



TEAM SUPPORT GRANT

Guidelines

World Programmes – Sport Development – Team Support Grant

What are the programme's objectives?

To offer financial and technical support to national teams preparing for and participating in regional, continental or world-level competitions, with a view, for elite teams, to attempting to qualify for the Olympic Games.

Desired outcomes include:

- athletes benefit from improved training and competition experiences; and
- NOCs support and nurture athletes as they progress from youth/regional/ continental level to international elite and ultimately the Olympic Games.

Who is this programme for?

To be considered for this programme, national teams must be recognised as being at the international level (with proof of regional or continental participation). Junior teams will not be accepted for this programme.

Each NOC can submit applications for one of the following:

- 1 summer sports team;
- 1 winter sports team;
- 1 summer and 1 winter sports team;
- 2 summer sports teams; or
- 2 winter sports teams.

If an NOC decides to split the budget between two teams, one of the teams must be a women's team and both applications must be submitted at the same time on RELAY.

What activities are covered?

The focus of this programme is specifically on training camps, coaching and training costs and competitions for national teams.



Who can apply?

All NOCs can put forward either one or two national teams (summer or winter sports) for this programme. If two are proposed, one must be a women's team.

Which sports are eligible?

Summer sports: basketball (including 3x3 basketball), baseball/softball, cricket, football, flag football, handball, hockey, lacrosse, rugby 7s, volleyball (including beach volleyball) and water polo.

Winter sports: curling and ice hockey.

Are any third parties involved?

International Federations (IFs) will assist Olympic Solidarity in the analysis of the NOC proposals, offer technical advice, and monitor the results of the teams selected for this programme.

Are there any restrictions?

Junior teams will not be accepted for this programme.

Is there a deadline for submissions?

The programme will be operational from 1 January 2025. NOCs can apply at any time during the four-year period, but applications should be submitted in year one to benefit from the full budget.

What is the application procedure?

There are two separate application phases for this programme.

Phase 1: NOCs are required to submit (during the first year of the period) a **General Four-Year Plan** that outlines:

- the major competitions the national team(s) expect(s) to participate in over the four years;
- a brief description of the preparatory activities; and
- a budget breakdown illustrating how the NOC plans to allocate the grant each year.

NOCs should prioritise the most important competitions and allocate their budgets accordingly.

Phase 2: After the General Four-Year Plan and budget are approved, NOCs must submit (two months ahead of the anticipated start of activities) an **Annual Preparation Project** providing greater insight into the activities listed in Phase 1, including:

- a detailed description of the activities to be supported by the programme;
- a budget proposal based on the available funds; and
- the estimated number of athletes, coaches and officials who will participate.

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.

It is recommended that NOCs meet with their National Federations as early as possible to discuss the targeted activities and potential expenses/budgets before applying.



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

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

NOCs can propose various budget distributions, depending on the specific team requirements, such as number of competitions in the calendar year, etc. Some examples include:

- **Example 1** – Year 1: USD 25,000; Year 2: USD 25,000; Year 3: USD 25,000; Year 4: USD 25,000
- **Example 2** – Year 1: USD 0; Year 2: USD 0; Year 3: USD 50,000; Year 4: USD 50,000
- **Example 3** – **Summer team** Year 1: USD 10,000; Year 2: USD 10,000; Year 3: USD 20,000; Year 4: USD 10,000 / **Winter team** Year 1: USD 10,000; Year 2: USD 30,000; Year 3: USD 5,000; Year 4: USD 5,000

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

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

What expenses are covered?

The grant can be used to offset costs relating to:

- the organisation of national or international training camps for teams preparing for a specific competition;
- coaching and training for the team;
- the organisation of friendly matches that are useful to the team's general training programme; and
- participation in competitions.

The following expenses **DO NOT** fall within the scope of this programme:

- those relating to the participation in competitions where relevant International Federation are already covering them; and
- the purchase of team delegation uniforms. (The purchase of necessary sporting equipment for a specific activity, however, may be considered by Olympic Solidarity on a case-by-case basis.)

What are the payment options for this programme?

An advance payment of 75 per cent is available and will be made upon receipt and approval of the Annual Preparation Project.

The balance payment will be made following receipt and approval of the annual technical and financial reports.

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?

Athlete well-being, safeguarding, anti-doping and prevention of manipulation in competition education must be shared with all beneficiaries through links provided in the Olympic Solidarity – Preface to Programme Guidelines. All beneficiaries have the responsibility to access the information and to observe the guidelines.

NOCs are encouraged to put forward teams with strong anti-doping practices already in place.

Should another national team qualify for the Olympic Games instead of the beneficiary team, the NOC may apply to switch the support grant to the qualified team using the remaining budget. Such requests must be fully documented and sent to Olympic Solidarity for approval.