



Active Transport Fund

August 2026

Overview

The Active Transport Fund (ATF) is part of the Australian Government's commitment, under the National Road Safety Strategy 2021-30, to improve road safety outcomes, including for vulnerable road users such as cyclists and pedestrians. The program also supports the Australian Government's commitment to reducing transport emissions and supporting active and liveable communities.

The program provides ongoing funding for the upgrade of existing, and construction of new, bicycle and walking pathways across Australia. Funding of \$50 million per year is available under the program.

Who can apply?

The ATF is an application-based, merit-assessed, funding program, open to all state and territory governments and Local Government Authorities. Applications are submitted through the department's Reporting and Program Management (RPM) portal <https://rpmportal.infrastructure.gov.au/>.

How much funding is available per project?

The ATF will contribute up to a maximum of **\$5 million** in program funding for each eligible project. All projects require a funding co-contribution.

For projects submitted by state and territory governments:

The program will contribute up to 50% of the total project cost for all projects, regardless of project location, up to the cap of \$5 million per project.

For projects submitted by LGAs:

The Australian Government recognises that some LGAs, particularly those in regional and remote areas, may be limited in their ability to provide a 50% co-contribution. If an LGA is unable to provide a 50% co-contribution, alternative funding co-contributions can be sought as part of the application. Applicants must provide a strong justification for the need for an Australian Government contribution of more than 50% of the total project cost.

What is eligible for funding under the program?

Projects must be for the construction of new or upgraded bicycle or walking pathways that are on or associated with a public road.

Projects must improve road safety for active transport users, reduce transport emissions, and help create more active and liveable communities.

Examples of projects that may be eligible to receive funding under the program include:

- widening or realignment of existing pathways that are associated with a road
- new pathways that run alongside or on a road providing users physical separation from vehicular traffic, for example:
 - footpaths
 - raised cycle tracks adjacent to kerb
 - protected bicycle lanes - on-road bicycle lanes with physical separation from motor vehicles, provided in a single or bi-direction
 - bicycle paths - bicycle-only facilities providing separation from people walking and motor vehicles
 - shared-user paths – for example, a bicycle path separated from motor vehicles, but shared with people walking
- a pedestrian crossing connecting new or existing pathways that improves connectivity and supports safer active transport outcomes.

Full eligibility criteria can be found in the Program Guidelines.

How are applications assessed?

Applications are assessed against 3 criteria:

- **Strategic fit** - the rationale for the project, the case for action, how it will achieve the stated objectives, and how it will meet the needs of the community
- **Project benefits and impact** - the social, economic and environmental value of the project
- **Project deliverability** - the capability and capacity to deliver the project, including risk mitigation.

The department will consider each application on its merits, based on how well it meets the criteria, how it compares to other applications and whether it provides value for money.

Upon completion of assessments, the department will recommend projects to the Minister or their delegate for approval. The Minister or their delegate makes the final decision on projects funded under each tranche.

Find out more

Visit: investment.infrastructure.gov.au/about/local-initiatives/active-transport-fund

Program Guidelines, FAQs and further resources: investment.infrastructure.gov.au/resources-funding-recipients/active-transport-fund-resources

Email: ATF-applications@infrastructure.gov.au for questions related to applying

Email: ATF-projects@infrastructure.gov.au for matters related to approved projects