



The purpose of this document is to provide clarifications to any frequently asked questions that potential applicants may have regarding the Boating Infrastructure Emergency Repair Pool. This document must be read in conjunction with the Boating Infrastructure Emergency Repair Pool Guidelines.

About the Boating Infrastructure Emergency Repair Pool

Q: What is the Boating Infrastructure Emergency Repair Pool?

A: The NSW Boating Infrastructure Emergency Repair Pool (BIERP) provides grant funding to local councils and other organisations for the repair, replacement and betterment of public boating infrastructure impacted by natural disasters and severe weather events. Applications for BIERP funding are accepted throughout the term of the Boating Infrastructure and Dredging Scheme until 30 June 2028 or until the \$2 million allocated to the program has been allocated, whichever is sooner. The Program seeks to accelerate the replacement or repair of boating facilities which have been impacted by natural disasters and severe weather events and return them to service.

Q: Who can apply for funding under the Boating Infrastructure Emergency Repair Pool?

A: Applications are welcomed from councils, government agencies, community groups and the private sector who own, manage and operate public boating infrastructure which is available to the general boating public. This means that the applicant is and will continue to be responsible for the facility's ongoing management and maintenance for the benefit of public use. Applicants can submit separate applications for different asset locations or project sites affected by

the same natural disaster or severe weather event.

Q: What type of projects can be funded under this program?	
A:	<p>The Program provides funding towards the repair, replacement and betterment of public boating infrastructure that has been damaged unexpectedly by natural disasters or severe weather events. The types of projects that will be considered for funding under the BIERP are summarised below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Repair or replacement: the reinstatement of the infrastructure asset to its working condition prior to the natural disaster or severe weather event.• Betterment: minor changes to replacement design that improves resilience of the asset against future natural disasters or severe weather events.• Access for repair and reinstatement: Work to provide access for repair, replacement and betterment can be funded if it is directly related to the above works. For example, the removal of a collapsed tree across a jetty to gain access to repair the pontoon at the end of the jetty. <p>The BIERP Grants Program does not provide funding for dredging of waterways, nor for the removal of debris in waterways as a result of severe weather events and natural disasters.</p>

Eligibility and application process

Q: How will applications be assessed?

A: Boating Infrastructure Emergency Repair Pool Grants Program is a demand-driven, ‘first-in, first-served’ grants program and therefore applications “that satisfy stated eligibility criteria are approved, up to the limit of available funding” as per the Grants Administration Guideline. Details about the eligibility criteria can be found in the BIERP Guidelines which can be found via Transport’s online SmartyGrants platform.

Q: Is there information about how the applications will be assessed?

A: Details about the assessment process and the weighted assessment criteria can be found in the Program Guidelines of the Boating Infrastructure Emergency Repair Pool. The Program Guidelines can be found on Transport’s online SmartyGrants portal via the [Boating Infrastructure and Dredging Scheme webpage](#).

Q: Who can be contacted for help completing the application form?

A: The Maritime Infrastructure Delivery Office (MIDO) can provide general guidance and advice about the application process, as well as information about how to navigate the SmartyGrants portal. MIDO can be contacted via the email address MIDO@transport.nsw.gov.au.

Q: Do I need a ABN or ACN to apply for a grant?

A: Yes, the applicant will need an ABN or ACN to submit an application. ABN or ACN is also required for grant payments to be made to the successful applicant.

Q: Is there a time limit on when I can submit an application under BIERP following a natural disaster or severe weather event?

A: Applications, with the accompanying evidence of damage resulting from the natural disaster or severe weather incident, must be submitted within three (3) months after the natural disaster or severe weather event

Q: What supporting documentation should be included in my application?

A: The Program Guidelines and Application forms will provide prompts about the type of documentation that would support the submissions. Types of documentation includes quotations and invoices, evidence of damage including before and after photos of the damage, as well as records of maintenance for the facility and its assets within the grant application submission.

Q: Does insurance cover impact my ability to apply for the BIERP.

A: Insurance cover doesn't necessarily impact an applicant's ability to apply for grant funding under the BIERP. Transport understands that insurance for boating assets may not be possible for all locations or scenarios, and that assets may not be appropriately insured. Every attempt must be made by potential applicants to seek payout from their insurer for the repair or replacement of their asset. Insurance payout will be considered as funding co-contribution.

Assistance under the BIERP is not to replace or operate as a disincentive for self-help by way of either commercial insurance or appropriate strategies of disaster mitigation and asset maintenance and planning. Asset owners are expected to take out appropriate insurance cover where available and possible.

While BIERP funding is intended to provide immediate assistance to repair or replace an asset, insurance premiums and insurance excess is not covered by the BIERP. The asset owner must claim on insurance where available for any damaged item. The financial assistance provided by the BIERP notionally covers the gap or difference between the insurance payout (including the insurance excess) and the total cost to restore the item, should an insurance claim be made.

Successful projects and next steps

Q: When will successful projects be announced?

A: Applications will be assessed in the order in which they are received (first in, first served) until the earlier of the end of the Program on 30 June 2028 or the funding allocation has been exhausted. Transport aims to review each submission within ten (10) business days of its receipt and may request clarifications as needed.

Q: What happens next if an application is successful?

A: Successful applicants will be notified by Transport via the SmartyGrants platform. If application is successful and funding approved, a Letter of Offer and Conditions of Grants document will be issued to the applicant for agreement and signing. The Conditions of Grants would be counter-signed by Executive Director, NSW Maritime, once the successful applicant has signed and accepted

the grant within 30 days of its award.

Q: What is the Conditions of Grant?

A: The Conditions of Grant is a two-party agreement between Transport and the successful applicant, who is now recognised as the delivery partner. The Conditions of Grant document will outline the scope of works, conditions, project milestones as well as funding arrangements, specifying the amount of grant funding and the funding co-contribution provided by delivery partners.

Q: How will project delivery be managed?

A: The project will be managed by the delivery partner and MIDO in accordance with the conditions set out in the Conditions of Grant document between Transport and the delivery partner. At times the delivery partner may need to consult with subject matter experts within NSW Maritime regarding the use of the waterway and on-water compliance matters, including encroachment into navigable waters and potential closure of assets for construction or repair works.

Q: What happens if there is an increase or decrease in project cost?

A: During delivery, the delivery partner will manage and bear all project cost risks. If the project delivery cost is lower than the amount allowed for in the Conditions of Grant document, the project cost saving will be reflected in savings for both the grant and the delivery partner contributions. That means that a portion of the savings will result in a reduction in grant funding. If the project delivery cost exceeds the budget allowed for in the Conditions of Grant document, the delivery partner will be required to make up the shortfall. In some cases where there is an unforeseen change to the scope or cost of the project, Transport may consider an increase to its funding contribution upon lodgment of a variation request via the online SmartyGrants platform.

Q: What is the timeframe to deliver successful projects under the Boating Infrastructure Emergency Repair Pool?

A: Projects funded by a BIERP grant must be completed within 12 months of the BIERP Conditions of Grant document being executed. Extensions of time may be considered in exceptional circumstances. Successful applicants must claim eligible grants funding within two months of project completion, up to the lesser of the value that it can prove that it spent on the project and the value of the grant provided to the applicant. Grants must be fully claimed by 30 June 2028. Grants are no longer eligible for claiming of funds and payment beyond this date.

Q: What happens if a successful project cannot be delivered?

A: If a project cannot be completed, the funding balance will be returned pro-rata to Transport and the delivery partner in accordance with the Conditions of Grant document.

Q: Once completed, who is responsible for managing and maintaining the facility?

A: Applicants must have and retain control and/or ownership of the infrastructure funded under the grant once it has been completed. This means that the applicant will be responsible for the facility's ongoing

management and maintenance for the benefit of public use. Refer to the section *Other Boating Infrastructure and Dredging grant programs* within the Program Guidelines for how funding support can be provided for maintenance of public boating infrastructure.