



Australian
Tennis
Foundation

Opportunity Knocks

Grant Program Guidelines 2026



Part A

Application

Guidelines



1. About the Program

The Opportunity Knocks Grant Program offers young people aged 5 - 17 facing financial hardship the opportunity to continue their tennis journey with coaching by a qualified tennis coach.

2. Program Objectives

The Grants aim to:

- reduce financial barriers to participation in tennis for children and young people
- use tennis as a vehicle to strengthen social inclusion and cohesion
- enhance youth health and wellbeing

Please note; This is not a high performance scholarship.

3. Who can apply?

Funding is available to children and young people who meet the following criteria:

- aged between 5 – 17
- facing financial hardship or disadvantage
- families have no outstanding reporting requirements for any other Tennis Australia or ATF funding programs

and/or

- families travelling 100km or greater to participate in tennis activities

4. How much funding is available?

Up to \$500 per person per school semester can be granted to families meeting the above criteria for coaching and other tennis related expenses (see below for details).

Grants will be paid upfront upon approval.

Funding will be awarded for two periods:

- Semester One for Terms 1 & 2
- Semester Two for Terms 3 & 4

Applications will be accepted until each semester's funding allocation is exhausted.

Please note grant payments will be processed bi monthly, except for the months of December and January, where they be processed monthly. Allow 4 to 6 weeks from the date of approval to receive your grant payment.

Funding will be paid directly to the bank account nominated in the application form and approved by the ATF.

5. What the funds can be used for

The funding may be used for expenses related to the following approved items, with coaching being the primary focus:

- Coaching fees
- Club membership fees
- Competition entry fees
- Equipment costs

Coaches delivering lessons or programs must be a Tennis Australia Coach Member, meeting all Tennis Australia child safety requirements.

Individuals from regional or remote areas who travel

100km or more to attend tennis competitions, coaching or official courses can use the funds to cover accommodation, petrol and other travel related expenses associated with their participation.

Funding will be awarded for club or community coaching programs (either individual or group).

Tennis Australia or Member Association high performance programs are not supported through this program.

Competitions must be a Tennis Australia endorsed competitive play offering. See <https://www.tennis.com.au/competitiveplay/calendar> for current information.

6. Important Dates

Applications open	1 January 2026
Applications close	When funds are exhausted
Funding confirmation	Within ten working days of application receipt
Reporting due	End of each term

7. Application Process

Applications can be lodged online via this [link](#) in accordance with these guidelines.

Applicants are required to provide banking information as part of the application process to enable grant payments.

To verify banking details and ensure funds reach the desired recipient safely a screenshot or a photo of the bank account details via internet banking (not including balances) must be included.

Ensure the following details are clearly visible on the screenshots:

- Bank logo or identifying feature
- BSB number
- Account name
- Account number



For assistance with this process, please contact the team at grants@australianteeniscfoundation.com

8. Assessment Process

Applications will be reviewed on a case by case basis and assessed against the remaining budget available for that semester.

9. Notification

All applicants will be notified in writing of the outcome of their application.

10. Grant Terms and Conditions

By submitting an application, applicants agree to be bound by the following Grant Terms and Conditions. Successful applicants may only use the funds in accordance with those Terms and Conditions.

Part B

Grant Terms

and Conditions



Australian Tennis Foundation Opportunity Knocks Grant Program ('Grant Program') is funded and administered by the Australian Tennis Foundation Limited ACN 138 906 797 ('ATF'). The Grant Program is designed to develop resilience and inspire hope for the future. The following terms and conditions apply to the Grant Program:

1. These terms and conditions are to be read in conjunction with the completed Application Form, the Application Guidelines and the eligibility criteria detailed in the Application Guidelines (collectively, 'the Grant Documentation').
2. The Grant Documentation forms the terms of agreement for the distribution of the Grant. The Grant Documentation is governed by the laws applying in the State of Victoria.

Applications

3. Applications are open to those individuals as set out in Part A - Application Guidelines ('Application Guidelines').

4. If an Application does not comply with these terms and conditions or the Application Guidelines, it will be ruled invalid and withdrawn from consideration.
5. To apply for a Grant, applicants must accurately and truthfully complete the Grant Application Form via Smarty Grants within section 7 of Part A - 'Application Guidelines'.
6. To be considered for the Grant Program, completed Applications must be submitted as set out in the Application Guidelines.
7. By submitting an Application, the applicant warrants that all information given, and each statement made, to the ATF or to Tennis Australia Limited ('Tennis Australia') by the applicant or its agents is true, correct and not misleading in any way.
8. As the number of responses may be substantial, not every application that meets the selection criteria will necessarily receive a Grant. The ultimate decision as to who subsidies will be awarded to, and the amount of the grant is at the ultimate discretion of the ATF and guided by the principles set out in the Application Guidelines.

Approval and use of Grant

- 9.** After an applicant has submitted an application, the ATF will notify the applicants that they are either:
 - (a)** Approved (“Recipient”); or
 - (b)** Not approved. The ATF may request further information if the applicant is not approved.
- 10.** To be eligible for the grant, a Recipient must submit their banking information as required by the Application.
- 11.** The Recipient must only use the Grant for eligible items detailed in the Grant Documentation, and as permitted by the Grant Documentation ('Approved Purpose').

Reporting and return of the Grant

- 12.** Recipients must provide to the ATF the reports and other documents specified in the Grant Documentation.
- 13.** The ATF may from time to time review, monitor or audit any matter or thing related to the Grant Program, the performance by the Recipient of its obligations under the Grant Documentation, the carrying out of the Approved

Purpose or the receipt, use or expenditure of the Grant. The Recipient must in connection with any such review, monitoring or audit by the ATF comply with any reasonable directions of the ATF.

- 14.** If the ATF, in its discretion, believes that the Recipient has not used the Grant for the Approved Purpose, it may demand that the Grant is paid back to the ATF. The Recipient must promptly comply with such request.

Use of Information

- 15.** By submitting a completed Application Form, applicants and successful Recipients consent to the ATF disclosing the information provided in the Application Form for the purposes of conducting the Grant Program, reviewing, processing and awarding the grant and any other matter connected to or incidental to the Program.
- 16.** Applicants and Recipients may be contacted by the ATF or Tennis Australia, and/or their representatives, directly for the purpose of validation of information contained in the completed Application Form and due diligence. All completed Application Forms become the property of the ATF.

17. The ATF reserves the right, at any time, to verify the validity of information contained in the Application Forms and to disqualify any applicant that submits an Application Form that is not accurate, truthful or that does not otherwise comply with these terms and conditions.

GST

18. Applicants should check the nature of any supply made by the ATF with their taxation adviser. Notwithstanding, any grant from the Grant Program is a 'gift' and gifts under income tax legislation do not attract GST. A receipt may be requested by the ATF to confirm arrival of the gift.

Intellectual property

19. All Grant Material, use of the ATF logo or Tennis Australia logo (if applicable) and/or any reference to any other Grant Program intellectual property by the Recipient is subject to approval by the ATF prior to use.

20. The Recipient may be requested to provide general assistance with promotional or marketing campaigns being run by the ATF, or any other corporate government partner in relation to the Grant Program. For example, the ATF may request the Recipient to provide photos, quotes and other materials for marketing or promotional campaigns ('Marketing Materials'), which will become the property of the ATF for use in marketing, promotional, advertising and other related purposes without any payment being made to the Recipient. The Recipient and the ATF will work together to obtain all necessary consents from third parties to enable the ATF to use the Marketing Materials.

21. The Recipient, consent to Tennis Australia, the ATF and their government and commercial partners taking images of the project funded by the Grant Program, and that any such photographs or video footage may be used by the above organisations for use in promotional, advertising or marketing materials, without any further notice or payment to the Recipient.

Liability and Indemnity

- 22.** The Recipient acknowledges the importance of maintaining the good name and reputation of the Grant Program, Tennis Australia, and the ATF.
- 23.** If the Recipient fails to comply with the directives set out in the Application Guidelines, the ATF may, in its absolute discretion, revoke its decision to award the grant to the Recipient and the Recipient will forfeit the Grant.
- 24.** The ATF is not liable for any loss, damage or personal injury suffered or sustained in connection with, or as a result of, the Grant Program, use of a grant, or participation in the Program.
- 25.** The Recipient agrees to indemnify, and keep indemnified, Tennis Australia, the ATF and their officers, employees and agents against any loss, liability, injury or death incurred by Tennis Australia or the ATF including any loss or damage to their property, or loss or expense incurred by them in dealing with any claim against them) howsoever arising from or in connection with any acts, omissions and/or negligence of the Recipient, its employees or its agents in relation to the Grant Program.

Reservation of Rights

- 26.** An authorised Tennis Australia or ATF representative may, where appropriate, visit the Grant Program project site before, during and after the funding period, at times agreed by both parties.
- 27.** The ATF may, at its sole discretion, vary the amount of the Grant at any time.
- 28.** The Grant Program can be suspended or terminated at any time by the ATF without notice.

These terms and conditions may be amended or withdrawn at the discretion of the ATF. In such instances, revised conditions will be circulated to each Recipient.







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