

Government bodies, charity organisations, businesses etc all offer grant opportunities from time to time. Generally, they have a set criteria, or purpose, which you must satisfy in order to apply for a grant.

Preparing for a Grant Application

- Club Business/Strategic Plan – show them you are well managed and will use their funds in a planned and wise manner
- Project Plan – have an outline of the specific project you are looking to get funded
- Contact – make contact with the grant provider and get information as to what they are looking for. Build the relationship where you can
- Make your project fit the grant. Grant providers need to justify giving their funds to you – make it easy for them by demonstrating how your project will fit the grant
- Find out their motivation for providing the grant – your areas of focus within your application may differ depending on the grant motives.

Government Grants

Local Department of Sport and Recreation (or equivalent)

In most states, the department that looks after sport and recreation will have a system where you can obtain grants towards large scale projects like synthetic greens, lighting, roofing etc. These grants often require the applicant to input some portion of the total cost, and/or obtain a portion from local government.

The application process is arduous in preparation and can take several months to reach an outcome. You may not be successful at the first attempt, so back-up plans are often required.

The Department may also offer other grant opportunities targeted at specific groups or areas. Think about how your project fits these criteria, and potentially make changes to your goals to fit the grant requirements.

Council

From time to time, Councils will offer opportunities to acquire funding for different events or opportunities. If you have a plan regarding the types of projects you are looking to complete, you can check for grants from time to time, to see if any suit your projects.

Having a solid working relationship with your local Council is important, as this will only work in your favour when looking for grants. Don't let the time you go asking for financial assistance be the first time you are meeting a Council representative.

Other Sources

- Holden Home Ground Advantage
- Supermarket Chains
- Community Groups
- Banks – particularly locally minded ones
- Other Government Departments

Online Sources

A great way to find out grants that are on offer is the following website: <http://grantsandfunding.com.au/>

Your Regional Bowls Manager can assist with the preparation of Grant Applications.