



BREAKING NEW GROUND



**GOVERNMENT
& FACILITIES**

GUIDELINES

Work with us to identify and unlock new grounds on school sites or other innovative locations.

Australian football's growth is compelling, led by our thirteen-fold growth in female football over the past decade.

This growth brings with it the challenge of providing the facilities we need, in the right locations to ensure all Australian's can experience the game.

To meet this demand, our data shows we need access to one new field every week for the next five years.

Staged and shared investment is the key to success, and we know that when we invest, significant projects and outcomes are delivered.

About

Breaking New Ground provides funding for the planning, design, and development of AFL related facilities on school and other innovative sites.

This Program aims to assist local governments, developers, grassroots community Australian football clubs, umpiring organisations and schools to better develop accessible greenspace in communities across Australia.

The aim of the program is to:

- » Develop increased supply through construction of new ovals, especially in growing communities, in a variety of traditional or innovative settings.

- » Provide inclusive and accessible facilities that cater for the diversity of participants, particularly female participants, that wish to participate in our game.
- » Develop venues to support the elite game and the sport's complete talent pathway, umpiring, staff, landmark heritage sites and people working and volunteering within the game.
- » Enable planning and project partnerships to form with a range of government and non-government bodies to result in an improved quantity, quality and welcoming venue network for Australian football.
- » Maximise available carrying capacity of existing venues and the quality/functionality of field of play supporting infrastructure.

Breaking New Ground aligns with the Australian Football Infrastructure Plan: Towards 2030 which details the sports overarching goals and objectives.

1. Build the capacity of community football

- Australian football facilities are fit-for-purpose, meet evolving community needs and enhance the football experience for all

2. Enhance elite, state league and talent infrastructure

- High quality infrastructure and laying surfaces that meets the needs of AFL/W and State League competitions and talent pathways

3. Drive innovation and growth

- New, bold and innovative approaches to providing venues that increase access to football for more people in more locations



Who can apply?

Schools (private and public), Developers, Local Government Authorities, State Government and private land owners i.e. golf / racecourses.

What types of activities can be funded?

The Program will fund planning, design and delivery of facilities that support the provision of well positioned, welcoming, accessible, fit for purpose football facilities that support our game's growing participation base.

- » Works to maximize the carrying capacity of ovals (irrigation, drainage, field renovations) to increase the availability and accessibility of greenspace for club training
- » Maximize functionality of venue infrastructure to support club sustainability
- » Deliver Australian Standard Sports Lighting on more ovals
- » Invest in more AFL approved hybrid/synthetic ovals to allow greater training capacity
- » Secure greenspace to manage growth challenges
- » Source new and less traditional locations to activate football

Proposals should demonstrate how the projects will achieve some or all the following strategic priorities:

- » Delivery of new facilities on school / other sites that support the maintenance or increase participation
- » Encourage participation by females, juniors, people living in growth areas and communities
- » An improvement in the health and wellbeing of the community

- » Assistance with the development of site master plans or facility development plans
- » Development of multi-use, shared and co-located facilities
- » Implementation of Environmentally Sustainable Design which applies or demonstrates principles of Universal Design
- » Provide 10 year Right of Use arrangements with capacity for up to 25 hours per week of training access
- » 12-month access to dedicated football venues in strategic locations

Other considerations:

- » Interested parties must make timely contact with AFL representatives to discuss project ideas, seek their input into the planning and design of facilities and participation/programming initiatives.
- » Projects must meet relevant Australian Standards (e.g. lighting projects) as per the ***AFL's Preferred Facilities Guidelines***
- » Applicants are encouraged to explore funding models that demonstrate stakeholder engagement and commitment to the project
- » Facilities planned in functional, self-contained stages are eligible
- » Projects on school land are eligible subject to a completed Community Joint Use Proposal
- » Local governments wanting to partner with schools to undertake joint developments are encouraged to apply
- » Schools and Education Department's must be willing to enter right to occupy / lease arrangements with AFL community clubs

- » Opportunities for schools to access AFL Schools curriculum, participate in AFL sanctioned competitions and programs
- » Contributions from funding partners are highly regarded

How much funding is available?

For sites which meet the AFL's minimum criteria, funding of up to \$50,000 for detailed planning exercises is available.

Following the completion and approval of the detailed planning, an additional \$250,000 could be available to assist with project delivery.

The level of funding for each project will be determined by the Steering Committee based on the completion of the relevant planning and approvals.

Applicants will need to demonstrate other funding sources to assist with the delivery of the project if required.

How to apply

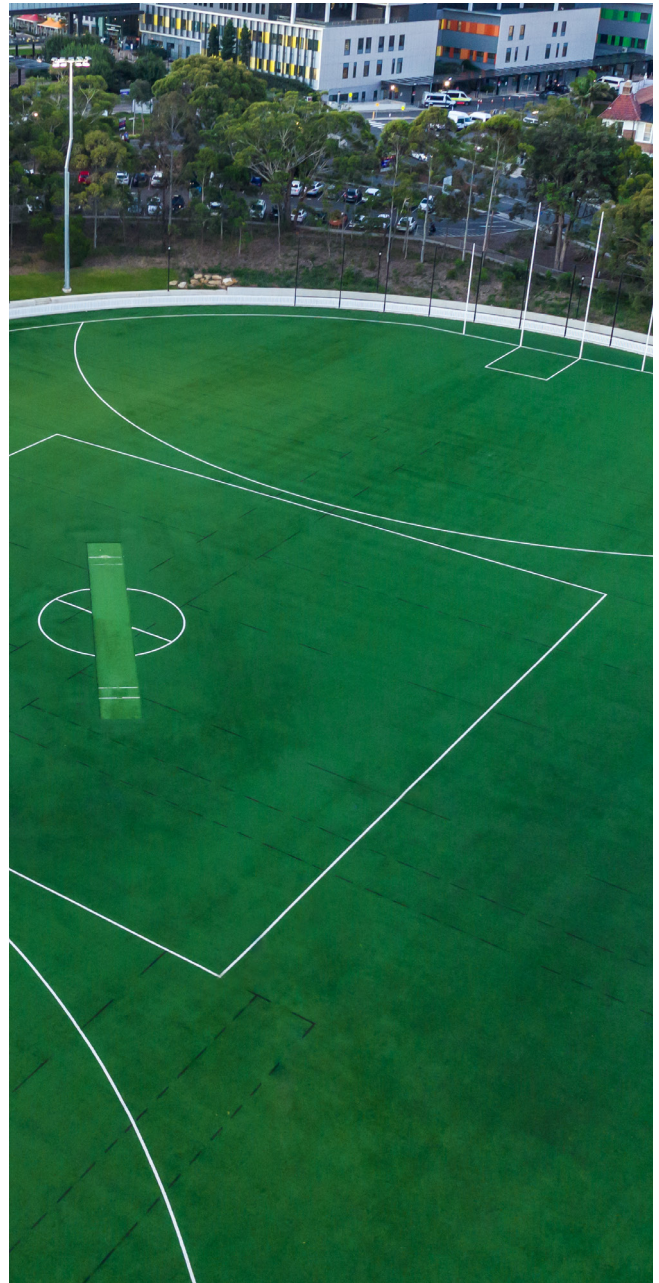
Applicants are encouraged to submit an Expression of Interest via the SmartyGrants portal.

This process asks for a range of information relating to your site and its potential use

To apply, go to https://afl.smartygrants.com.au/AFL_New_Grounds

Make sure you have the information you need to apply on hand, including required documents, and click on 'Apply online' to submit your Expression of Interest through SmartyGrants.

You will receive an Application Number when you submit an Expression of Interest.



How will applications be assessed?

Is this proposal located close to a community club with capacity issues?

Does this proposal increase network capacity?

- Creation or access to new and accessible green space
- Suitable Right of Use access arrangements
- If a school site, will it enhance a school competition / club or program
- Does it create a training venue (summer or in-season)

What are the proposed delivery timeframes?

What is the budget / partner funding available?



Conditions of Funding

Successful applicants must enter into a Funding Agreement with the AFL that will detail funding obligations and conditions, including future tenancy arrangements.

Funding Agreements establish the parties and outline their commitments and obligations to each other, as well as setting out the general funding terms and conditions.

Applicants are encouraged to discuss their proposals with AFL State / Territory Facility Manager's prior to submitting an EOI.

CONTACT

Breaking New Ground Information
Email: bnground@afl.com.au

