

2026 ACTIVE KIDS

GRANT ROUND GUIDELINES



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Your guide to applying for an Active Kids Grant with the Australian Sports Foundation.

The Active Kids Grant program is generously funded by The Dickinson Foundation in partnership with the Australian Sports Foundation (ASF) and aims to improve the physical and mental health of children and young Australians by encouraging and/or increasing participation through the provision of equipment and/or kit to eligible community organisations.

The 2026 Active Kids Grant round focuses on volunteer-run community clubs and organisations with members aged 20 or younger.

Grants will be awarded in the form of playing or training equipment supplied by HART Sport and on-field kit supplied by ISC Sport. **There are no cash grants available in the 2026 Active Kids Grant round.**

Applications will be accepted from 9am (AEDT) Monday, 2 March 2026 to 5pm (AEDT) Friday, 27 March 2026.

Objectives and eligibility

The 2026 Active Kids Grant invites eligible community clubs and organisations to apply for equipment and kit that will assist in supporting and encouraging young Australians, aged 20 or under, to improve their physical and mental health by increasing their participation in sport.

Grants provide sports equipment and on-field kit supplied by the ASF's partners. No cash grants are available in the 2026 Active Kids Grant round.

The Active Kids Grant can be used to encourage junior and youth participation in the following ways:

- Engagement of new members, and/or
- Retention of existing members

Grant amounts on offer

There is no maximum value you can apply for in this grant round.

However, due to a limited pool of funds and the objective of helping as many clubs and organisations as possible, applicants must only apply for what they **NEED**, not everything they want.

As a guide, the average grant value awarded in previous Active Kids Grant rounds was between \$3,500 and \$4,500.

If you are applying for a kit grant, your order must be for a minimum value of \$2,200 (GST inclusive).

Clubs and organisations that are restricted to using specific apparel providers should confirm with their governing body, league or association before applying for the kit grant.

What grant requests will not be considered

The following are ineligible and WILL NOT be funded for this grant program.

- Equipment or kit that will not be exclusively used to encourage and support sport participation by Australians aged 20 or younger.
- Equipment or kit that will not be provided free of charge to participants.
- Equipment or kit for coaches, umpires, referees and other officials.

Items such as, but not limited to:

- Awards, trophies, medals and podiums
- First aid kits and sports medicine items
- Storage
- Scoreboards
- Gazebos, marquees and other shelters
- Fencing and barriers
- Water bottles, carriers and hydration consumables
- Coaching boards and aids
- Fitness equipment not specifically made for junior and youth use

Please refer to our FAQs for a detailed list of items that will not be funded.

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IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
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Eligible applicants

Clubs and organisations can only submit one application per grant round, and must:

- Have a valid Australian Sports Foundation account number,
- Be volunteer-run and not affiliated with a professional club, school or Leagues Club,
- Not be associated with a professional club, a for-profit organisation, school or Leagues Club,
- Have members aged 20 or under,
- Be non-profit with a valid Australian Business Number (ABN),
- Have not received an Active Kids Grant within the last two years,
- Be in an area classified within the 1st to 5th decile of disadvantage to the Index of Relative Socio-Disadvantage (IRSD),
- Be able to complete an equipment and/or kit order by Friday, 29 May 2026,
- Be willing to provide an impact report and/or host visitors if requested.

Ineligible applicants

Clubs and organisation are ineligible to apply for the 2026 Active Kids Grant if they are:

- A professional club or organisation,
- A for-profit organisation,
- A club or organisation with paid employees. Casual sporting staff such as coaches and officials are not counted as paid employees,
- Unable to meet the eligibility criteria outlined above.

PROCESS FOR APPLICANTS

The 2026 Active Kids Grant round will use the SmartyGrants portal, which allows you to preview the application form prior to submitting your application.

Do allow enough time to familiarise yourself with the platform and resources provided. We also recommend proofing reading your application before submitting.

The following information will guide you through the application process. Ensure you have everything you need so you're prepared and ready to apply.

1. Obtain your HART Sport and/or ISC Sport quote

- Get your HART Sport equipment quote here <https://hartsport.com.au/>
- Get your ISC Sport kit quote here <https://iscsport.com/active-kids-grant/>

You MUST provide your ASF Member Account Number when obtaining your quote. Only grant applications accompanied by a legitimate PDF quote from HART Sport and/or ISC Sport will be assessed.

2. Complete your grant application

Apply online for a 2026 Active Kids Grant via the ASF SmartyGrants portal, <https://asf.smartygrants.com.au/>

You will need:

- Your SmartyGrants account (or you'll need to create a new account),
- Your ASF Member Account Number (your ASF Account Number can be found via your account top left of the menu. Your member number will start with ASFXXXXXX),
- Your HART Sport equipment and/or ISC Sport kit quote in PDF format,
- To ensure your TOTAL amount requested includes freight costs and GST.

3. Attach your quotes

All applicants must attach at least one PDF quote equal to the exact value of the grant being requested. This includes shipping and freight costs.

Ensure you have saved the relevant document on the device you'll use to submit the application.

4. Review and submit your application

The deadline to submit your application is 5pm (AEDT), Friday, 27 March 2026.

ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The Active Kids Grant program aims to improve the physical and mental health of young Australians by providing free kit and/or equipment to support and encourage their participation in sport. Eligible applications are assessed on how well their grant request aligns with this intended outcome and the number of successful applicants will depend on the funds available.

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Assessment criteria

The assessment criteria for the 2026 Active Kids Grant round are as follows:

- The legitimacy of the application and its alignment to the intended outcomes,
- How well the grant request provides opportunities for young Australians, aged 20 or under, to participate in sport, and
- The quality of the Case for Support provided in the application, including specific details on how the requested equipment and/or kit items will be used to create more sporting opportunities.

Notification of outcome

All applicants will be notified of the outcome by Wednesday, 29 April 2026.

Successful applicants will receive confirmation of their grant value and instructions to finalise their order with HART Sport and/or ISC Sport by Friday, 29 May 2026.

Helpful contacts and FAQ

2026 Active Kids Grant FAQs are available here asf.smartygrants.com.au/

Need help with the SmartyGrants portal?

- SmartyGrants Application FAQs available here applicanthehelp.smartygrants.com.au/applicant-faq's/
- Contact SmartyGrants by clicking here applicanthehelp.smartygrants.com.au/contact-us/>

Need help with your HART Sport equipment order?

- Contact HART Sport by clicking here hartsport.com.au/pages/contact>

Need help with your ISC Sport kit order?

- Contact ISC Sport by clicking here iscsport.com/contact-us/>

Important Dates

All times in AEDT

Active Kids Grant round opens:

Monday, 2 March 2026 at 9am

Active Kids Grant round closes:

Friday, 27 March 2026 at 5pm

Assessment period:

Monday, 30 March - Friday, 10 April 2026

Notification period:

Wednesday, 29 April 2026

HART Sport/ISC Sport order deadline:

Friday, 29 May 2026

HOW CAN I CONTACT THE ASF FOR THE FURTHER INFORMATION?

Email: grants@asf.org.au **Phone:** 02 5112 0990 **Hours:** Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm AEDT