



Sport – High performance sport

The Australian Government will invest \$136.3 million in Australia’s high performance sport system and programs supporting the pipeline of highly talented athletes to compete and succeed in a number of major sporting events on the horizon, including the Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games.

This includes:

- \$50.6 million in high performance grants to national sporting organisations (NSOs), which will support 56 high performance programs for Olympic and Paralympic sports including support for 2,600 athletes and 320 staff
- \$82.2 million for an extension of the Athlete Performance Pathways and Wellbeing programs to support the development and specialised wellbeing needs of athletes, and
- \$3.5 million for increased operational costs for the Australian Paralympic Team’s participation in the Tokyo Paralympic Games due to the impact of COVID-19.

Why is this important?

This proposal contributes to the objectives of *Sport 2030*, supporting a performance pathway to identify, develop, support and progress talented athletes to achieve success in major sporting events, including a potential home Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2032.

The COVID-19 pandemic has created a period of uncertainty for athletes with competition cancellations, restricted access to training facilities and the prospect of multiple quarantine periods when travelling overseas.

Australian athletes and officials must be safe while travelling overseas to represent our country in the Tokyo Paralympic Games. The funding will enable the Australian team to adhere to the necessarily strict and detailed biosecurity measures the current health advice demands.

Who will benefit?

The Australian Institute of Sport currently supports more than 2,600 athletes, including 1,338 women, categorised from emerging through to podium level. These measures will provide direct support for training and performance preparation, specialised mental health services, job-readiness training and pathways to future employment. Sport Australia’s high performance funding to NSOs provides direct athlete support grants to an average of 850 athletes each year.

The athletes and officials who will represent Australia at the Tokyo Paralympic Games will benefit helping create a safer environment, with added support from the Australian Government to meet and adhere to the COVID-19 protocols.

How much will this cost?

The Australian Government is investing \$136.3 million over 3 years, from 2021–22.