

Sports Canada

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Athlete Assistance Program (AAP)

<http://www.pch.gc.ca/pgm/sc/pgm/athlt-eng.cfm>

Service Delivery Standards for this funding program.

The Athlete Assistance Program (AAP) is a sport funding program that contributes to the pursuit of excellence through its contribution to improved Canadian athlete performances at major international sporting events, enabling athletes to combine their sport and academic or working careers while training intensively in pursuit of world-class performances.

Athletes who are approved for funding and are financially supported through the AAP are referred to as Carded Athletes. AAP support is referred to as Carding. For more information, see the AAP Policies, Procedures and Guidelines (2009) or contact aap@pch.gc.ca.

[List of approved athletes for funding supported through the AAP](#)

Program Objectives

The Athlete Assistance Program's objectives are:

to financially support Canadian athletes identified by National Sport Organizations (NSOs) using criteria established by Sport Canada as performing at or having the greatest potential to achieve top 16 results at Olympic/Paralympic Games and World Championships;

to assist Canada's carded athletes in preparing to engage in full- or part-time career activities; and

to enable Canada's carded athletes to participate in year-round national training and competition regimes to further their athletic goals.

Key Stakeholders, Beneficiaries, and Recipients

- Normally, only athletes from those sports whose high performance programs are funded through the Sport Funding and Accountability Framework (SFAF), including those sports that also have programs for athletes with a disability, are eligible for support through the AAP. Athletes from non-SFAF sports can, however, access AAP support if their performance meets the international criteria for a senior card and if their sport meets AAP sport qualification criteria.

To be eligible to be considered for support through the AAP, an athlete must:

- be a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident of Canada;
- adhere to their athlete/NSO agreement requirements;
- meet the eligibility requirement of the sport's international federation as they pertain to citizenship and residency status and be available to represent Canada at major international events, including World Championships, Olympic and Paralympic Games; and
- meet the carding criteria developed as a member of the Canadian Team at international events or in domestic events or events sanctioned by the NSO for his/her sport.

Athletes are usually required to live and train in Canada. Assistance for athletes living and training outside Canada may be approved by Sport Canada, if justified by the NSO for academic or athletic reasons.

For more information, see the [AAP Policies, Procedures and Guidelines \(2009\)](#) or contact aap@pch.gc.ca.

Canada Games Component

<http://www.pch.gc.ca/pgm/sc/pgm/cgc-eng.cfm>

The Canada Games are the country's largest domestic multi-sport event and are held at two-year intervals, alternating between winter and summer. The Canada Games Component of the Hosting Program provides contributions to Host Societies that are duly incorporated for the staging of the Games.

To access an application form, visit:

http://www.pch.gc.ca/progs/sc/contributions/2007-2009/cgc/cgc-annex1_e.pdf

Children's Fitness Tax Credit

<http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/fitness/>

You may be able to claim up to \$500 per child for the fees **paid in 2009** that relate to the cost of registering your or your spouse's or common-law partner's child in a prescribed program of physical activity.

Eligibility

The child **must** have been under 16 years of age or under 18 years of age if eligible for the disability amount, at the beginning of the year in which an eligible fitness expense was paid.

Children with disabilities - If the child qualifies for the disability amount and is under 18 years of age at the beginning of the year, an **additional** amount of \$500 can be claimed provided that a minimum of \$100 is paid on registration or membership fees for a prescribed program of physical activity.

Note

You may have paid an amount that would qualify to be claimed as child care expenses and the children's fitness amount. If this is the case, you **must** first claim this amount as child care expenses. Any unused part can be claimed for the children's fitness amount as long as the requirements are met.

Example

Mary registered her daughter Julie (9 years old) in a prescribed program of physical activity and paid fees of \$750 on August 30, 2009. The program started on September 15, 2009, and ended on April 21, 2010.

Mary's husband registered their son Eric (17 years old and eligible for the disability tax credit) in a prescribed program of physical activity and paid fees of \$400 on December 20, 2009. The program started on January 6, 2010, and ended on April 28, 2010. He also registered their daughter Samantha (10 years old) in a prescribed program of physical activity and paid fees of \$600 on January 2, 2010. The program started on January 6 and ended on April 28, 2010.

On her 2009 income tax return, Mary can claim a total amount of \$1,400 (if her husband is not claiming any amount) based on the following formula:

- Julie \$500 (maximum allowable expenses per child)

- Eric \$400 (paid fees) **plus** \$500 (since he is eligible for the disability tax credit and at least \$100 was paid for eligible fitness expenses for him)
- She can not claim an amount for Samantha because the fees were paid in 2010.

Prescribed Program

To qualify for this amount, a program **must**:

- be ongoing (either a minimum of eight weeks duration with a minimum of one session per week or, in the case of children's camps, five consecutive days);
- be supervised;
- be suitable for children; and
- require a significant amount of physical activity that contributes to cardiorespiratory endurance, **plus** one or more of:
 - muscular strength,
 - muscular endurance,
 - flexibility, and/or
 - balance.

Physical activity includes strenuous games like hockey or soccer, activities such as golf lessons, horse-back riding, sailing and bowling as well as others that require a similar level of physical activity.

The Public Health Agency of Canada's Physical Activity Guides for children and youth list some of the activities that contribute to cardio-respiratory endurance.

Note

For a child who qualifies for the disability amount, the requirement for significant physical activity is met if the activities result in movement and in an observable use of energy in a recreational context.

The following activities **do not** qualify:

- activities where riding in, or on, a motorized vehicle is an essential part of the activity;
- self-directed (unsupervised) activities;
- activities that are part of a regular school program; or
- sports-academics programs.

Note

Fees charged for extra-curricular programs that take place in school are eligible.

Fees paid by parents for accommodation, travel, food, or beverages (e.g. room and board at a fitness camp) do not qualify.

Completing your tax return

Enter on **line 365** of Schedule 1, Federal Tax, the total amount of allowable expenses paid for each eligible child (maximum of \$500 per child).

Enter an additional amount of \$500 per child for each eligible child who qualifies for the disability amount and for who you have paid a minimum of \$100 in allowable expenses.

You can claim this amount provided that another person has not already claimed the same fees and that the total claimed is not more than the maximum amount that would be allowed if only one of you were claiming the amount.

Reimbursement of an eligible expense - You can only claim the part of the amount for which you have not been or will not be reimbursed. However, you can claim all of the amount if the reimbursement is included in your income, such as a benefit shown on a T4 slip, and you did not deduct the reimbursement anywhere else on your return.

Receipts -You should receive, or ask for, a receipt from organizations that provide prescribed programs of physical activity for which you paid to have your child enrolled. The organizations will determine the part of the fee that qualifies for the children's fitness amount.

Note

It is not an organization's responsibility to determine whether or not a child is eligible for the disability amount. If you tell an organization that a child is eligible for the disability amount, the organization should issue a receipt accordingly.

If you are filing a paper return, **do not include** your receipts, but keep them in case we ask to see them. If you are filing electronically, keep all of your documents.

Further Information:

For more information visit: <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/whatsnew/fitness-e.htm>

International Multisport Games for Aboriginal Peoples and Persons with a Disability (IMGAPPD) Component

<http://www.pch.gc.ca/pgm/sc/pgm/jimaph-eng.cfm>

What is the purpose of these games?

These events are multisport games which provide quality competition opportunities for designated under-represented groups which face systemic barriers to sport participation, and which form part of a Government of Canada strategy to decrease these barriers through NSO and MSO partnerships.

These events may be awarded to Canada on a rotational basis (for example, the North American Indigenous Games and the Arctic Winter Games), or may require a bid (for example, the Special Olympics World Games, the Deaflympics).

To access an application form, please visit :

http://www.pch.gc.ca/progs/sc/contributions/2007-2009/jimaph-imgappd/jimaph-imgappd-a1_e.pdf

International Single Sport Event (ISSE) Component

<http://www.pch.gc.ca/pgm/sc/pgm/isse-eng.cfm>

What is the ISSE?

The International Single Sport Event component of the Hosting Program assists sport organizations to host international single sport events in Canada. It is aimed at enhancing high performance sport development and the international profile of sport organizations.

International Single Sport Events are governed by a sport's International Federation (or the regional/continental counterpart), have a qualification process and entry restrictions (established nationally or internationally), and are identified as part of the National Sport Organization's high-performance and long-term athlete development plans for national team athletes. For example: World Championships, Olympic or Paralympic qualification events, World Cups.

To review an application, please visit:

http://www.pch.gc.ca/progs/sc/contributions/2007-2009/miu-isse/hp-isse-annex1_e.pdf

Sport Support Program (SSP)

<http://www.pch.gc.ca/pgm/sc/pgm/spprt-eng.cfm>

The Sport Support Program (SSP) is the primary funding vehicle for initiatives associated with the delivery of the Canadian Sport Policy. The SSP funding is aimed at developing athletes and coaches at the highest international levels; providing sound technically-based sport programming for all athletes; increasing the number of Canadians from all segments of society involved in sport, and advancing Canadian interests and values in Canada and abroad. This funding is provided to eligible organizations in support of programming that supports the goals of the Canadian Sport Policy.

What are the objectives of SSP?

- to increase the opportunities to participate in quality sport activities for all Canadians, including under-represented groups;
- to increase the capacity of the Canadian sport system to systematically achieve world class results at the highest international competitions;
- to contribute to the provision of technical sport leadership within the Canadian Sport System;
- to advance Canadian interests, values and ethics in sport at home and abroad.

Key Stakeholders, Beneficiaries, and Recipients

The primary beneficiaries of the SSP are national team athletes, coaches and other sport participants. Services and programs are provided to these individuals through third-party delivery organizations directly supported by the program through contribution agreements. Contribution agreements are signed with each recipient organization. Each agreement outlines eligible projects and other financial, reporting and performance terms and conditions.

Recipient organizations include incorporated non-profit organizations, Provincial/Territorial government departments responsible for sport that support the principles and goals of the Canadian Sport Policy, and research councils. These organizations include, but are not limited to, NSOs, MSOs, CSCs, foundations and universities.

Nationally funded organizations are required to meet the eligibility requirements as outlined in the Sport Funding and Accountability Framework (SFAF). They are also required to incorporate the accountability policy areas of Enhanced

Excellence, Enhanced Participation, Enhanced Interaction and Enhanced Capacity within their strategic and operating plans, serving as the blueprint for each sport's athlete and sport development activities, and forming the basis of the funding relationship with the Government of Canada.

Sport Funding and Accountability Framework

<http://www.pch.gc.ca/pgm/sc/pgm/cfrs/index-eng.cfm>

The Sport Funding and Accountability Framework (SFAF) is the tool used by Canadian Heritage to identify which organizations are eligible to receive Sport Canada contributions under the Sport Support Program - in what areas, at what level and under what conditions.

First introduced in 1995-1996, the SFAF for National Sport Organizations has been divided to follow the summer and winter Olympic/Paralympic cycles. The SFAF for summer sports is now in its fourth cycle (SFAF IV), and applies to the 4 year time period of April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2013. The SFAF III for winter sports is in its final year and will be commencing its fourth cycle (SFAF IV) beginning April 1, 2010 through to March 31, 2014. The SFAF for Multisport Service Organizations (SFAF III for MSOs) was first introduced in 2005, and its first edition covers the time period of April 1, 2005 to March 31, 2011. The next edition of the SFAF for MSOs (SFAF IV MSOs) will cover the time period of April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2013.

There are four stages to the SFAF process: Eligibility, Assessment, Funding and Accountability. Organizations seeking support through the Sport Support Program must be deemed eligible and have completed the assessment portion of the SFAF in order to be considered to receive financial support. There are winter and summer editions of the framework for National Sport Organizations and a framework for Multisport Service Organizations. Once organizations have completed the SFAF process, they are advised of their results in the form of a score and a reference level which assists in planning for funding.

To access the documents for annual funding applications, please refer to the appropriate link below:

[National Sport Organization](#)
[Multisport Service Organization](#)
[Project Stream](#)

For more information on the SFAF process please refer to the appropriate edition of the framework below.

Eligibility

Prior to being considered for funding through the Sport Support Program, organizations must proceed through the SFAF process. The first step of the process is Eligibility. Below you will find information on the Eligibility application process and the application form that must be completed and signed by the applicant organization.

*** Make sure to visit the site for the detailed list of requirements:**

http://www.pch.gc.ca/progs/sc/prog/cfrs-sfaf/mso2005_e.cfm

