

May 2021

## Everyone Can Play Grant 2021-22

The NSW Government is committed to providing playspaces for people of all ages, abilities and cultural backgrounds to ensure that everyone can play.

The [Everyone Can Play Grant](#) is a NSW Government commitment to support councils to renew, upgrade and build inclusive playspaces across NSW.

### Who can apply for Everyone Can Play Grant Funding?

The Everyone Can Play Grant program is open to all NSW Councils and all eligible NSW State Government Infrastructure Agencies. The land on which the playspace is located must be owned or managed by the applicant and must be publicly accessible at all times. Eligible applications from NSW Councils will be prioritised over State Government Agencies.

You are **ineligible** to apply if you are:

- Individuals, groups of individuals and unincorporated organisations
- Incorporated not-for-profit organisation
- For-profit organisations
- Organisations limited by shares
- Federal government departments and agencies
- Educational institutions including Schools and their Parents & Citizens Associations, Universities, TAFE, Colleges and childcare centres.

### Which NSW State Government agencies are eligible to apply?

Eligible State Government agencies include infrastructure agencies who own and manage the publicly accessible land on the which the playspace would be built. The delivered playspace must be publicly accessible at all times.

### Why are NSW State Government agencies being included in this round?

The fourth and final grant round of Everyone Can Play has been extended to include eligible State Government Agencies. State Agencies have the responsibility to deliver and maintain high quality public spaces for the benefit of all in the community, and their use of public space is informed by the NSW Public Spaces Charter which was developed in 2020.

In this the fourth and final round of funding for Everyone Can Play, State Agencies have been included to help extend the delivery of high quality inclusive play outcomes for the communities of NSW.

### What kind of projects will be funded?

The Everyone Can Play Grant program will help fund upgrades of existing playspaces or new inclusive playspaces. The following types of projects are **ineligible**:

- Projects outside of NSW

- The purchase or lease of land for playspaces
- Funding of personnel or staff positions
- Buying or upgrading unfixed equipment
- Events, marketing, branding, advertising or product promotion
- NSW local council projects requiring ongoing funding from the NSW Government
- Retrospective funding to cover any project component that is already complete or underway.

## What is the total program funding?

A total of \$20 million has been committed to the Everyone Can Play Program. So far, three rounds of grant funding have provided almost \$15 million dollars of funding to 108 projects.

## How much funding is available in this round?

In 2021-22, up to \$5 million in funding has been allocated. In line with previous rounds, up to \$5 million dollars of funding will be available to all NSW LGA's to upgrade and deliver new and inclusive playspaces through the competitive grant process. In this round eligible NSW State Government Infrastructure Agencies who manage publicly accessible open space are also invited to apply.

## How much funding can be requested?

The funding limits for the two project categories:

- Inclusive Playspace – Upgrades  
Up to \$75,000 (with dollar for dollar matching from applicants)
- Inclusive Playspace – New  
Up to \$200,000 (with dollar for dollar matching from applicants)

Applicants are required to match the funding granted on a dollar for dollar basis. Council applicants are not able to include other NSW Government grant funding in the their matched funds.

## What the difference between an Upgrade and New playspace?

Upgrade of existing playspaces, where the focus for improvements will be on the Everyone Can Play principles – Can I Get There? Can I Play? Can I Stay? Upgrades could include but are not limited to, installation of additional play equipment, shade sails, new pathways or seating within an existing playspace.

Creation of new playspaces will align and demonstrate the principles of Everyone Can Play, in communities where there is currently inadequate provision. This can include projects where an existing playspace is being fully replaced.

## What are the assessment criteria for the Upgrade and New categories?

Applications that are eligible and comply with the application requirements will be assessed against the program objectives, project types and five assessment criteria:

- Merit and alignment to the program objectives and principles for Everyone Can Play

- Community engagement
- Viability and risk
- Value for money
- Socio-economic and diversity.

Further detail on the application requirements can be found in the Everyone Can Play Local Government Grant Guideline 2021-22.

## What is a Context Plan?

A Context Plan could show the location of the playspace within the wider park. It should include the location of the surrounding streets, pathway connections, car parking, amenities and other significant features within the park.

## What about the impacts of Covid-19?

The effects of Covid-19 have reminded everyone about the value of our playspaces, as these spaces along with open space have become places of welcome respite from increased time indoors. The grant round as per previous rounds will contribute to deliver greater quality public space for everyone by creating new or upgrading existing playspaces to make them more inclusive.

We acknowledge that a new approach to community consultation may be required during this time. Based on experience and feedback from councils delivering projects from the previous rounds of funding, project delivery has not been impacted significantly.

## Can projects be funded retrospectively?

No. Successful applicants may only commence construction of a project once funding approval has been confirmed. This ensure the project can go through the design review process to confirm alignment with the ECP principles.

## When are the applications due?

Applications must be received in SmartyGrants by 12pm (midday) on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

## Can previously successful applicants apply for this round of funding?

Yes. All applications that are eligible and comply with the application requirements will be assessed against the program objectives, project types and five assessment criteria.

## If we were unsuccessful in a previous application can we resubmit for the same project(s)?

Yes. The Department welcomes resubmission of unsuccessful projects provided the Grant Guidelines 2021-22 are followed. A review and reworking of the previous application is advised to best ensure the project meets the grant objectives and the principles of the Everyone Can Play program.

### When will the successful applicants be announced?

It is anticipated the announcement will be made by the Minister of Planning and Public Spaces late-2021.

### How long do applicants have to start and complete a project?

Successful applicants project start date must be within two months after the funding agreement is executed and projects must be fully constructed within eighteen months from the funding agreement execution.

### Where can applicants find the Everyone Can Play Guideline?

A copy of the Everyone Can Play Guideline can be found at:

[www.planning.nsw.gov.au/everyonecanplay](http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/everyonecanplay)

[www.everyonecanplay.nsw.gov.au](http://www.everyonecanplay.nsw.gov.au)

### Where can applicants find the Everyone Can Play Grant Guideline 2021-22?

A copy of the Everyone Can Play Grant Guideline 2021-22 can be found at:

[www.planning.nsw.gov.au/everyonecanplaygrant](http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/everyonecanplaygrant)

[www.everyonecanplay.nsw.gov.au/grants](http://www.everyonecanplay.nsw.gov.au/grants)

### How do I lodge an application?

1. Start reading about the Everyone Can Play program and Grant Guideline 2021-22 found at [www.planning.nsw.gov.au/everyonecanplaygrant](http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/everyonecanplaygrant)
2. Applications are via SmartyGrants - an online system at [www.everyonecanplay.nsw.gov.au/grants](http://www.everyonecanplay.nsw.gov.au/grants)
3. Applications must be accepted by 12pm (midday) 25 June 2021.
4. Any application that is late, incomplete or ineligible will not be considered.

### Can applicants submit applications for more than one project?

Yes. Applicants may submit more than one application but must be submitted as separate applications. Any applicant submitting multiple applications will be asked to provide an order of preference, which will be considered in the assessment process. Applicants will receive a notification that the application has been successfully submitted.

### Will assistance be available to support the preparation of the application?

The Open Space team may provide advice to applicants on the interpretation of the Grant guideline. For inquiries or more information email [everyonecanplay@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:everyonecanplay@planning.nsw.gov.au)

The Everyone Can Play mailbox will be monitored daily. The team will endeavour to reply to your enquiry within 48 business hours.

Questions and responses may be shared on the department website for all applicants to see.

### What technical support is available if I'm having problems with my application on the SmartyGrants system?

- Check out the help guide for applicants at [www.applicanthelp.smartygrants.com.au](http://www.applicanthelp.smartygrants.com.au)
- Contact SmartyGrants at:
  - [service@smartygrants.com.au](mailto:service@smartygrants.com.au)
  - Telephone support 03 9320 6888
  - Support Desk Hours: 9:00am - 5:00pm AEST, Mon – Fri
  - Visit [www.help.smartygrants.com.au](http://www.help.smartygrants.com.au)

Please note, when attaching files to support the application, it is strongly recommended you keep files under 5 megabytes and use concise and descriptive filenames.

### What makes a successful application?

Applicants must understand the objectives of the Department's grant program and how it aligns to other Department policies and priorities. You should also secure internal commitment and capacity to deliver the project, before investing time and resources into preparing an application.

Before completing an application:

- Visit our website at [www.everyonecanplay.nsw.gov.au](http://www.everyonecanplay.nsw.gov.au)
- Read the project case studies and get to know our Everyone Can Play program
- Read the Everyone Can Play Guideline
- Read the Everyone Can Play Local Government Grant Guideline 2021-22
- Read the NSW Public Spaces Charter

### If we have already received other government funding or co-contributions from external organisations for the project, can we still apply?

Yes. Projects that have received other government funding or contributions from external organisations are eligible for funding. Applicants must list in their application if the project has received other funding sources and the amount(s). The overall contribution by the applicant must be matched against the funding request from the grant program.

### Will all applications receive funding?

No. The application process is competitive and has been oversubscribed in all previous grant rounds.

Successful applications will be those that best meet the program objectives, assessment criteria and can demonstrate the applicant has the capacity to deliver the project.

### How do successful applicants acknowledge the funding when projects are underway?

It is a condition of Grant funding that:

- The Minister for Planning and Public Spaces and officials from the Department be invited to attend any formal launch event (including commencement and completion ceremonies)
- The Department be advised 30 business days prior to any formal event
- NSW Government contribution must be acknowledged on all publicity for the project.

The successful applicants must install a plaque at the project site which acknowledges the funding provided by the NSW Government and the Everyone Can Play Grant. The successful applicants must provide the draft layout and text of the plaque and a plan showing the location of the plaque to the Department for approval prior to having the plaque made.

Successful applicants will receive a communication pack, providing the Department's brand guidelines, logos, key messages, video content and signage template files.

## Can the recipient change the project scope after the application is submitted and is announced as successful?

Recipients are required to notify the Department of any changes to the project from what was submitted at the application stage.

All substantial changes must be approved by the Department at the design stage.

## Do successful applicants need to report on the delivery of their projects?

Yes. All successful applicants must provide the Department with a Project Progress Report through the SmartyGrants portal. Reports include an update on progress against the agreed project milestones and photographs demonstrating progress, as applicable.

## Is the information I submit kept private?

The Department will only collect personal information for a lawful purpose which directly relates to our primary function as a NSW Government agency and for obtaining feedback about our services. The Department will not collect any more information than is necessary for it to fulfil these functions. The Department will not disclose your personal information to anyone without your consent, unless legally required to do so.

Please note that the Department does not have any responsibility for the privacy policies or practices of third-party sites linked to this website.

Visit [www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Privacy](http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Privacy) to view the Department's privacy statement.

When an applicant registers with SmartyGrants, and every time they login, the applicant accepts the privacy policies.

## Is SmartyGrants website Accessible?

SmartyGrants public facing forms have been audited for WCAG 2.0 Level AA compliance, and compliance with Vision Australia's standards as well. SmartyGrants doesn't have responsive accessibility.

Click [here](#) to read the SmartyGrants IT FAQ, covering the subject of accessibility and other technical information.

### What is the complaints procedure?

Any complaints about a grant process must be provided in writing. Any questions you have about grant decisions for this grant opportunity should be sent to [everyonecanplay@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:everyonecanplay@planning.nsw.gov.au)

If you do not agree with the way the Department has handled your complaint, you may complain to the NSW Ombudsman. The Ombudsman will not usually look into a complaint unless the matter has first been raised directly with the relevant Department. Visit the NSW Ombudsman at [ombo.nsw.gov.au](http://ombo.nsw.gov.au)

### For more information

- Visit the project website at [www.everyonecanplay.nsw.gov.au](http://www.everyonecanplay.nsw.gov.au). The Everyone Can Play website provides applicants with further information and inspiration, including toolkits, news articles, case studies and examples to assist in the planning and delivery of inclusive playspaces.
- Visit the Department's website at [www.planning.nsw.gov.au/](http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/)
- Send emails to [everyonecanplay@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:everyonecanplay@planning.nsw.gov.au). The Everyone Can Play mailbox will be monitored daily. The team will endeavour to reply to your enquiry within 48 business hours.

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