



COMMUNITY FUND FACT SHEET

OFF THE TRACK WA COMMUNITY FUND FACT SHEET FOR APPLICANTS

1. THE PROGRAM

Racing and Wagering Western Australia (RWAA) aims to set the highest animal welfare standards for racing in WA. The Off the Track WA (OTTWA) Community Fund supports projects and programs that enhance the lives of retired racehorses and people in both ridden and non-ridden activities. People and organisations using or caring for off the track horses in one of the eligible categories may apply to the Community Fund.

2. OBJECTIVES

The OTTWA Community Fund seeks to:

- i) Strengthen welfare for off the track horses by supporting projects that enhance their care, safety, and long-term wellbeing.
- ii) Enhance human wellbeing and community connection by supporting programs where off the track horses contribute to improved quality of life for participants.

3. KEY DATES

Applications for the fund will open at 8am Monday 27 July and close at 4pm Monday 17 August 2026. Late submissions (including modifications to submitted applications after the closing date) will not be accepted. Applicants will be notified of the outcome within six weeks of the closing date.

4. ELIGIBLE PROJECTS/PROGRAMS

To be eligible for the OTTWA Community Fund, projects and programs must involve standardbred and/or thoroughbred horses that have retired from the racing or breeding industries.

The 2027 OTTWA Community Fund invites applications for projects aligning with one or more of the following:

- i) Increasing accessibility to equine therapy programs and equine assisted learning programs.
- ii) Community organisations undertaking a project that directly improves welfare for off the track horses, including specialists delivering training to groups of staff/volunteers to enhance their skills in horse husbandry and care.
- iii) Registered charities caring for off the track horses, providing a safety net for retired racehorses that have become vulnerable or at risk. Eligible costs may include veterinary treatment, specialist medication or other professional services e.g., dentistry, farrier, bodywork. **Please refer to the additional information sheet for charities.**

5. INELIGIBLE PROJECTS AND EXPENSES

1. Ineligible projects under this scheme include:
 - i) Projects which have a primary objective of fundraising.
 - ii) Projects that have already commenced (except those under 4. (iii)).
 - iii) Sponsorship of competitions and clinics, as these can receive support through OTTWA Event Sponsorship or OTTWA Regional Clinic Sponsorship.
2. Ineligible expenses under this scheme include but are not limited to:
 - i) Feed costs for OTT horses.
 - ii) Purchasing OTT horses.
 - iii) Costs associated with staff and general operating expenses, including program preparation and reporting time.
 - iv) Equipment, training or licensing fees to start a business.
 - v) Training course fees/qualifications for individuals.
 - vi) Transport costs to move equipment or horses.
 - vii) Hire of venues or equipment.
 - viii) Advertising or marketing costs.
 - ix) Airfares or other transport modes to events, conferences etc.
 - x) Capital improvements on private property not listed as the main business location.

6. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible to apply for the scheme the applicant must:

- i) Have an Australian Business Number (ABN).
- ii) Be located in the state of Western Australia.
- iii) Demonstrate a commitment to off the track horses as a component of their business.
- iv) Not have an existing partnership or funding agreement with Racing and Wagering WA or Off the Track WA.
- v) Have a minimum of \$10 million in public liability insurance and be able to provide a certificate of currency.
- vi) Have or obtain an OTTWA Passport for all retired racehorses involved in the project.

7. AMOUNT OF FUNDING AVAILABLE

A maximum of \$7,000 is available for each project. Separate applications must be submitted for each project. Applicants for long term care packages will be required to submit invoices for care before rebate is approved for payment.

8. HOW WILL THE PROJECT BE ASSESSED?

Each project will be assessed on specific criteria to evaluate its alignment with the fund's objectives.

As a minimum, the following will be considered:

- i) The capacity of the organisation/applicant to undertake all aspects of the proposed project.
- ii) Is the budget comprehensive, realistic and does it provide value for money?
- iii) Does the program demonstrate the outcomes to be achieved?
- iv) Will the project outcomes/benefits continue beyond the project?
- v) Is there a demonstrated financial need?

9. SUCCESSFUL APPLICATIONS AND FUNDING AGREEMENT

Successful applicants will be required to enter into an agreement with Racing and Wagering WA. (RWWA).

Successful applicants will be required to complete their projects within 12 months of project approval by RWWA.

Successful applicants will have the opportunity to share updates on their project/programs throughout the year for promotion on OTTWA and Racing WA social media channels.

At the completion of their project, successful applicants will be required to submit a report on the outcomes of the project and a breakdown of fund expenditure, with supporting invoices. In addition to this, RWWA may require successful applicants to provide an interim update on the progress of the project.

10. UNSUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

Please contact the Animal Welfare team for feedback on the application.

11. FURTHER INFORMATION AND APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Further information please contact the Animal Welfare team at animalwelfare@rwwa.com.au

To apply, complete the OTTWA Community Fund Application form via SmartyGrants.