



SUPPORT GRANT FOR CONTINENTAL ATHLETES

Guidelines

World Programmes – Sport Development – Support Grant for Continental Athletes

What are the programme's objectives?

To assist National Olympic Committees (NOCs) with preparing their athletes for regional, continental or world-level competitions, multi-sport Games (including the Commonwealth Games and Jeux de la Francophonie), and/or the Olympic Games through qualification events.

Who is this programme for?

To be included for consideration in this programme, athletes must be recognised as being at the continental elite level or be preparing for the Olympic Games and/or continental or regional competitions.

What activities are covered?

This programme offers NOCs technical and financial assistance for the preparation and participation of athletes in regional, continental or world-level competitions, including the Olympic Games. The activities covered focus specifically on training these athletes during their preparation for these competitions.

Who can apply?

All NOCs.

Which sports are eligible?

Sports on the programmes of regional and continental competitions, the Summer and Winter Olympic Games and Youth Olympic Games.

Are any third parties involved?

N/A



Are there any restrictions?

One application per NOC, per quadrennial plan. For any athletes receiving direct individual support, a contract between the NOC/NF and the athlete must be established, listing the name of the athlete and their legal guardian (if required), the NOC officer, the time period, the budget amounts and the responsibilities of all parties. Examples are available upon request.

Is there a deadline for submissions?

Applications will be accepted as of 1 January 2025.

What is the application procedure?

There are two separate application phases for programmes proposed by NOCs, which should adhere to the guidelines outlined below when applying.

Olympic Solidarity recommends that NOCs meet as early as possible with NFs to ask them to propose activities and provide budget estimates for qualification processes for the different events. The events should be targeted, based on official sports calendars and selection systems.

Step 1: General Four-Year Plan – Planning over the 2025-2028 period of all the major competitions in which the NOC expects its athletes to participate, as well as the preparatory activities envisaged for each. The NOCs can then prioritise the competitions they consider the most important and plan their budget accordingly. The plan should include a brief description of the activities that will be organised and the amount of the grant that the NOC wishes to use each year.

Step 2: Annual Preparation Project – Following approval of the four-year plan and allocation of the budget, the NOC should submit an annual preparation project detailing the activities that were listed in the plan. The annual preparation project should include:

- a description of the activities to be supported by Olympic Solidarity;
- a budget proposal, taking into consideration the maximum available amount; and
- a list of names of the athletes, date of birth and sports discipline who will take part.

Please note that Olympic Solidarity recognises that plans can change over the course of four years, and as a result, this programme allows for modifications if communicated via each annual preparation project.

What is the maximum amount of funding an NOC can apply for?

A maximum annual grant of USD 25,000 per NOC will be available for the 2025-2028 plan, for a four-year maximum total of USD 100,000 per NOC.

Budgets not allocated during a specific year will be reinvested back into the programme and will therefore not be retroactively allocated or carried forward.

What expenses are covered?

The budget allocated for this programme can be used to finance the following activities:

- the organisation of national or international training camps for athletes preparing for specific competitions;
- coaching and training for athletes; and



- the participation of athletes in competitions that are useful to their general training programme.

The following expenses will not be taken into consideration within the scope of this programme:

- costs relating to the participation of athletes in competitions that may be covered by another organisation, such as a Continental Association or the organising committee;
- purchase of team delegation uniforms (for regional events) – however, the purchase of sporting equipment necessary for a specific activity may be considered by Olympic Solidarity on a case-by-case basis if the cost is considered reasonable in the context of the overall annual budget.

What are the payment options for this programme?

The follow-up, control and payment process will be as follows:

- an advance payment of 75 per cent will be made upon receipt and approval of the annual preparation project; and
- the balance payment will be made upon receipt and approval of the annual technical and financial reports.

The NOC will receive the maximum grant only if all preparation projects are carried out and the administrative requirements are fulfilled.

What are the reporting requirements?

NOCs are required to submit their annual preparation project to Olympic Solidarity via RELAY no later than two months before the intended start of the project.

The ongoing annual preparation project must be closed (reports approved) before NOCs can apply for the subsequent annual preparation project.

Technical and financial reports must be submitted by NOCs via RELAY no later than two months following the conclusion of the project each year.

Are there any other instructions?

Projects should involve a gender equal balance of female and male athletes (50 per cent each). For coaches and administrators, the goal should be a participation rate for females of at least 30 per cent.

Where gender balance cannot be achieved, NOCs, in coordination with the NFs, must propose measures towards reaching it over a certain period of time.

All beneficiaries must be made aware of the topics of athlete well-being, safeguarding, anti-doping and the prevention of competition manipulation through links provided in the Olympic Solidarity – Preface to Programme Guidelines. All beneficiaries have the responsibility to access the information and observe the guidelines.