

Overview Objective

The Department of Tourism, Culture and Recreation receives numerous requests from athletes and teams seeking financial assistance to travel to sport competitions. Recognizing the challenges that athletes face in raising the necessary funds to compete at these events, the Department, with the assistance of Sport Canada, implemented a Travel Subsidy Program (in 2005). This program is designed to provide financial assistance for travel and accommodations only, to athletes and teams who travel to Atlantic or Eastern Canadian Championships outside of the Province, that are mandatory competitions for that sport's National Competition. This program is also designed for athletes and teams attending the National Sport Organization's sanctioned age group national event. This assistance will be provided to one team per age group per sport; the highest level the age group competes at (3A for example). *Priority funding will be given to "club based teams" who have won a Provincial Championship," over Provincial Teams.*

The Recreation and Sport Division also provides a funding subsidy for Atlantic or Eastern Competitions when a sport can demonstrate that a particular event is the highest level of competition the athletes can attend (certain restrictions apply). The following guidelines have been developed to assist the Department in determining eligibility of teams and the allocation of financial assistance to the various teams and individual athletes.

Eligibility Criteria

Team must meet the following criteria in order to qualify for financial assistance:

1. Funding is available to teams (Youth/Junior - Under 21) who are Provincial Champions and sanctioned by the Provincial Sport Organization to represent the sport at a National championship (out of Province).

2. Funding is available to Provincial Teams attending the highest level of out of Province, nationally sanctioned championship for their sport however, the Recreation and Sport Division reserves the right to adjust the funding formula.
3. Only recognized Provincial Champions or their designate are eligible for financial assistance. Teams must be attending a National Championship sanctioned by their NSO. That NSO must be funded by Sport Canada at the time of the application.
4. Funding is available to assist teams attending an Atlantic Championship where it is demonstrated that this event is a qualifier for the right to compete at the National championship.
5. Funding will be provided to a team attending Eastern Canadian championships which would be considered as the highest level of competition for that age group in their respective sport.
6. Individual sports such as Athletics, Swimming, etc, where athletes are required to meet competition standards in order to qualify for National championships, will be eligible for funding provided the Provincial Sport Organization can substantiate in writing that these athletes have successfully achieved the standards set down by the National Sport Organization. These athletes will only be eligible for funding to attend one National event per fiscal year.
7. Individual athletes who are invited to a National Team training camp or who represent Canada in a recognized international competition (World Cup) are **not eligible** for assistance through this program, however they may apply for funding through the Department's Premier's Athletic Awards Program.
8. When National championships are held within the Province, teams/athletes representing the Province will **not be eligible** to receive financial support through this program.

9. Teams who are competing in Invitational or Select Team competitions, Corporate Competitions, the Olympics, Masters Games, Senior Games, Para-Olympic Games, Transplant Games, Military Games, NAIG Games, Arctic Games, AUS and CIS championships will **NOT be eligible** for financial assistance through this program.
10. A team designated as the PSO's Canada Games team is ineligible for this program. PSOs receive funding to support Canada Games teams under the Canada Games grant program.
11. The Travel Subsidy program is only available to one age division per gender. Priority will be given to the highest Division (ex: Triple A over Double A and if no Triple A, Double A over Single A) team who meets the Department's criteria outlined above.
12. Teams/athletes whose travel/accommodations have been funded in the amount of 50% of their team budget for travel and accommodations through other sources (excluding athletes own fund raising) are not eligible for the travel subsidy program.
13. Applications for travel subsidy must be submitted to the Recreation and Sport Division in advance of the competition being applied for. Applications for competition that has already been held will not be accepted.

Condition of Financial Assistance

- A. The grant for travel subsidy is contingent on the team/athlete travelling being in good standing with their Provincial Sport Organization at the time of travel and has to be used for travel/accommodations expenses only. Teams receiving financial assistance under this program must provide the Recreation and Sport Division with their official results within 30 days of their return.
- B. The Travel Subsidy Grant is assessed based on the information provided. If the size of your team reduces after

submission to the Recreation and Sport Division, you must advise the Division of that change immediately. Grants are assessed per athlete thus any change may result in a change in the grant amount. If the team size increases, we regret that funding levels will not change. As well, if the competition or any logistics related to the competition should change, the Recreation and Sport Division is to be advised immediately.

C. The Travel Subsidy grant **MUST** be distributed evenly (regardless of financial or geographical situation) to each athlete traveling. **Money is to be distributed to athletes only** and athletes MUST be informed in writing of Government's specific financial contribution towards their travel/accommodations expenses.

D. Submission for travel subsidy must now include a budget (forms available), broken down as the cost per athlete.

E. At no time is the Provincial Association under which the athletes are represented, permitted to retain any portion of the Travel Subsidy grant for administrative costs. All funds are to be distributed to the athletes to offset the cost of travel to their competition.

F. The Recreation and Sport Division reserves the right to fund applications from under-represented groups such as Special Olympics or other athletes with disabilities, where athletes are over the age of 21.

Funding Levels

Depending on total funding in the Program and the number of eligible teams/athletes travelling to eligible sporting events, the following funding formula will be applied

Competition Ontario and East - \$200 per athlete to a maximum of \$3,000 per team of 19

Teams of 20 - 30 maximum of \$4000

Teams of 31 - 39 maximum of \$4500

Teams of 40 + maximum of \$5000

Competition West of Ontario - \$250 per athlete to a maximum of \$4,000 per team of 19

Teams of 20 - 30 maximum of \$5000

Teams of 31 - 39 maximum of \$5500

Teams of 40 + maximum of \$6000

The Recreation and Sport Division reserves the right to cap funding to a PSO.



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Athlete Travel Subsidy Guidelines

