

## *Rural Travel Fund*

**The Rural Travel Fund, supported by Sport New Zealand, encourages participation in sports for children and young people in rural and isolated communities.**

This fund provides financial support to schools and sports clubs, who can apply for the cost of travel expenses for sport competitions, events and practices. Examples of travel costs are petrol vouchers (when personal vehicles are used) and bus or van hire.

The Rural Travel Fund's purpose is to provide sport opportunities for tamariki (aged 5-11) and rangatahi (aged 12-18) throughout Aotearoa New Zealand.

## Guidelines

- Rural Travel Funding is expected to be used for travel to local and regular competitions and events. Rural Travel Funding cannot be used for one-off events, regional competitions, or national competitions
- Funding cannot be used for activities and events that take place during school hours
- Applications must be from schools or sports clubs. Applications will not be accepted from individual players, coaches or officials.

We recommend the amount of funding you apply for is up to \$5000. Applications for amounts higher than that may be considered, on a case-by-case basis.

## How to make an application

**Application forms are completed online through our partner, Smarty Grants. If you need help with your application, or you are unable to complete an application online, please contact the Community Funding Advisor at [grants@whakatane.govt.nz](mailto:grants@whakatane.govt.nz) for help.**

You will find the link to the application form on our website. To complete your application form, you will need evidence of the costs of your project/activity (quotes or invoices). You will also need an annual report or financial statement if you are applying for an organisation.

## What we do fund

**Whakatāne District Council funds projects, programmes, and activities that that benefit the Whakatāne District, its residents, and its communities. Applicants must be active in the Whakatāne District to be eligible.**

In addition, we prefer to fund applicants that:

- Have a clear plan in their application, identify exactly how funding will be used, and provide a budget for the project/activity
- Demonstrate that there is a community need and/or community support for the project/activity
- Support vulnerable and marginalized people and groups in our community.

## What we don't fund:

- Salaries and wages

- Projects and activities that do not directly benefit the Whakatāne District's residents and communities
- Applications more suited to funding by other funding organisations
- Funding for projects and activities that have already taken place.

Whakatāne District Council does not usually fund commercial or private organisations, activities that promote religious or political purposes, and programmes that duplicate existing initiatives. However, exceptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Council also does not fund legal expenses, medical expenses, debt repayment, statutory functions and public services (e.g. education and health care), purchase or promotion of alcohol and tobacco, and physical works (e.g., improvements to community buildings) that do not have permits prior to application.

## How are decisions made

Applications are assessed based on how they would benefit the Whakatāne District's residents and communities. This includes factors like how many people your project/activity would reach, and how it would improve the lives of those people.

Applications are also assessed based on how well they meet the guidelines and criteria, and how much information is provided in the application.

## Application review and assessment

We'll carry out an initial check of your application to make sure you're eligible. If there is any more information we need, we'll be in contact.

The Community Funding Committee then will meet to discuss applications and allocate funding to applicants. After this meeting, you will be notified of the outcome of your application via email.

The Committee may require some conditions to be met for funding they allocate to be released. For example, providing information or clarification, paying outstanding bills, or filing outstanding reports. If this happens, you will be notified when you are told your application has been successful.

The total amount of funding requested often exceeds the amount of funding we have to distribute. Successful applicants may receive less funding than they request.

## Advice and support

If you have any questions, or you need advice and support, contact the Community Funding Advisor at [grants@whakatane.govt.nz](mailto:grants@whakatane.govt.nz).