

FUNDING GUIDELINES TO ASSIST APPLICANTS...

WHAT TYPES OF EVENTS ARE FUNDED?

The Fi Fund is available for a wide range of skydiving activities that help develop our sport. We use the words 'event' and 'project' but the possibilities are very wide. Funding would be considered for activities that support APF objectives, such as education, training, participation, publicity, competition and safety.

Fi funding is generally associated with larger events, like training camps and records. But it is also available for individual APF members.

If the event or project demonstrably contributes to the development of skydiving and the application meets all other criteria, then it may be considered.

In some cases, the online questions and boxes might not be appropriate for your event. If so, just fill out boxes as best as you can and put your main submission in the 'other' box at the end of the page.

FIRST THINGS FIRST

Applicants **MUST** go to their state councils before lodging an application for funding from the APF. This is clearly stated on the application pages. We reserve the right to reject an application if this step is not taken first.

If your state council is unable to assist, then you are still possibly eligible to receive some national funding.

Don't give up. Just make sure you start closer to home at council level before you come to us.

Important Note before you begin filling in your application:

You cannot save as you go with our online process. You'll probably find it easier to type out your application as a 'Word' document, and then transfer your answers across to the online application. This way, you'll have everything ready to go, and you won't lose your information if you have to start again.

***PLEASE CONTACT THE NATIONAL COACH IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE.**

BOOGIE EVENTS

Funding is not provided for boogies as such. We fund events that develop or raise the bar in our sport. We may provide some funding towards a part of a boogie, but only under specific circumstances.

If you're holding a boogie, then you'll have already organised the main drawcards for your event, such as aircraft, popular load organisers, day tapes and other special attractions. These things all go with a boogie to start with.

APF Funding would only be considered to raise the quality of any specialist coaching components of a boogie style event. For example, we would consider:

- Funding for camera slots if they're used by the coaches for thorough debriefs. We won't fund camera slots just for the day tape.
- Funding for additional coaches that would raise the quality of your event's coaching and development.
- Funding to ensure the best returns for the wider APF membership. Is your international guest available to other councils or other DZs to spread their knowledge? If you sign them exclusively for your event, then your commercial decision might affect your funding prospects.
- Funding to ensure the best development for participants. Will you be providing educational material, extra safety messages, training workshops or similar?

The applicant must be specific about these areas and must not look to APF funding to simply offset general expenses or boost boogie profits.

OTHER TYPES OF EVENTS & EXPENSES

Training camps are a good example of developing our sport at all levels. In addition to building knowledge for inexperienced skydivers, we're also keen to see initiatives that educate/upskill our Coaches and Instructors.

This fund is intended for organised events and projects that meet APF objectives and develop our sport. It isn't to simply offset costs for jumpers and coaches on regular one-on-one coached jumps.

If your application looks like a thinly disguised 'normal' day at the DZ, then don't be surprised if you get a few extra questions!

We don't fund parties, drinks, food or pack jobs. These expenses are not 'development' related.

REGULAR (OR SERIES OF) TRAINING EVENTS

We do want to encourage regular events. But we don't want to get buried under repetitive paperwork. If you set up a pattern of events, large or small, then please do so for a particular period of time. (ie every Friday for 3 months / First Saturday of the month for 6 months etc.)

If we've seen essentially the same event application 2 or 3 times before, we won't consider another application. You'll be politely asked to step it up to a higher funding level and to give us a very clear schedule of events and expenses.

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

Seminars and workshops are essential for Level 3 funding applications and they are also encouraged for Level 2 funding applications, especially when a higher level of funding is being sought.

The content or format of these sessions can vary a lot, depending on the type of event, as long as they are designed to support the APF's safety objectives and strategic goals.

For example, a formalised slide show about canopy flying techniques, presented by an experienced and highly regarded canopy pilot would be a useful seminar. A question and answer discussion about AADs, facilitated by a senior instructor, would also be appropriate. It would not be appropriate to run a proximity flying video at the bar and call it a seminar!

When international coaches are brought here, or when a DZ has the benefit of Australia's best regarded coaches, the APF wants to ensure their knowledge is shared at all levels. We're especially keen to support sessions which improve the knowledge of our Instructors, Coaches, Riggers and other leaders in our sport.

AIRCRAFT FERRY

We rarely allocate funds for aircraft ferry. This is usually treated as a basic requirement for an event. Normally, it should be funded by the DZ or registration fees.

If you seek aircraft support, you'd need to establish exceptional circumstances.

ONE APPLICATION PER EVENT

We'll only consider one application per event/project regardless of different disciplines.

Organisers of boogies and similar large events must ensure that a joint application is prepared to cover the various disciplines.

EQUIPMENT REQUESTS

We're extremely reluctant to fund equipment purchases because of the way equipment goes missing or requires maintenance.

If you do apply for a funding grant for equipment, we'd expect ultra-clear plans for its ownership, care, storage etc. We'd also expect an exceptional argument for why we should fund it.

COACH FUNDING

It's preferred that Australian coaches for funded events are listed on the APF Coach Register.

Don't assume that the Funding Committee and the National Office know all about the background of your intended international coach. Include some details about their expertise and why they are essential for your event.

GENERAL ADVICE

We ask for budget information and we ask who'd be making any losses or profits. We ask reasonable questions to ensure that you've really thought through all the planning, and that you have a plan B if we reject your application.

Don't be greedy! We have limited funds and we want to spread the allocations across different DZs and different disciplines.

Please don't just ask for the maximum amount available in a particular funding level. Spell out specifically how much is being sought and what it will be used for.

POSITIVE PUBLICITY

We encourage events that achieve positive publicity for our sport and we invite recipients to work with the National Development Officer to develop media opportunities.

Sometimes we just ask you to spread the word via facebook pages and emails. At the higher end of the spectrum we set funding conditions that you seek and receive mainstream media coverage.

With publicity efforts, the higher the grant, the more we expect to see a positive result for the APF.

SAFETY PLAN

The APF wants to ensure its safety objectives are met at all funded events. It's reasonable to expect extra safety planning for special events, as they often have different aircraft, varying experience levels for participants and many distractions for organisers and participants.

In some cases, the DZ's existing safety plan might be enough. For larger events, it would be advisable to consider extra safety measures.

For example, many boogies and training camps nowadays include a nightly briefing/summary/reminder from the DZSO before the raffle or day tape. It's also a good idea for regular briefing and feedback between the DZSO and coaches.

PARTICIPANT NUMBERS

Participant details and registration paperwork must be collected during your event to present to the APF on request during the post event process.

The word 'participants' means APF members directly involved in your event or project and does not include commercial tandem passengers during your event.

Please be realistic when you outline the number of expected participants. Funding assessments will be based on the expected numbers but final payouts will depend on actual numbers. If you predict 100 participants and your event only attracts 45, then your final grant may be substantially reduced.

We understand that skydiving events can be affected by weather and other unforeseen issues, so we'd consider reasonable arguments after the event.

DATE SELECTION

Watch out for date clashes and get in early.

Go to the APF Events Calendar as your first port of call. Check the dates for your event. Make sure it doesn't clash with other major events like Nationals, State Championships or other obvious conflicts. If the date is suitable, lock it in. Put your event on the APF Calendar.

All events that receive APF funding MUST BE included on the APF calendar. For funding purposes, this is the master event calendar.

We don't fund events that will potentially reduce attendance at Nationals and State Championships. Other large APF events, like the World Meet or the Annual Conference & Awards Night, must also be respected in your event planning. We won't fund two similar events in the same region on the same day. We are also very wary of DZs running more than one small coaching event at the same DZ at the same time.

If your event is in a different state and a different discipline, you might be able to demonstrate that participants wouldn't have attended the nationals anyway. If so, we may consider making an exception. (For example, a B-Rel day in WA could be deemed not to affect an Accuracy Nationals in Qld.)

When events span over the Christmas/New Year period, the National Office might accept the entire event under the new calendar year (or the old one) to reduce the need for two separate applications. Contact the Development Officer first to ask the question.

