



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs) FOR CRICKET CLUBS

1. What are the aims of the County Grant Fund?

The County Grants Fund aims to support ECB affiliated Cricket Clubs, which are actively engaged with women's cricket, girls' cricket and/or disability cricket, to create welcoming environments or to provide enhanced playing or changing facilities, in an effort to increase the number of women's, girls' and disability cricket teams, and to achieve the game's vision to become the most inclusive team sport (Inspiring Generations 2025 – 2028).

2. Who is eligible to apply to the County Grants Fund?

Cricket Clubs affiliated to the ECB via their local Recreational County Board (RCB) or Cricket Foundation (CF), or that affiliate to the ECB nationally via the African Caribbean Cricket Association (ACCA) or National Asian Cricket Council (NACC).

Priority will be given to Clubs engaged in providing cricket for at least one of the following target groups:

- **Women's Cricket:** a minimum of one women's team playing a minimum of three competitive soft ball or hard ball fixtures in league, friendly, indoor or outdoor cricket in 2025/2026, as recorded on Play-Cricket.com
- **Girls' Only Cricket :** a minimum of one girls' team playing a minimum of three competitive soft ball or hard ball fixtures in league, friendly, indoor or outdoor cricket in 2025/2026, as recorded on Play-Cricket.com
- **Girls' Only Dynamos Cricket:** Clubs delivering a Dynamos Cricket programme specifically for girls in 2025/2026, as registered on ClubSpark.
- **Dynamos Cricket for Girls' Activation Clubs :** Dynamos Cricket for Girls delivered by Clubs which have been selected by their Recreational Cricket Board (RCB) or Cricket Foundation (CF) to deliver Dynamos Cricket for Girls in 2025/2026 that specifically leads to the creation of girls' teams at the selected Clubs, as registered on ClubSpark.
- **Disability Cricket:** a registered Disability Champion Cricket Club or a registered host for the Disability Premier League in 2025/2026.

3. How does a Club apply to the County Grants Fund?

Access to the County Grants Fund application is via the online Investment Management System (IMS) at <https://ims.ecb.co.uk>

4. What type of projects can be applied for?

Clubs can apply for funding towards the purchase of relevant products or materials, and associated professional labour costs, under one of the following project themes:

- **Creating Welcoming Environments:**

- Social Space – furniture / flooring / patio / decking / heating / glazing
- Female / Disabled Toilet Facilities – sanitaryware / vanity units / tiling / flooring / baby-changing units / mirrors / hand dryers
- Catering – kitchen units / professional catering equipment & appliances / barbecues
- Arrival and Access – disabled access / exterior lighting / signage / car park
- Digitising – WiFi hardware (excludes subscription fees) / TVs / PA or Music systems / Electronic Point of Sale (EPOS) equipment / Electronic Scoreboards (only if part of a wider digitisation project)

- **Enhanced Playing Facilities:**

- ECB Approved Non-Turf Match Pitch (min 30m)
- ECB Approved Non-Turf Practice Facility (min 26m)

All NTP projects, including refurbishments, must come with a full warranty from the supplier for a named ECB Approved NTP System.

- **Enhanced Changing Facilities:**

- Changing room refurbishment and/or extensions
- Individual shower spaces with drying areas
- Improved toilet provision – sanitaryware / vanity units / tiling / flooring
- Grooming points – mirrors / hand dryers / hair dryers
- Personal possession lockers

5. Why is the Tackling Climate Change project theme no longer available?

It is hoped that a separate Sustainability Grant Fund will be introduced in 2026.

6. Is there a limit on how many times a Club can apply to the County Grant Fund?

Clubs may apply for up to one grant per ECB budget year (which runs from 1 February - 31 January). Clubs will not be able to apply for a second grant for the same project before 2028.

7. How much grant funding can we apply for?

Clubs can typically apply for between £1,000 (minimum) and £15,000 (maximum) per application.

For larger scale Enhanced Changing Facilities projects (project cost over £30,000), grants up to £50,000 will be available. These projects will be required to meet Sport England Accessible and Inclusive Sports Facilities Guidance – Section D. Further information can be found at: <https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/accessible-inclusive>

8. What is partnership funding?

Partnership funding is the difference between the total project cost and the amount of grant. It can be sourced from Club funds, other grant bodies or sponsorship etc.

Whilst there is no minimum level of partnership funding required from the Club, partnership funding is welcomed and may positively influence the decision made by your local RCB or CF.

Partnership funding may also be provided by way of an EWCT Interest Free Loan. A Club can choose to apply for a joint grant and loan as part of the online application.

9. When does the County Grants Fund open and close to applications?

- The fund will be open to applications from 1 February - 30 September 2026.
- All projects must be completed and the grant claimed by 31 January 2027.
- In exceptional circumstances, and at EWCT's discretion, the end date may be extended for larger scale Enhanced Changing Facilities (project cost over £30,000).

10. How can I find out more information about the County Grants Fund 2026?

Please read the **County Grant Fund 2026 - Guidance Notes for Cricket Clubs** carefully before you start planning your project, at: <https://www.ecb.co.uk/play/club-support/club-funding/county-grant-fund>

If you are still unsure if your Club or project is eligible, please contact your local Recreational County Board or Cricket Foundation for more information.