
COVID-19 SWIMMING POOL FUND 2020

TERMS AND CONDITIONS UPDATED FOR SECOND APPLICATION

TERMS

- A. The Government has allocated an additional sum of seven hundred thousand euros (€700k) to Sport Ireland in order to provide assistance to swimming pools in the Republic of Ireland (the **Fund**). The Fund aims to support publicly accessible swimming pools in response to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and to promote the participation in the sport of swimming in Ireland.
- B. Sport Ireland has designated Ireland Active to administer this additional funding and to allocate the Fund, working in partnership with Swim Ireland.
- C. Applicants who applied under the first application process and were successfully allocated and entitled to draw down funding do not need to re-apply for consideration under this second funding process.
- D. New Applicants or those that were not successful in the first application process meeting the Eligibility Criteria outlined at Section F below, are invited to apply for funding by completing the application form at Appendix A which will be available on the Ireland Active website: <https://irelandactive.ie/covid-19/swimming-pool-grants/>
- E. Process for deciding upon the allocation of the Fund:
1. As this is a second round of funding and has been granted to provide assistance in response to Covid-19 challenges the existing scoring criteria may be reviewed and/or updated to provide for capping the amount of funding any one applicant can receive and/or applying other new criteria to second round applicants in order to ensure as many applicants as possible receive funding. The Steering Group will review and make a decision on this matter early in 2021.
 2. In respect of new applications the Ireland Active Administrators (IAA) will review all newly submitted applications and decide which applications meet the Eligibility Criteria.
 3. The IAA will then score all eligible applications by reference to a scoring matrix under the headings set out in section G below;
 4. Those scores will be submitted to a three-person funding review panel consisting of a panellist from (i) Ireland Active, (ii) Sport Ireland and (iii) Swim Ireland (the **Steering Group**). The Steering Group will review the scores and approve the process and procedures implemented to allocate the funding and approve the final funding allocations, by reference to the weighting of the applicant's score.
- F. The decision of the Steering Group will be final and binding with no right of appeal to any court or arbitral body.
- G. The Eligibility Criteria are as follows:
- To be eligible to apply to the Fund, the swimming pool must be:
- (i) based within the Republic of Ireland;
 - (ii) publicly accessible (this includes both publicly and privately owned swimming pools);
 - (iii) open on or before the Closing Date, save where;
 - a. the pool is prohibited from opening due to the operation of Level 4 or Level 5 Public Health Restrictions; and/or
 - b. the pool is closed but intending to open before 31st March 2021 (in line with Government restrictions).
 - (iv) compliant with legal requirements for operation, including but not limited to, Covid-19 best practice, return to work protocols, general health and safety, public health and safeguarding regulations, and tax compliance.

- (v) Only one application per swimming pool facility will be accepted
- (vi) Applications that were already accepted in the initial allocation of funding (€2.5million) do not need to re-apply. Their application will be automatically be deemed eligible however the Steering Group may decide to include new criteria and /or a cap on funding as per E1 above.
- (vii) Applicants that withdrew from the initial process or did not provide information in a timely manner are eligible to be included in this second round of funding provided they still fit the criteria outlined above and provide all the required information and documentation for this second round of funding. There will be no retrospective access to funding from the first round of funding

H. Eligible applicants will be scored under the following headings (further detail in Application Form):

- (i) Swimming pool(s) size [measured in volume];
- (ii) Costs of operation;
- (iii) Public access, programmes and participation;
- (iv) Operational standards

I. The following timelines will apply:

- Ireland Active will publish the application process on Monday 21st December 2020
- Applications will open on **Monday 4th January 2021 at 9am (the Opening Date)**;
- Applications will close on **Monday 18th January 2021 at 5pm (the Closing Date)**;
- IAA will review applications from **January 19th until January 26th 2021**
- The Steering Group will consider existing criteria and/or make recommendations in early January.
- The Steering Group will review applications from 27th January to 29th January.
- Applicants will be notified of Fund allocation from **1st February 2021 (the Notification Date)**

Applications received after the Closing Date will not be considered.

NOTES

1. Who is not eligible to apply:

- 1.1. individuals;
- 1.2. swimming pools that are not open on or before the Closing Date, for reasons other than the operation of Level 4 or Level 5 or other Public Health Restrictions, or pools who do not intend to re-open before 31st March 2021; and
- 1.3. swimming pools that are not publicly accessible

2. How is funding allocated?

- 2.1. Funding is allocated in accordance with the process outlined at section D above.
- 2.2. The funding based on criteria based in the application form.
- 2.3. The level of funding will be dependent on the number of eligible applications received.
- 2.4. Notwithstanding the urgent nature of the funding to assist eligible swimming pools during the COVID 19 pandemic, the deadlines outlined in H above will be applied strictly with the decision of the Steering Group final and binding.

3. Qualifying costs

- 3.1. Costs allocated against the operation and maintenance of swimming pools during

2020 shall be allowed for the purposes of confirming expenditure of funds- e.g. energy costs, chemical costs, water testing costs, COVID-19 compliance costs, etc.

4. Payment of the Fund

- 4.1. Successful applicants will be required to provide copies of appropriate receipts for expenditure from 2020.
- 4.2. Payment of the Fund will be made to the successful applicant by way of bank transfer.

5. Confidentiality, Publicity and Data Protection

- 5.1. The successful applicant undertakes that it shall not at any time disclose to any person the terms of the Fund received.
- 5.2. Successful applicants agree that Ireland Active may publicise their participation in the Fund and the successful applicant will comply with any reasonable request regarding publicity from Ireland Active.
- 5.3. All personal information supplied will be held by Ireland Active and will remain secure and confidential. Personal details will solely be held for the purpose of record-keeping and will not be passed to any third parties, save for the purposes of processing and assessing the applications. Further information can be found in our Privacy Policy, accessible [here](#).

6. Authority

- 6.1. The signatory to the online Fund application form and subsequent declaration form(s) confirms that they have the express authority of the entity they represent to apply for the Fund.

7. Variation

- 7.1. Ireland Active reserves the right to change these terms and/or the manner in which they deploy the Fund from time to time. Any changes after publication will be notified on the Ireland Active website.

8. Queries

- 8.1. For any queries or further information about this process, please contact: info@irelandactive.ie 01-6251192. Please note that the office will be closed between the 18th December 2020 – 4th January 2021.

APPENDIX 1 – [APPLICATION FORM](#)