- Be able to provide storage, maintenance and insurance for the equipment
- Provide the contact details of a referee from a state or national sporting organisation, club coach or school leader to verify the health condition and equipment need.

To be eligible for **Program** funding, organisations must:

- Ensure the equipment is being made available to groups where the intended participants are citizens or permanent residents of Australia.
- Be a not-for-profit sport organisation whose purpose is the delivery of sport programs and services OR be a registered education facility
- Ensure the equipment is being made available to athletes with an eligible impairment according to the IPC's [Standard of Eligible Impairments](#). These are:
 - Ataxia
 - Athetosis
 - Hypertonia
 - Impaired muscle power
 - Impaired passive range of movement
 - Intellectual impairment
 - Leg length difference
 - Limb deficiency
 - Short stature
 - Vision impairment
- Provide a quote from a registered business for the requested equipment. In some cases, the APC will purchase and supply the equipment to the applicant. This equipment will be made available on a loan basis for the duration of its reasonable working life or until such time as it is not in regular use for the purpose for which it was loaned, at which time it will be made available to other sport programs by the APC or returned to the APC in good working order.
- Use the equipment for sport/s in the Para-sport pathway. For more information, click [here](#).

Australian Paralympic Committee Para-sport Equipment Fund



- Be able to provide storage, maintenance and insurance for the equipment
- Provide the contact details of a sport organisation leader or school director to verify the equipment need.

Examples of eligible equipment:

- Boccia – adapted wheelchair, adapted and/or modified seating, balls, ramps
- Goalball – balls, goals
- Para-alpine skiing – adapted and/or modified seating, adapted and/or modified skis, prosthetics, sport-specific or adapted sit ski
- Para-archery – adapted and/or modified seating, performance aids, prosthetics, sport-specific or adapted wheelchair
- Para-athletics – adapted and/or modified seating, performance aids, prosthetics, secured frame, sport-specific or adapted wheelchair
- Para-badminton – adapted and/or modified seating, prosthetics, sport-specific or adapted wheelchair
- Para-canoe – adapted and/or modified seating and attachment, prosthetics
- Para-cycling – adapted and/or modified bicycles, handcycle, prosthetics, tandem cycle, tricycle
- Para-equestrian – compensating aids, prosthetics
- Para-powerlifting – specialised bench
- Para-rowing – adapted and/or modified seating and attachments to boats, prosthetics
- Para-snowboard – adapted and/or modified equipment, prosthetics
- Para-shooting – adapted and/or modified seating, sport-specific or adapted wheelchair
- Para-table tennis – adapted and/or modified seating, performance aids, prosthetics, sport-specific or adapted wheelchair
- Para-triathlon – adapted and/or modified seating, handcycle, prosthetics, sport-specific or adapted wheelchair, tandem cycle
- Wheelchair basketball – adapted and/or modified seating, prosthetics, secured frame, sport-specific or adapted wheelchair
- Wheelchair fencing – adapted and/or modified seating, sport-specific or adapted wheelchair
- Wheelchair rugby – adapted and/or modified seating, prosthetics, ramps, sport-specific or adapted wheelchair
- Wheelchair tennis – adapted and/or modified seating, prosthetics, ramps, secured frame, sport-specific or adapted wheelchair

If you have any questions on your eligibility, please email the APC at equipment@paralympic.org.au or phone (08) 8415 6803.

Australian Paralympic Committee

Para-sport Equipment Fund



How to apply

1. Carefully read the guidelines to determine whether you meet the criteria.
2. Complete the [application](#) on the APC website and submit it prior to the closing date of the funding round.
3. If you require assistance with your application, please email equipment@paralympic.org.au or phone (08) 8415 6803.

The Selection Process

Step 1:

The Para-sport Equipment Fund Manager will conduct a preliminary assessment of applications received to check that:

- The applicant is eligible to apply, and
- The application has been completed in full and all information has been provided. Incomplete applications may be deemed ineligible.

Nominated referees will also be contacted at this time.

Step 2:

The Para-sport Equipment Fund Working Group will appoint a selection panel to assess all eligible applications and use the following principles to prioritise applications:

- Whether the applicant has received any funding for similar items in the past three years
- Whether the applicant has an identified sport pathway through involvement with a club, coach, or school
- Whether the applicant has facilities for the storage and maintenance of the equipment.

Step 3:

Once the assessments are completed, the prioritised list will be forwarded to the APC for final selection. All applicants, successful or unsuccessful, will be notified by email of the outcome of their application.

The decision by the APC is final. There is no appeal process for unsuccessful applicants. However, unsuccessful applicants may apply in future funding rounds.

Australian Paralympic Committee Para-sport Equipment Fund



Successful applicants will be sent a grant agreement detailing the terms and conditions of the funding. They will be required to:

- Use the funding allocated for the equipment specified in the application only.
- Submit a report online after six and 12 months.
- Where applicable, provide receipts or similar evidence to verify the expenditure.
- Agree to be contacted by the APC's and/or Sport Australia's communications divisions
- Notify the Para-sport Equipment Fund Manager of anything that may prevent or delay the expenditure of allocated funds.