



Surf Life Saving Australia – BSEF Circular

Title:	Beach Safety Equipment Fund (BSEF) 2023/24
Document ID:	Circular 5/23-24 - Beach Safety Equipment Fund
Audience:	Clubs and State/Territory Centres
From:	Coastal Safety
Date:	24 July 2023
Subject:	Beach Safety Equipment Fund Processes- 2023/24
Summary:	Notification to Clubs of Beach Safety Equipment Fund distribution processes for 2023/24, outlining key dates for eligibility period, invoicing and acquitting the funding.

Background

Surf Life Saving's mission is to save lives, create great Australians and build better communities. To support our mission, the Australian Government is supporting the organisation to ensure that Australia's Surf Life Saving Clubs are better equipped to assist in saving lives and reducing risk as well as the nation's coastal drowning toll.

This funding aims to reduce the impact and occurrence of water related injuries and deaths in Australia. Outcomes of the program are closely tied to the priority areas outlined in the Australian Water Safety Strategy.

The Australian Government, through the Beach Safety Equipment Fund (BSEF), have provided funding to purchase vital safety equipment since 2013. This funding package has since been extended to 2024 through the Water and Snow Safety Program. As part of a pre-election commitment, Surf Life Saving Australia (SLSA) secured bipartisan support from both major parties to double the Beach Safety Equipment from 2023-24 until 2024-2025. This means up until 2024-2025, clubs will be able to receive \$10,000 in funding.

Clubs are encouraged to acknowledge the Australian Government and thank them for their support through ceremonies and photo opportunities, showcasing your new equipment with your Federal Member of Parliament and sharing this information (media coverage, etc) with SLSA via bsef@slsa.asn.au.

Beach Safety Equipment Fund Process 2023/24

This funding **must** be used to purchase vital first aid and rescue equipment as specified in the SLSA Gear and Equipment List 2023-24.

The invoicing period for 2023/2024 has been extended to allow time for Clubs to apply funds as required. Please note, timeframes for the previous year's BSEF process are different, information about the process for the 2024/25 season can be found at the end of this Circular.

To be eligible for the 2023/24 Beach Safety Equipment Fund, Clubs will be required to complete the acquittal process for 2022/23 period. Clubs that have not acquitted funds for the BSEF program for 2022/23 period will not be eligible.



BSEF 2023/24 Equipment Fund Process		Key dates
<p>Gear and Equipment Purchasing</p> <p>Gear and Equipment purchased within the specified periods are eligible for acquittal under the BSEF. A Tax receipt must be provided for all purchases.</p>	<p>Purchasing Period: 1 May 2023 to 30 April 2024</p>	
<p>Club Invoice to SLSA – by 30 September 2023</p> <p>Clubs must invoice SLSA via the Beach Safety Equipment Fund Club Invoice Form 2023/24.</p> <p>Note* To ensure a smooth invoicing process with clubs and SLSA, please ensure if bank details for your club have changed since last grant period, please upload a bank statement header in the Invoice Form on Jotform.</p>	<p>Due Date: 30 September 2023</p>	
<p>Funds distributed to clubs – October 2023</p> <p>Payment will be made via electronic transfer into the Surf Life Saving Club’s bank account.</p>	<p>Funds Distributed: October 2023</p>	
<p>Gear and Equipment Acquittal – by 31 May 2024</p> <p>Clubs must submit a tax receipt to the Beach Safety Equipment Fund Acquittal Form 2023/24.</p>	<p>Due Date: 31 May 2024</p>	

SLSA Invoice

The BSEF Invoice from clubs **must** include the club’s bank details. If the club bank details differ from the previous season (2022/23), a deposit slip (or equivalent) for the new account must be included in the Club Invoice Form.

GST registered Clubs are to invoice for \$11,000. Clubs that are not GST registered will invoice for \$10,000 without GST applying.

Gear and Equipment

All gear and equipment purchased must comply with Surf Life Saving Australia’s policies on endorsed manufacturers and/or appear in the ‘SLSA Gear and Equipment List 2023-24’.

This list can be found in the Document Library on the [SLSA Members Area](#). Any gear and equipment that has not been covered in this document must be approved by the SLSA Coastal Safety Team prior to purchase.

Items that **cannot be purchased** using the Beach Safety Equipment Fund (list is indicative, not a full exclusive list):

Items that are not eligible to be purchased from the BSEF.	
Surf Rescue Patrol Uniform items	Racing Boards (as opposed to approved rescue boards)
Water Safety cap and rash shirt	Club maintenance
Logbooks	Repairs of equipment
Servicing of existing equipment	<u>Drones (UAV)</u> *Eligible to be purchased subject to approval by States Lifesaving Services.
<u>Rescue Watercraft (RWC)</u> *Eligible to be purchased subject to approval by States Lifesaving Services	



Updates to Approved Gear and Equipment List

Additions

- Laerdal – The Bag II Resuscitator
- Laerdal – Resusci Anne QCPR (Intubatable)
- AED Trainers
- Personal Protective Equipment – Emergency Response Groups*
- Rescue Watercraft*

**Please confirm requirements with your respective state/territory prior to purchasing these items.*

Replaced/Superseded

- Laerdal – Best Strap Spider-style Straps and Rock Straps
- Race One Surf Craft (formerly Dolphin Surf Craft)
- Side-by-side vehicles – updated to latest approved models
- Rescue Watercraft – updated to latest approved models

Removed

- Cardiac Defibrillators – FRED PA models (discontinued)
- Ambu – Rescue Suction Pump (discontinued)
- Safety Access and Rescue – SAR Bleeding Control Kits (discontinued)
- IRB Accessory – Toggle on/off switches

Terms and Conditions

In consideration of receiving the grant, Clubs must adhere to the terms set out below:

1. Surf Life Saving Clubs must be compliant and affiliated with their respective State/Territory Surf Life Saving Association (State Centre). Please refer to your state centre for detailed compliance requirements necessary for affiliation. If the State Centre advises Surf Life Saving Australia (SLSA) that a Club is non-compliant, all Beach Safety Equipment Fund (BSEF) payments will be withheld until the Club is compliant and affiliated with the State/Territory Surf Life Saving Association. *Not* Clubs who have not acquitted previous funding will not be eligible to such time as this has been completed.*
2. Surf Life Saving Clubs are required to invoice SLSA via the [Beach Safety Equipment Fund Club Invoice Form 2023/24](#) by **30 September 2023**. GST registered Clubs should invoice for \$11,000. Clubs that are not GST registered will invoice \$10,000 without GST applying.
3. First aid and rescue equipment purchased must comply with Surf Life Saving Australia's policies on endorsed manufacturers and/or appear in the SLSA Gear and Equipment List 2022-23. Items outside this list must be confirmed with SLSA before purchase.
4. Tax receipts for purchases must be submitted via the [Beach Safety Equipment Fund Acquittal Form 2023/24](#) by **31 May 2024**. Failure to provide tax receipts shall result in all allocated funding being repaid to SLSA for redistribution. The Club will also be ineligible for ongoing funding for the remainder of the program.
5. SLSA reserves its rights to recover funding that has not been acquitted according to the Terms and Conditions of the Beach Safety Equipment Fund, as required by Government.
6. All gear and equipment purchased by the Surf Life Saving Club must be updated in SurfGuard selecting the 'BSEF' checkbox.
7. Equipment purchased through the BSEF must be retained by the Surf Life Saving Club for a minimum of 3 years (excluding first aid consumable products).
8. Should the actual total cost incurred purchasing equipment be more than the proposed costs, SLSA will not be responsible nor obliged to pay any monies additional to the notified grant amount.
9. The BSEF monies must not be used for any purpose other than that for which the grant was approved.
10. Surf Life Saving Clubs are required to promote the grant through their Club communication channels and participate in promotional media opportunities that could be generated through the



program. Copies of media, government engagement with local MPs and other promotions are to be provided to SLSA.

Frequently Asked Questions

More information and FAQs for the BSEF acquittal process can be viewed in the document Library on the [SLSA Members Area](#).

Beach Safety Equipment Fund Process 2023-25

The commitment of this funding until the 2024/25 season provides us with some certainty for the upcoming seasons, noting this the below process is an outline of key dates for BSEF until 2025 to allow clubs to prepare and budget for the upcoming seasons.

Season	Purchasing Period	Club Invoice SLSA	Funds distributed to clubs^	Acquittal Due
2023/24	1 May 2023-30 April 2024	By 30 September 2023	October 2023^	31 May 2024
2024/25	1 May 2024-30 April 2025	By 31 August 2024	September 2024^	31 May 2025

^Subject to compliance with acquittal requirements for the previous funding periods.

Further Information

For questions relating to the Beach Safety Equipment Fund, please contact the Coastal Safety Team, SLSA (bsef@slsa.asn.au).