



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities

Frequently asked questions for Round Four of the Bridges Renewal Program

Thank you for your interest in the Australian Government's Bridges Renewal Program. The Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities has developed a list of frequently asked questions to assist proponents in applying for funding under the Program. If your question is not addressed in this list, please contact us on 02) 6274 8040 or email on Bridgesrenewal@infrastructure.gov.au.

NB. Prior to submitting an application under the Bridges Renewal Program Round Four, proponents should familiarise themselves with the eligibility criteria of the Program, which can be found under section 4 of the Round 4 Guidelines. Funding applications that do not meet the eligibility criteria may be deemed ineligible with no further assessment undertaken.

If, after reviewing the guidelines, you find your Council's project it is not eligible for funding under Round Four of the Bridges Renewal Program, you may wish to monitor the Department' website at www.infrastructure.gov.au for announcements regarding future grant programs. The GrantConnect website at www.grants.gov.au also provides details on all Australian Government grant opportunities. A further source of information on grant programs offered by state and territory governments can be found on the Grants and Assistance finder at www.business.gov.au.

We wish you well with your application.

The Bridges Renewal Team

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Frequently asked questions

Q1. What type of bridge structure is eligible for funding under Round Four of the Bridges Renewal Program?

A1.1. The existing structure must be a publically accessible timber road bridge being replaced with a publically accessible concrete road bridge or culvert.

Q2. What type of bridge structure is not eligible for funding under Round Four of the Bridges Renewal Program?

A2.1. Bridges on the National Land Transport Network are specifically excluded from the Bridges Renewal Program Round Four. Please visit the Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities website at www.investment.infrastructure.gov.au/whatis/network/ for more information about the National Land Transport Network.

A2.2. Projects that are wholly or principally for maintenance.

A2.3. Stand-alone cycle ways, footbridges or stock bridges.

A2.4. New bridges where no road or water crossing currently exists (i.e. greenfield bridges).

Q3. Can a Council apply for the replacement of a concrete bridge structure?

A3.1. No. Round Four is only open to Councils seeking funding for the replacement of an existing timber road bridge with a new concrete road bridge that is publically accessible.

Q4. Can a proponent apply for a bridge structure consisting of timber and concrete?

A4.1. Yes. Provided the majority of the bridge's current construction consists of timber and the project otherwise meets the objectives of the Program.

NB. The objectives of the Bridges Renewal Program are to upgrade and replace bridges to enhance access for local communities and facilitate higher productivity vehicle access.

Q5. Can a council combine the total cost of two bridges to make up the \$1.4 million in Australian Government Funding?

A5.1. Yes. Councils can apply for Australian Government funding up to 50 per cent of the total project costs to a limit of either \$700,000 per one bridge project or \$1.4 million for two bridge projects, whichever is higher.

Example 1. An eligible Council wants to submit a funding application under the Bridges Renewal Program for the replacement of two timber road bridges with concrete structures. The first bridge has a total project cost of \$1 million and the second bridge has a total project cost of \$1.8 million. The proponent is able to combine the cost of the two projects and apply for Australian Government funding of \$1.4 million.

Example 2. A Council is seeking funding for the replacement of two timber bridges with two concrete bridges. The total project cost to replace the first bridge is \$800,000, while the total project cost for the second bridge is \$2.4 million. Council can only request 50 per cent of the total project costs for each Bridge to a maximum of \$1.4 million for both projects. The table below highlights how this may operate in practice.

Table One – funding split example

Project	Total Project Costs	Total Australian Government Contribution 50 per cent or \$1.4 million		
		<i>Option 1</i>	<i>Option 2</i>	<i>Option 3</i>
Bridge One	\$ 800,000	\$ 400,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 100,000
Bridge Two	\$2,400,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000
Total	\$3,200,000	\$1,400,000	\$1,400,000	\$1,300,000

Q6. When will Round Five of the Bridges Renewal Program open?

A6.1. No date has been set for the opening of Round Five of the Bridges Renewal Program. Proponents should monitor the Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities Web page for further details regarding the opening of Round Five. www.infrastructure.gov.au/bridges

Q7. Will Round Five of the Bridges Renewal Program be a full funding Round?

A7.1. This is a decision of Government and full details will be announced once Round Five of the Bridges Renewal Program is announced.

Q8. Who is eligible to apply for funding under Round Four of the Bridges Renewal Program?

A8.1. Proponents must be a local government entity.

A8.2. State and territory governments may submit funding applications for timber road bridges located in the unincorporated areas of their jurisdictions.

Q9. Can a proponent make up their funding contribution from sources other than Council funding?

A9.1. Yes. Proponents can make up their contribution toward the total project costs from any combination of Local Government, state/territory and private sector funding. Uncommitted funding from any other Australian Government program is also eligible under Round Four of the Bridges Renewal Program.

Q10. How do I access the nomination form in the Infrastructure Management System?

A10.1. Councils are able to manage their funding applications under Round Four of the Bridges Renewal Program through their Roads to Recovery profile in the Infrastructure Management System.

Each Council has an Access Manager who is responsible for the administration of Council’s Roads to Recovery payments through the Infrastructure Management System. The Council’s Access Manager is able to upload the nomination form by navigating to the home screen on the Infrastructure Management System. Located

on the top left hand side of the home screen is a dropdown box. By selecting National Projects, rather than Roads to Recovery, the nomination form for the council should be available.