



Department for
Digital, Culture
Media & Sport

Irish FA/ DCMS Grassroots Facilities Investment Fund **Frequently Asked Questions**

Irish FA will update this page as questions are received and answered about the programme. If you have a question, please email: DCMSfunding@irishfa.com.

1. What is the closing date for applications?

The closing date for applications is 5.00pm on Wednesday 26 January 2022.

2. Do I have to complete all sections of the application?

All mandatory/ required questions must be completed and if these questions are skipped or incomplete, the application is deemed ineligible for funding. If you think a question is not relevant to your proposal, please enter the wording "Not applicable."

3. Can one applicant submit multiple application forms for the same project?

No. Only one application per applicant is permitted. The application forms are set that only one application can be submitted per device i.e., a computer, a laptop, a tablet etc.

4. Does this grant only apply to clubs who own or permanently lease their own facility? I am on the committee of an Intermediate club who doesn't own their own premises.

Page 5 of the funding Information & Guidance Notes provides detail on eligibility requirements relating to Security of Tenure. If your club does not own its home ground, a lease agreement/ Service Level Agreement must be provided.

5. The criteria states that a football club must own their own ground or have a 10-year lease minimum. The closing date for the application is 26th January. We are currently putting in place a 10-year lease for our football ground but it probably won't be signed / finished by the 26th Jan (everything is slower with solicitors, etc. working from home now due to Covid). We assume that, providing the 10-year lease is in place at the time of any potential letter of offer, that would be sufficient?

Security of Tenure, i.e., confirmation of ownership or a lease agreement, is part of the assessment process. An application can be submitted with the lease agreement pending, however if the agreement is not approved/ in place by the time the application assessment is complete, then the application will be deemed ineligible for funding.

6. Is replacement floodlighting eligible for funding i.e., the installation of new bulbs onto an existing floodlighting system?

Replacement with similar bulbs would be considered as a recurrent cost and would be deemed ineligible, but if it is an improvement/ upgrade to an existing system it would be deemed eligible for funding. Also, the project must be initiated by 10 March 2022 and can complete by 31st March 2022 or as soon as possible after this date.

7. Can I view the application form questions in advance of submitting the Survey Monkey application form?

The application forms can be viewed in advance of submitting the Survey Monkey application form by clicking the following the link
https://www.irishfa.com/media/37299/irish-fa_dcms-application-form-questions.pdf.

8. If the club owns its ground, do we need to upload copy Title Deeds or will a Solicitor's letter confirming ownership suffice?

A Solicitor's letter confirming ownership will suffice, however a map demarcating the portion of ground that the applicant club owns must accompany the letter that correlates with the letter.

9. Are portable training lights to be used at a school training facility eligible for funding?

Portable equipment would not be eligible for funding unless it is bespoke such as football facility maintenance equipment, to be used exclusively at the club's home ground.

10. Our club is affiliated to a NIFL club. Are we eligible for funding?

Associated entities of NIFL clubs are not eligible for funding.

11. I was wondering if a new car park on our grounds would be eligible for funding as the access is limited and spaces limited for our kids, players and parents?

The application form must clearly demonstrate using SMART objectives as to how the proposal will meet the programme objectives as listed in the Information and Guidance Notes. Any supporting documentation such as technical reviews, feasibility studies etc. that can strengthen the proposal should be provided.

https://www.irishfa.com/media/37292/irish-fa_dcms-funding-information-guidance-notes.pdf

12. The proposed project is to develop a space in the club which is a bowls pavilion. The idea is to develop a hub, which will increase participation and will be used to run programmes. Is this project eligible for funding?

The applicant football club must own or have a 10-year lease in respect of ownership of

the bowls pavilion. The application form must clearly demonstrate using SMART objectives as to how the proposal will meet the programme objectives a listed in the Information and Guidance Notes. Any supporting documentation such as technical reviews, feasibility studies etc. that can strengthen the proposal should be provided.

https://www.irishfa.com/media/37292/irish-fa_dcms-funding-information-guidance-notes.pdf

13. The club does not hold a 10-year lease agreement/ service level agreement and will not hold one by the application assessment stage. Can we submit an application?

The club must hold a 10-year lease agreement/ service level agreement (until at least 31 March 2032) by the application assessment stage. If a lease is not in place by the assessment stage, it will be deemed ineligible.

14. Is the recording of the funding information webinar held on Wednesday 12 January 2022 available anywhere?

The webinar recording is available to view or download on the Irish FA website.

<https://www.irishfa.com/irish-football-association/irish-fa-dcms-grassroots-facilities-investment-fund>