



**SPORT  
NEW ZEALAND**

# Rural Travel Fund

Guidelines

July 2021 – June 2024



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## Introduction

The Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund (RTF) was established in 2003 to provide assistance with travel costs for junior and youth sport teams in rural areas of New Zealand. This supports Sport NZ's strategic vision to contribute to the wellbeing of everybody in Aotearoa through an enriching and inspiring Play, Active Recreation and Sport system.

The RTF is administered on behalf of Sport New Zealand by 35 eligible Territorial Authorities across Aotearoa to remove the barrier of travel cost and increase participation for tamariki (children aged 5-11) and rangatahi (young people aged 12-18) in rural areas.

## Information for Territorial Authorities (TAs)

### Applications and criteria

The criteria for the RTF is outlined below in the Information for Applicants section.

When considering applications, relevant TAs should consider how they can put an emphasis on providing sport experiences for:

- Girls and young women aged 5-18; and/or
- Disabled tamariki (5-11) and rangatahi (12-18)

### Resources

- [FAQs](#)

## Information for applicants

### Who is eligible?

The following criteria apply when the TAs consider applications for funding (along with any other criteria that the Authority considers appropriate):

### Teams

Applications to the RTF are available to rural sport club teams and rural school club teams within the listed TA regions below that consist of members aged between 5 and 18 years.

### Travel

The types of **eligible travel** covered by the RTF include:

- Rural school club teams or rural sports club teams participating in regular local competition outside of school time

### Not covered by the fund

The following are **not** eligible for the RTF:

- Rural school or club teams located outside of the named TAs outlined below

- Individual players, coaches or officials
- Teams not participating in regular, organised, local competition
- Rural school club teams competing in inter-school or intra-school competition during school time
- Teams travelling to regional or national sport competitions

## How to apply

Applications for the RTF are considered and awarded by the TAs in each region. Eligible teams should visit their respective TA website and apply using the application form.

## What is required from teams who receive funding?

### Accountability for funding

Funding can only be used for travel costs that arise from the team or group participating in a local competition, and as agreed with the relevant TA.

You must return an accountability form to the TA administering your funding that shows how the funding was spent, including providing proof of purchases made and any receipts.

### Goods and Services Tax (GST)

GST registered organisations:

If you are a GST registered organisation, the TA administering your funding will pay your funding plus GST. You must then account for the GST to the Inland Revenue Department (IRD).

Non-registered GST organisations:

If you are not GST registered, the TA administering your funding will not add GST to your funding.

### Return of unspent funds

Any funds not spent as of 30 June of the relevant financial year must be returned to the TA administering the funding.

## More information

If you have any questions regarding the Rural Travel Fund, there are FAQs included below. Sport New Zealand also has this information included on its website at [Rural Travel Fund | Sport New Zealand - Ihi Aotearoa \(sportnz.org.nz\)](https://www.sportnz.org.nz/rural-travel-fund).

If you would like to speak to someone in person, please contact Fiona Ramsay at Sport New Zealand on 021 535 714 or email [fiona.ramsay@sportnz.org.nz](mailto:fiona.ramsay@sportnz.org.nz)

## FAQs

**Q What is the Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund?**

A The Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund is a partnership between Sport New Zealand and Territorial Authorities to subsidise travel costs for young people that live in rural communities to attend sport competitions and events.

**Q Who administers this funding?**

A Territorial Authorities administer the Rural Travel Fund on behalf of Sport New Zealand.

**Q Can individuals apply for funding?**

A No, all applications must come from rural sport club teams or rural school teams. Funding will not be provided to individual players, coaches, or officials.

**Q How are Territorial Authorities selected to participate in the Rural Travel Fund?**

A Sport New Zealand has selected Territorial Authorities based on a formula that takes into account population density. Eligible Territorial Authorities have a population density of less than 10 people per square kilometre.

**Q Where can I get an application form?**

A Application forms can be obtained from your local Territorial Authority using the links below.

**Q Who do I contact if I have any questions about the application form or eligibility for funding?**

A Contact your local Territorial Authority as they administer this fund on behalf of Sport New Zealand.

**Q Who can apply for funding?**

A Sport club teams or school club teams within a Territorial Authority that receives Rural Travel Funding, who have members aged between 5 and 18 years, and meet the Rural Travel Fund eligibility criteria.

**Q Our team has applied for funding to help pay for travel expenses to get to National Champs. Are we eligible?**

A No, you are not. Funding is only available for travel to regular, local competition. For example, Saturday morning or weeknight games.

**Q Can we get funding for our school team for a one off or annual inter school competition?**

A No, funding is only available for travel to regular, local competition

**Q How can I find out about the application process for the Rural Travel Fund?**

A Contact your local Territorial Authority for more information.

**Q Who should I contact at Sport New Zealand for more information?**

A Please contact Fiona Ramsay at Sport New Zealand on 021 535 714 or email [fiona.ramsay@sportnz.org.nz](mailto:fiona.ramsay@sportnz.org.nz)

**Q Which Territorial Authorities are eligible for Rural Travel Funding?**

A

- [Ashburton District Council](#)
- [Buller District Council](#)
- [Carterton District Council](#)
- [Central Hawkes Bay District Council](#)
- [Central Otago District Council](#)
- Chatham Islands Territory
- [Clutha District Council](#)
- [Far North District Council](#)
- [Gisborne District Council](#)
- [Gore District Council](#)
- [Grey District Council](#)
- [Hurunui District Council](#)
- [Kaikōura District Council](#)
- [Kaipara District Council](#)
- [Mackenzie District Council](#)
- [Marlborough District Council](#)
- [Ōpōtiki District Council](#)
- [Ōtorohanga District Council](#)
- [Queenstown-Lakes District Council](#)
- [Rangitikei District Council](#)
- [Ruapehu District Council](#)
- [Selwyn District Council](#)
- [South Taranaki District Council](#)
- [South Wairarapa District Council](#)
- [Southland District Council](#)
- [Stratford District Council](#)
- [Taranua District Council](#)
- [Tasman District Council](#)
- [Taupō District Council](#)
- [Waimate District Council](#)
- Wairoa District Council
- [Waitaki District Council](#)
- [Waitomo District Council](#)
- [Westland District Council](#)
- [Whakatāne District Council](#)