

Veteran Sport Australia – Financial Assistance Criteria

Background

Veteran Sport Australia (VSA) has been established to support all veterans and their families to improve their health and general wellbeing through sport and recreation.

The VSA Financial Assistance program is designed to support those former serving veterans who are unable to take advantage of sport and recreation opportunities due to their personal financial situation.

1. Eligibility criteria

The eligibility for VSA Financial Assistance is any former serving Australian veteran, nationwide who meets the following definition:

‘A person who has formerly served at least one day continuous full-time service in the Australian Defence Force.’

Eligibility also requires the applicant to demonstrate that they are unable to afford the required service, equipment or program which ultimately would improve their health and general wellbeing.

2. Assessment Criteria & Considerations when reviewing applications

Each application is evaluated on a case by case basis.

VSA will make a determination at their sole discretion, taking into consideration some or all of the below criteria;

- a. Likelihood of VSA Financial Assistance improving the health and wellbeing of the applicant, especially in recovery from illness and injury or other similar circumstance;
- b. The individual’s financial circumstance; considering;
 - Current ability to engage with sport and recreation without VSA Financial Assistance,
 - Ability to continue and self-sustain the activity into the future,
 - Ability of the individual to part fund the activity,
 - Whether other funding sources; grants or other are available for the costs applied for,
- c. Whether the applicant is already established in a sport or recreation program (with those at the early stages of participation looked upon more favourably);
- d. Consideration to a recommendation and advice from an expert (e.g. Fitness Expert, authorised medical authority, rehabilitation advisor etc.) about how the assistance fits into rehabilitation and reintegration plans;

Applications will be assessed against available budget and prioritised. It will be unlikely that VSA will be in a position to support all applications, and therefore it is strongly recommended that the criteria above is addressed with sufficient supporting documentation.

3. Application Requirements

The first step is to complete the VSA Financial Assistance application form, available at <https://veteran.org.au/financial-assistance/>

Part A: This application form will require you to provide:

- Contact details;
- Service information;
- An overview of the assistance that's sought;
- Impact of Support;
- Overview of your circumstances;
- Current membership and event involvement;
- Advice from a health professional that would support the application (not mandatory);
- Quote from a registered supplier (including ABN and bank details).

Part B: Only for applications requesting \$1,000 or more, please provide:

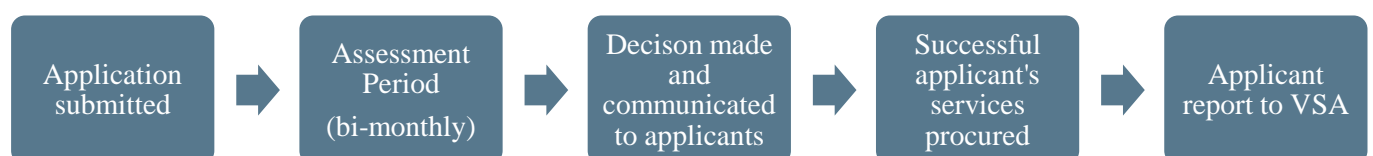
- Proof of financial circumstance, including bank statements showing transactions for the last 2 months
OR
- Proof that the applicant has been subject to a previous financial assessment in the preceding 24 months. As an example, this may include:
 - DVA payments or government issued Pensioners card;
 - Assistance from Defence Care;
 - Bravery trust support.

4. Application Process

Completed application forms, along with all supporting information attached are to be submitted to financialassistance@veteransport.org.au

All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application, as per application timelines below.

Successful applicants will be required to provide advice to VSA that the service or equipment has been delivered. In some cases, VSA may request a brief report be completed by the applicant.



5. Application Timelines

Application Submission Due Date

Round 1 - by 31 August
 Round 2 - by 31 October
 Round 3 - by 23 December
 Round 4 - by 29 February
 Round 5 - by 30 April

Determination Date

Round 1 - mid-September
 Round 2 - mid-November
 Round 3 - mid-January
 Round 4 - mid-March
 Round 5 - mid-May

6. Payment Requirements

For successful applicants, payments can only be made on invoices from a supplier with a registered ABN. A supplier quote or invoice must be included in your application to be considered. Please note reimbursements will not be made for previously incurred expenses.

7. Contact details

If you have questions or would like assistance completing an application, please contact our team:

E: financialassistance@veteransport.org.au

P: (02) 9264 8188 (then press option 4)

W: www.veteransport.org.au

8. Privacy and Use of Information Policy

We only use personal information for the purposes for which it was collected, or for purposes which are directly related to our regular business, we do not give personal information to any other party unless the following applies;

- the individual has consented to its release;
- the individual would reasonably expect, or has been told, that information of that kind is usually disclosed it is required or authorised by law;

To view the full privacy policy, please visit <https://veteran.org.au/privacy-policy>