

Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

International Airports Security Costs Rebate (IASCR) Program - Frequently Asked Questions

The International Airports Security Costs Rebate Program (IASCR) is designed to assist eligible airports to maintain regulated security obligations for international flights that must be met regardless of the reduced volume of aviation activity during the COVID-19 crisis.

The Program will provide funding to Grant Recipients for eligible costs incurred between 1 October 2021 and 31 March 2022.

How much funding has been committed and what period will the program cover?

The Australian Government has committed \$64 million to the IASCR Program to assist in meeting mandated security obligations from 1 October 2021 to 31 March 2022. The funding forms part of a more than \$5 billion package of Australian Government assistance to support the aviation sector, recognising the dramatic impact of the COVID pandemic on the aviation sector.

Who is eligible for support?

The program is open to existing international airports in Australia designated *Major International* OR a federally-leased international airport in Australia designated *Restricted-Use International*. The Grant Guidelines specify which specific airports are eligible.

Why aren't all airports eligible?

The Australian Government is already providing funding for security screening costs incurred on domestic services across all airports through the \$155.5 million Domestic Airports Security Costs Support program. The IASCR program is specifically for airports taking international flights.

What costs does the program cover?

The program will cover the shortfall in costs associated with meeting Government mandated security obligations on international services, and costs related to maintaining security capability to enable international services to assist in the international re-opening.

The Grant Guidelines specify the eligible costs.

Will airlines operating international flights still need to pay per-passenger screening charges?

Yes. Airlines will still be required to pay agreed per-passenger charges to airports for each flight. The program recognises that, with reduced passenger numbers, airports have reduced ability to recover security costs through the per passenger charges. IASCR will cover the shortfall in costs, and as passenger numbers increase the level of IASCR funding required for each flight will reduce.

How will funding be allocated?

Eligible airports will be allocated a maximum grant amount under IASCR, informed by historical and projected passenger volumes and security costs. The intent of the allocation will be to manage overall demand for funding in the Program, and to meet the requirement for Grant Agreements to specify maximum funding amounts.

How do I apply for funding?

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications will invite eligible airports to submit an application for IASCR. The Grant Guidelines provide further information regarding the application process and program details.

When can I start claiming funding?

Program funding is subject to: being invited to apply; lodgement of an application; an eligibility check; awarding of grant funding; and negotiation of a Grant Agreement with the Commonwealth. Once a Grant Agreement is in place, Grant Recipients can claim monthly eligible costs in arrears for costs incurred from 1 October 2021 through to 31 March 2022.

The supporting information required for monthly claims will be outlined in the Grant Agreement with the Commonwealth.

Who can I contact for assistance?

The Grant Guidelines provide information on the application process and program details. The Grant Guidelines are available on <u>GrantConnect</u>. You can contact the Department at <u>IASCR@infrastructure.gov.au</u>.