

# Sport England - Return to Play Funding

## Introduction

**UPDATED** - Sport England has announced a £16.5 million Return To Play Fund. There are three parts to this new fund, with all funds focusing on a safe return to play and narrowing the inequalities gap in sport and physical activity.

You can use [Sport England's fund chooser tool](#) to find out which fund your project may be eligible for.

## Funds available

### UPDATED - RTP Small Grant Fund

- £300-£10K
- Applications should be to support previously run activity or to enable previous projects to adapt to resume delivery (not to support new projects or start-ups).
- Funding is to support the return to play and activity should resume within six weeks of national/local lockdown restrictions being lifted.
- Can fund projects for up to a maximum of six months.
- Funding could be used for:
  - **Minor Facility Alterations:** Changes required to meet social distancing requirements/government guidance
  - **Service Alterations:** Additional coaching/facility cost hire
  - **Operational Alterations:** New signage, additional equipment
  - **Running Costs:** Ongoing monthly fixed costs such as rent and utilities.
    - This is for organisations based in Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 1-5 only. This is capped at a maximum of £3,000 and will only be considered with an eligible funding request (SE will not solely support running costs).
    - Eligible organisations/activities in IMD 6-10 locations can apply to our crowdfunding option, Return to Play: Active Together, to seek support towards running costs.
- This programme will remain open until 30th June.

### RTP Community Asset Fund

- £10K-£50K
- Capital projects only where you need to adapt your space to meet Return To Play (RTP) guidance
- This could involve:
  - Creating a one-way system
  - Improving the ventilation
  - Converting your existing space to additional changing or storage.
  - Cover an outdoor area to install temporary floodlights to enable activity to take place outdoors.
- It will not fund any capital works that are not related to Covid 19 and RTP issues.

### RTP Active Together

- This is a crowdfunding initiative providing match funding up to £10K.
- This fund is to help groups raise money to help survive the Covid-19 crisis and RTP.

# Return to Play - Small Grants

## Key Information:

- **UPDATED** - This programme will remain open until 30th June, but we would encourage you to submit your application as soon as possible.
- Sport England will aim to let you know their decision within 3 weeks of receiving your application.
- Groups who received emergency funding or tackling inequality funding previously from Sport England can still apply.
- The fund will be competitive, and priority will be given to:
  - **Highest Priority** - Projects located in areas of high deprivation (decile 1-3 of the Indices of Deprivation). To see which decile your project location fits into, you can use [this postcode checker](#).
  - If your postcode is outside these areas you will need to demonstrate clearly how your project will engage with participants who do live within these areas. You can use this [Index of Multiple Deprivation map](#) to check your neighbouring areas (using a postcode search)
  - Projects working with the following key beneficiary groups
    - Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities
    - People on lower incomes,
    - Disabled people
    - People with long-term health conditions
    - People experiencing a greater burden of care because of coronavirus.
  - Organisations that don't have a significant level of reserve funding available to utilise.

## Who can apply:

We would encourage applications from clubs, leagues, and county badminton associations (CBAs) as these meet the current list of eligible organisations. We would also recommend exploring the opportunity to apply as collective group within a local area increasing the impact the funding could have, for example

- A group of clubs who share a venue applying together to support venue costs and secure regular court time.

Independent coaches are not eligible to apply and we would recommend them speaking to their club or the wider badminton community about a submitting a group application.

## Completing the Application Form:

To help you complete your application please see the below guidance:

The application is split into four main sections which will all need to be completed before you can submit your application. These are:

- About your Organisation and Project Contact Details
- Project Information
- Sport and Affiliations and Locations
- Funding your Project – itemise project costs

## Project Information:

- **Title** - Enter a short and meaningful title for your project, you do not need to include the name of your organisation in this.
- **Please describe your project: include who will benefit and what difference it will make to them.**  
*Think about the people you are going to work with, why they need this project and the impact it will have on them (500 words maximum)*
  - Who is going to benefit?
    - Be clear about who your project is aimed at – link and reference the fund's priorities as outlined earlier in this guidance. Highlight how this group has been affected by Covid and how the project will support them, including how many.
  - How are they going to benefit?
    - Financial uncertainty impacting people's ability to be active – how does your project address this?
    - Low cost sessions that provide good value for money, are likely to become more appealing, for example:
      - Pay & play sessions rather than upfront membership fees
      - Short cost effective 'courses' of activity
      - Providing equipment so participants can access sessions
  - What is the impact?
    - Your application will need to demonstrate how participants will benefit from the project?  
For example,
      - Supporting people to remain physically active
      - Ongoing mental wellbeing due to social aspects of physical activity
      - Keeping people engaged in badminton
  - People are experiencing high levels of worry and anxiety as activity reopens and restarts. Describe how your project will provide ongoing reassurance to participants around key issues like hygiene, proximity to others and policing behaviour.
    - Highlight how you have met all of Badminton England's guidelines and how you are sharing this with your participants (Covid trained 'officers', risk assessments). If the grant funding you are applying for is being utilised to achieve this describe how and why it is required.

- **How will you deliver your project?** *Think about what resources you need and steps you need to take (500 words maximum)*
  - Ensure you have read the up to date RTP guidance and your project conforms to this.
  - Provide clear detail on how you will deliver your project? Write down all the headline activities involved in delivering your project.
    - Number of sessions/frequencies
    - Coach Involvement
    - How you are communicating with participants (advertising/marketing)
    - Venue – agreements
    - Equipment
    - How you are managing sessions
  - Are you working with any other clubs, groups, or partners to deliver your project? If so detail who with and how.
- **Project Start / Finish date**
  - You must be able to start your project within 6 weeks of the awarding of the grant
- **How many people will benefit in total?**

## Further Support:

- **Application review:** We are here to help you with your application and therefore if you would like us to review it before you submit it or have any questions then please email the development team at [development@badmintonengland.co.uk](mailto:development@badmintonengland.co.uk).
- **Crowdfunding Webinar:** To learn more about Crowdfunding they host a monthly webinar to learn all you need to know about how to run a successful crowdfunding campaign. You can learn more about Crowdfunding and how to book on to the webinars [here](#).
- **Community Asset Fund:** If you are a badminton specific venue and would like support to apply for this fund then please contact [facilities@badmintonengland.co.uk](mailto:facilities@badmintonengland.co.uk)