

**Paralympics Australia  
Para-sport Equipment Fund  
Guidelines and Conditions**



The Para-sport Equipment Fund is a joint initiative of Paralympics Australia 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. Specifically, the Fund will address the cost of Para-sport equipment, which often has to be customised, and has been identified as a significant barrier on the Para-sport pathway at all levels.

The Fund will be administered by Paralympics Australia and promoted to all people with an impairment who are interested in participating in a Para-sport.

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

### **Eligibility**

To be considered 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
- Use the equipment for sport/s in the Paralympic 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
- Provide a quote from a registered business for the requested equipment if they are an athlete in an Australian national squad **OR** are requesting items other than an athletics track chair, entry-level seated throwing frame, handcycle or playing chair for wheelchair basketball, wheelchair tennis and wheelchair rugby
- Agree to be contacted by the Paralympics Australia and/or Sport Australia communications divisions
- Submit a report to Paralympics Australia after six and 12 months.

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Paralympics Australia will work directly with businesses to purchase the equipment. Equipment may be partially or fully funded. In some cases, 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 Paralympics Australia or the relevant sporting organisation.

To be considered 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** 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
- Use the equipment for sport/s in the Paralympic sport pathway. For more information, click [here](#).
- 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
- Provide a quote from a registered business for the requested equipment if you are requesting items other than an athletics track chair, entry-level seated throwing frame, handcycle or playing chair for wheelchair basketball, wheelchair tennis and wheelchair rugby
- Agree to be contacted by the Paralympics Australia and/or Sport Australia communications divisions
- Submit a report to Paralympics Australia after six and 12 months

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**Examples of eligible equipment items**

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Equipment</b>
Boccia	Adapted wheelchair, adapted and/or modified seating, balls, ramps
Football 5-a-side	Sport-specific equipment
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-biathlon	Adapted and/or modified seating, adapted and/or modified skis, prosthetics, sport-specific equipment, sport-specific or adapted sit ski
Para-canoe	Adapted and/or modified seating and attachment, prosthetics
Para-cross country skiing	Adapted and/or modified seating, adapted and/or modified skis, prosthetics, sport-specific or adapted sit ski
Para-cycling	Adapted and/or modified bicycles, handcycle, prosthetics, tandem cycle, tricycle
Para-equestrian	Compensating aids, prosthetics
Para-ice hockey	Sport-specific equipment
Para-judo	Sport-specific equipment
Para-powerlifting	Specialised bench
Para-rowing	Adapted and/or modified seating and attachments to boats, prosthetics
Para-shooting	Adapted and/or modified seating, sport-specific or adapted wheelchair
Para-snowboard	Adapted and/or modified equipment, prosthetics
Para-table tennis	Adapted and/or modified seating, performance aids, prosthetics, sport-specific or adapted wheelchair
Para-taekwondo	Sport-specific equipment
Para-triathlon	Adapted and/or modified seating, handcycle, prosthetics, sport-specific or adapted wheelchair, tandem cycle
Sitting volleyball	Balls, net
Wheelchair basketball	Adapted and/or modified seating, prosthetics, sport-specific or adapted wheelchair
Wheelchair curling	Modified seating, pole, sport-specific equipment, stones
Wheelchair fencing	Adapted and/or modified seating, sport-specific or adapted wheelchair
Wheelchair rugby	Adapted and/or modified seating, prosthetics, sport-specific or adapted wheelchair
Wheelchair tennis	Adapted and/or modified seating, prosthetics, sport-specific or adapted wheelchair

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If you have any questions on your eligibility, please email Paralympics Australia at [equipment@paralympic.org.au](mailto:equipment@paralympic.org.au) or phone (08) 8415 6803.

**How to apply**

1. Carefully read the funding program guidelines to determine whether you meet the criteria.
2. Complete the application on the Paralympics Australia website in full and submit prior to the closing date of the funding round.

If you require assistance with your application please email Paralympics Australia at [equipment@paralympic.org.au](mailto:equipment@paralympic.org.au) or phone (08) 8415 6803.

**The selection process**

Step 1: The Para-sport Equipment Fund Manager at Paralympics Australia will conduct a preliminary assessment of applications received to check that the applicant is eligible to apply, and that 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. The selection panel will use the following principles to prioritise applications:

- Whether the applicant has applied for and received any funding or sponsorship for similar item/s in the last three years, including through the National Disability Insurance Scheme
- Whether the Fund is the only solution for equipment provision
- Whether the applicant has an identified sport pathway through involvement with a club, coach or school
- Whether the applicant has facilities for storage and maintenance of the equipment.

The equipment requested will be closely scrutinised by the selection panel to ensure it is appropriate to the age and current involvement of the athlete/s. Paralympics Australia reserves the right to offer equipment solutions that differ from the requested item/s.

Step 3: Once the assessments have been completed, the prioritised list will be forwarded to Paralympics Australia for final selection. All applicants, successful or unsuccessful, will be notified by email of the outcome of their application.

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

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Successful applicants will be advised by the Para-sport Equipment Fund Manager on the process of acquiring the equipment.