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# Applications, Project Plans and Progress Reporting

## The Commonwealth Accessible Australia Initiative: Increasing inclusion in Australian communities

The Australian Government is investing \$17.1 million from 2024-25 to 2027-28 to increase inclusion in community spaces for people with disability across Australia through the Commonwealth Accessible Australia initiative (Accessible Australia).

The information in the following fact sheet includes key information regarding **project plans and progress reporting** about Accessible Australia projects for state and territory governments, local governments, co-funders, and other interested parties.

## Project Plans and Applying for Funding

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### How do I apply for funding?

Funding under Accessible Australia is negotiated directly with state and territory governments. Therefore, local councils and organisations cannot access Commonwealth funding directly.

If you are interested in seeking funding for an amenity through Accessible Australia, the Commonwealth encourages you to contact your state or territory government to discuss funding opportunities and required next steps.

### What documentation is required for funding?

At a minimum, those seeking funding will be required to produce an itemised quote for the funded amenities and a project plan. Further documentation may be required by the relevant state or territory government.

### What is required in a project plan for funded amenities?

50 per cent of eligible funds will be released to state or territory governments upon the department's receipt and approval of a project plan for each amenity. The department can provide a template for project plans, should jurisdictions wish to utilise these. However, it is not compulsory to use this template, provided that the submitted plan meets all necessary requirements.

All funded amenities must include the following in their project plan:

- Location of the amenity\*
- Estimated cost of construction or purchase
- Sub-contract arrangements (i.e. who is being engaged to build and/or transport the amenity)
- Timeline, including date of purchase, delivery date, expected date of installation and opening, and other relevant implementation milestones.

\*For portable amenities, the initial installation location and the storage location should be listed.

For fixed and portable Changing Places, the engagement details of a Changing Places assessor or details outlining how accreditation requirements will be met must be included.

Project plans will be provided to the Commonwealth for formal approval by state or territory governments.

## Progress Reporting

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### What reporting is required under the Commonwealth Accessible Australia initiative?

State and territory governments will be responsible for coordinating and providing 6-monthly progress reporting for each funded amenity, until such time as the amenity is complete.

This requirement applies to all amenities funded under Accessible Australia. Regular reporting should include information on:

- Key milestones
- Build progress
- Costings
- Successes/Challenges.

State and territory governments are required to inform the Commonwealth of any issues in writing as soon as practicable. This includes, but is not limited to, delays in meeting agreed milestones such as project plans and progress reporting.