



**Australian Government National Shed Development Programme
Round 21 October 2020
'Frequently Asked Questions'**

Please ensure that you read the Guidelines thoroughly so that you have a good understanding of the NSDP

1. Which organisations can apply under the NSDP?

- Any community-based organisation that is a legal or registered entity (e.g. an Association or Incorporated body) that wishes to support or improve an existing Men's Shed.
- Applicants may include any Men's Sheds, auspicing bodies such as Lions Clubs, Rotary Clubs, Health services and any other community-based organisation that can specifically offer 'shed-type' activities.
- In circumstances where a sponsoring body is applying for programme funding on behalf of a Men's Shed, a **Memorandum of Understanding** or **Partnering Agreement** must be in place to show that the particular Men's Shed has agreed to the activities proposed within the application form.
- Men's Sheds do not have to be a member of the AMSA to apply
- Comprehensive information is contained in the Round 21 Guidelines.

2. What are 'shed-type' activities?

- Where the primary activity is the provision of a safe, friendly and inclusive environment where men are able to gather together and/or work on meaningful projects at their own pace, in their own time and in the company of other men.
- To produce a variety of items including toys, household or garden furniture, Indigenous crafts, breeding boxes or wood turned articles.
- Activities that may include gardening, undertaking repairs or restoration such as heritage machinery, bicycle and small engine maintenance and cooking.
- Undertaking community projects.
- Participation in training programmes such as First Aid, Test & Tag, skills-based training e.g. basic welding and computers.
- Participation in activities that advance the health and well-being of their male members.
- Engagement in traditional and cultural activities such as art and crafts, traditional hunting and fishing.

3. Can our community-based organisation apply for NSDP funding to build a new Men's Shed?

No. The building of a new shed and premises is not supported under this Programme.

4. How does a community-based organisation apply for NSDP funding?

- Two funding Rounds are scheduled each financial year (1 July-30 June) under the NSDP
- Those community-based organisations wishing to apply for funding for a Men's Shed Project under the NSDP should refer to the AMSA's website www.mensshed.org for information on funding Rounds. Alternatively, email amsa@mensshed.net for the latest information
- Downloadable copies of the NSDP Guidelines and Application Forms for each Round are available on the AMSA website on the day each specific Round opens
- Applicants should provide one (1) signed copy of the completed Application Form and one (1) copy of all supporting documentation such as quotes, MOU's, letter from owner of the property giving permission for building work to be undertaken.

The application package can be lodged via email amsa@mensshed.net or posted.

Applicants are required to submit two quotes for any items/services/equipment for which they are seeking funding under the programme. This can include appropriate costings from online vendors.

In circumstances where an applicant is unable to obtain two quotes to support an application, applicants must contact AMSA either by email amsa@mensshed.net or phone 1300 550 009 to discuss potential solutions.

5. What is the purpose of Category One- Health and Wellbeing and Events?

'Health and Wellbeing and Events' is aimed at providing assistance with costs incurred for the:

- Planning and delivery of regional Men's Health events.
- Delivery of a 'Spanner in the Works?' men's health check programme or a similar presentation with a health focus.
- Delivery and participation in activities that advance health and well-being of their male members such as health seminars, health related guest speakers, health information.
- In recognition of the COVID-19 pandemic and associated restrictions on movement/gatherings, the purchase of appropriate IT equipment or training will be considered – as Health and Wellbeing equipment – so as to enable sheds to remain connected to support the health and wellbeing of their members.
- Health & Wellbeing training such as CPR.
- Health & Wellbeing equipment such as First Aid kits.
- Delivery and participation in activities centred around Men's Health Week
- Health resources e.g. books, CD's.

The AMSA has developed a series of resources to assist you in the planning and delivery of an event. They are available on the AMSA website 'Shed Resources' or you can email amsa@mensshed.net and copies will be provided.

Please Note: Building work/improvements to address health & safety such as shade blinds, air conditioning, dust extraction are not eligible in Category One- these items should be included in *Category Two-Shed Improvements requests*.

6. Can AMSA staff assist organisations to complete sections of the application form?

No. To ensure fairness and equity, AMSA staff cannot assist individual organisations to complete the selection criteria in their application form. However, they may answer technical questions and guidance relating to the application form and the process.

7. Can a community-based organisation apply for the same Men's Shed Project that it applied for in a previous Round?

Yes. Community-based organisations that applied for a particular Men's Shed in a previous funding Round and were unsuccessful can re-apply for funding for the same purpose. Please ensure that you include updated quotes.

8. How many times can a community-based organisation apply for funding?

Community-based organisations can apply for funding in any Funding Round however the Evaluation Panel will consider all short-listed applicants based on their application.

Factors considered in the Panel assessment include:

- *Category/categories* in which the applicant has been successful in previous rounds of the NSDP
- The *number of rounds* in which the applicant has been successful
- The overall *level of NSDP funding* previously received by the applicant
- Whether the services/items requested are similar to services/items previously granted
- Demonstrated need and demonstrated levels of disadvantage

9. What Men's Shed Projects will be given priority?

The priorities for Round 21 include:

- Round 21 of the NSDP will specifically prioritise applications evidencing a strong health/safety intent in acknowledgement of the heightened importance of these factors during the period of COVID-19 recovery.
- Additionally, in light of COVID-19, IT equipment and training will be prioritised to facilitate connectivity.
- Men's Sheds that provide services in areas of greatest need, in particular to individuals and/or communities experiencing levels of disadvantage.
- Applicants who have not received previous NSDP funding and can demonstrate engagement with the Priority Groups, noting that:
 - Applicants who have previously received funding are still eligible to apply.
 - Applicants will be required to list all prior funding received and this will form part of the considerations by the Evaluation Panel.

10. What are the 12 Priority Groups?

- Males not in work
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander males
- Socially disadvantaged
- Isolated males
- Males with a disability
- Males with a mental illness (e.g. Depression)
- Migrant males
- Males living in rural and remote areas
- Defence veterans
- Males suffering alcohol abuse
- Males suffering drug abuse
- Males who need support due to relationship issues

11. What is the Evaluation process?

Comprehensive information can be found on the AMSA website mensshed.org. All eligible applications are evaluated by an independent panel using an agreed scoring based on the Programme Guidelines and Methodology approved by the Department of Health.

12. What happens after the Evaluation Process?

- A summary report of Recommended Applicants will be provided to the Department of Health.
- The Australian Government Department of Health reviews and examines the recommendations made by the Panel.
- The Department has the authority to review and change recommendations based on funding criteria
- Final recommendations are submitted to the Minister for Health by the Department of Health
- Successful applicants are informed and results are announced via a media release from the Minister for Health.

13. How will applicants be informed of the outcomes?

- AMSA will issue a News Bulletin detailing a list of all successful applicants.
- The AMSA website will publish the complete list of successful applicants.
- All applicants, both successful and unsuccessful, will be notified of the outcome within the following month.

14. Will individual feedback be provided to applicants?

The AMSA encourages applicants to contact AMSA on amsa@mensshed.net to request feedback on applications.

15. If we are successful, what is the process?

- All successful applicants will be notified in writing via email of the outcome.
- **Successful applicants** will receive a Letter of Offer setting out funding conditions, requirements for payment of grant and future acquittal reporting.
- AMSA will send all documents to the applicant's main contact nominated on the application form. Please ensure the main contact person nominated is aware of the process.
- Successful applicants are required to return the signed Letter of Offer and an invoice to the AMSA who can then initiate payment of grant monies through direct deposit.
- **Please do not send the supplier's invoice to AMSA-** all successful applicants will receive the grant funding to make those purchases.

16. How do I obtain further information about the NSDP?

Phone: 1300 550 009

Email: amsa@mensshed.net

AMSA Website: www.mensshed.org- click on the 'Funding' icon

AMSA Website: 'Contact Us' facility