

Frequently Asked Questions

Coastal Public Access and Risk (CPAR) grants 2021-22

Q. What is the purpose of the grant program?

A. To provide financial assistance to coastal Crown land managers for projects that reduce coastal risk through identification, mitigation and monitoring. Given the range of risks that are inherent in a dynamic coastal environment, this program aims to support a strategic and balanced approach to risk management along the Victorian coast.

All projects funded under the program must provide outcomes that contribute to the overall objectives of reducing risk and prioritising public access on coastal Crown land.

Q. When do applications close?

A. Applications must be submitted online by Thursday 29 July 2021 4:00pm.

Q. When do I hear whether I have been successful?

A. Late September 2021.

Q. Who is eligible for the grant funding / who can apply?

A. Victorian coastal Crown land managers, including Parks Victoria, local councils and committees of management.

Although project proposals may involve other participating groups, only the appointed Crown land manager is eligible to apply.

Q. What type of projects will be considered for funding?

A. The following is a non-exhaustive list of the types of projects (activities) eligible for funding:

Risk identification, assessment, and evaluation

- risk assessment frameworks and guidelines
- feasibility / preliminary studies and investigations
- condition or safety audits.

Risk treatment

- works supported by strategic risk assessments, coastal and marine management plans, preliminary condition audits or engineering and geotechnical reports
- removal of damaged or dangerous assets
- renewal or replacement of coastal dependent assets or infrastructure
- installation of signage and access barriers or fencing
- engineering responses to geological and erosion risks.

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Risk monitoring

- land stability monitoring
- longitudinal studies (for example erosion, coastal processes, geotechnical).

Improved access

- construction of safe access structures (for example handrails, stairs, ramps, boardwalks, paths/shared trails)
- enable access for people with varied levels of physical ability or capability (for example accessible change rooms, parking, beach matting)
- consolidation of informal access points
- prohibit off-road access to coastal areas by private vehicles.

A list of successful projects from previous years can be found at marineandcoasts.vic.gov.au/grants/coastal-public-access-and-risk-grants. Successful projects have included:

- new boardwalks and boardwalk extensions
- new all-abilities beach access ramps
- stair replacements and repairs
- realignment and repair of foreshore paths and trails
- decommissioning / consolidation of access paths
- erosion management planning
- coastal stability assessments
- erosion and coastal process studies.

Q. What will not be considered for funding?

A. The following will not be considered for funding:

- the purchase of land
- activities that have already started
- routine or ongoing maintenance activities that should be part of the day to day management of the reserve, including weed removal
- recurrent operating costs, for example salaries (including project management), rent and utility costs, and activities establishing expectations of ongoing funding
- projects on reserves with limited public access, or relating to private land or assets
- projects supported by other government funding programs and initiatives such as those relating to local ports, recreational boating and fishing, sport and recreation and non-coastal dependent facilities or infrastructure
- tree risk studies or mitigation works
- activities located outside the State of Victoria.

Projects that have not been funded in the past include:

- where the land manager contributes less than outlined in the application guidelines
- tree risk studies or mitigation works
- where the project focus is significant coastal protection infrastructure

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- where the detail provided in the application is insufficient.

Q. How much funding is available for each grant?

A. The maximum funding for each grant is: \$150,000 (excluding GST)

The program provides a financial contribution to projects based on the annual revenue of the applicant – where the applicant's revenue is less than \$600,000, the program will contribute 100% of the project cost, where more than \$600,000, 70% of the project cost, and for Parks Victoria, 50% of the project cost.

Q: Should we include GST?

A: DELWP does not pay GST in addition to the approved grant amount, as our grant payment is a GST free transaction. Therefore, apply for the amount that would cover the total costs of delivering your project, including GST where applicable.

Q. Will applicants be required to provide quotes?

A. The application must include at least two written quotes (GST exclusive) for each eligible component of works, totalling the estimated cost of the project. Quotes must be dated and have been obtained within the past six (6) months.

Q. How long do successful applicants have to complete their project?

A. Projects must be completed (including the submission of acquittal documentation to DELWP) by 28 October 2022. This is approximately 12 months depending on the date the funding agreement is signed/payment made.

Q. How do I apply?

A. Online at www.marineandcoasts.vic.gov.au/grants/coastal-public-access-and-risk-grants (including any attachments).

Applicants can attach documents to an online application as long as they are in an acceptable file type (such as Word, Excel, PDF or JPEG) and don't exceed the maximum file size of 5MB.

Important tips:

- When submitting an application online, applicants should check carefully to ensure all attachments have been uploaded.
- The maximum file size limit is 5MB.
- If applicants have documents to submit that cannot be attached to an online application, they can email them to marine.coasts@delwp.vic.gov.au, quoting the application number. Attach all documents to one email, zipping the files if required.

Q. What are the assessment criteria for applications?

A. Applications must first meet the following criteria of eligibility:

- The project location must be on coastal Crown land, as defined in the *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* s.4(1), where the reservation / management status provides for public access.
- The applicant must be a coastal Crown land manager.
- The proposed project must be consistent with the scope of the program and support outcomes consistent with the program's objectives.

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- A letter of in-principle support from the relevant DELWP Regional Manager Land and Built Environment Programs.
- For previous recipients of CPAR grants, completion of all reporting requirements to the satisfaction of DELWP.
- For volunteer community-based committees of management, completion of 2019-2020 annual return (this does not apply to councils and Parks Victoria).

Applicants should then address all the following relevant criteria (each criterion is given a percentage weighting to indicate its relative importance in the assessment process):

Why? 40% (*State the problem and risk identified*)

Why is the project required? Demonstrate the extent to which the project will reduce coastal risk and/or improve public access to the coast:

- state the problem
- describe the current asset condition (including photographs), where relevant
- identify all known existing risks that the project will address (address each of the following as appropriate: public safety, social, cultural, environmental, and economic)
- identify any need for improved/consolidated access and nearby alternatives, where relevant.

What? 25% (*Mitigate/treat the risk. Alignment to the Marine and Coastal Policy 2020 and Siting and design guidelines for structures on the Victorian coast 2020*)

What will be delivered? Provide details of what the funding will be used for and:

- demonstrate the extent to which the project will address identified risks of significant priority and/or provide a strategic approach to a coastal risk mitigation priority
- demonstrate consistency with the Victorian Marine and Coastal Policy 2020 and, where the project relates to a structure, Siting and design guidelines for structures on the Victorian coast 2020
- where the project relates to assessment/monitoring, explain the assessment process and implementation
- explain how the proposed structure will be managed and its benefits sustained once the project is delivered, where relevant.

Who? 25% (*Benefits/effectiveness of the risk treatment*)

Who will the project impact and how? Demonstrate the extent to which the project will deliver key benefits:

- clearly identify the intended benefits (public safety, social, cultural, environmental, and economic) that the project will deliver.

How? 10% (*Project management*)

How will the project be delivered? Provide details that demonstrate a sound approach to the project planning, implementation and delivery process:

- demonstrate well-defined timelines, planned sequences, and time-bound actions with sufficient risk measures taken for time overruns
- demonstrate capacity to implement and/or source expertise to manage the delivery of the project
- where the project relates to assessment/monitoring, state the initiation time for the next course of action

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- outline the proposed funding contributions for the project.

Q. Who can I contact for further information or help in completing my application?

A. If you require assistance submitting your application online, contact the Grants Information Line on 1300 366 356 or grantsinfo@delwp.vic.gov.au.

For regional-specific information, contact:

DELWP Barwon South West

Hannah Fallon – 0436 644 822

hannah.fallon@delwp.vic.gov.au

DELWP Gippsland

Bass Coast

Tamika Darragh | 0436 616 642

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South Gippsland

Angie Hughes | 0436 622 540

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Tracey West – 03 5152 0422

tracey.west@delwp.vic.gov.au

DELWP Port Phillip

Jacky Priestley – 03 9210 9403

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To discuss the status of applications, the guidelines or the assessment process, contact the Coastal Grants Officer Caren Benson via marine.coasts@delwp.vic.gov.au or mobile 0427 187 424.