

Travel & Training Fund: Frequently Asked Questions

We understand that applying for a grant can be a complicated process. We'd like to make it as easy as possible for you or your team to apply for a Travel & Training Fund Grant. Below you'll find a list of some of our most frequently asked questions.

What is the Travel & Training Fund?

The Travel & Training Fund was established in 1984 to provide direct financial assistance to female athletes with potential to be elite who have demonstrated financial need and would not otherwise be able to afford basic necessities like coaching, travel and equipment to achieve even higher performance levels and rankings without our help. Requests for assistance are considered for coaching, specialized training, equipment, attire and/or travel and will be based, in part, on need. The Fund is replenished through individual, foundation and corporate contributions.

What is the total amount awarded in grants?

Up to \$100,000 in grants will be awarded each calendar year.

What is the deadline for the 2020 grant cycle?

March 31, 2020.

What are the application guidelines and eligibility requirements?

Read the [Travel & Training Fund guidelines](#) and eligibility requirements.

What do you consider "amateur status"?

Athletes who DO NOT play in a professional league with financial compensation are considered amateurs by the Women's Sports Foundation.

Please note: Athletes who are paid salaries for their sports or compete with a professional team are considered professional and are NOT eligible to apply.

Does receipt of the grant, as an individual affect the amateurism of prospective or enrolled student-athletes?

Yes. Please be aware that it is likely that, by accepting a grant, an athlete's college eligibility may be affected. Check the financial aid regulations of the NCAA or sports organization governing your current or future high school, college or university to avoid jeopardizing your eligibility for sports participation. If you have specific questions about your collegiate

eligibility, please contact NCAA Academic and Membership Affairs staff at 317.917.6222 or your local high school athletic association.

Does "financial compensation" apply to athletes who have received prize money from competitions or only to athletes who receive salaries from professional teams?

Athletes who have received prize money from competitions are still considered amateurs in this sense.

How do I access the online grant application?

[Visit the online grants management system](#), Foundant GLM, and follow the directions to register a new user profile or update an existing profile to access the application. Once your profile is registered, you will be able to save and submit an application on the web site. Under the organization information, please enter the information for your NGB. A Tax ID number is not required to register (so you may leave that space blank).

Where can I find my National Governing Body's (NGB) contact info?

You can obtain this information from your coach or your NGB's website under "About Us" or "Contact Us." For example, if your sport is luge you would visit www.usaluge.org and select "About Luge" at the top of the navigation page then "Contact" to obtain your NGB's contact information.

Can I apply for a grant if my sport doesn't have a governing body (e.g. sportbike freestyle)?

No. While we want athletes of new and developing sports to apply to the Travel & Training Fund, current rules require a letter from your sports NGB on official letterhead in order to apply for a grant.

I am not affiliated with a NGB (e.g. USA Archery, USA Curling, USA Rugby, etc.) but with a different entity (e.g. Special Olympics). Can a letter from this entity be accepted as an appropriate substitution for a NGB letter?

Yes, a letter from a sanctioning organization such as the Special Olympics can be submitted, but letters from non-NGB organizations will be closely vetted for appropriateness. Further, an applicant without an affiliation with a formal NGB must still demonstrate that she is among the top athletes in her sport.

How do I know whether I should apply for an Individual or a Team grant?

If you participate in an individual sport, you should apply for an individual grant. Although there are sports that have both individual and team competitions (e.g. rowing), we encourage athletes to apply as individuals, especially if you have relevant individual athletic history and accomplishments.

If you are applying for a team grant and are not affiliated with a National Governing Body you may be asked to submit copies of your most recent tax returns to verify your income information.

Previous team grantees include the Pittsburgh Passion Women's Football team, APU Women's Elite Ski team, Pocock High Performance Team, USA Softball Women's National Team and the U.S. National Water Polo Team.

Do the questions regarding disciplinary measures and felonies apply to past members of the team, or only to members of the team who are currently competing?

These questions only apply to those members of the team currently competing who will benefit from the grant.

Do the questions regarding disciplinary measures and felonies apply to current team members with past discretions while participating on other teams?

Yes, these questions apply to any disciplinary measures taken against current team members in the past.

Does my parent or guardian need to provide their financial information on the Budget Form if I am under the age of 18 or a dependent?

Yes, if a parent or guardian provided more than half of the athlete's support for the past twelve months, the athlete is considered a dependent and it is the parent or guardian who must provide financial information.

If I don't have any corporate sponsorship or other items listed, do I leave the boxes blank on the budget form?

Please insert \$0 in those boxes to indicate that you do not receive corporate sponsorship, etc.

Does "Salary/Wages" imply annual income to date or an annual income projection for the entire year?

Please include your annualized salary (projection for entire year). The "to date" information is applicable for Corporate Sponsorships, Donations, Prize Money, etc.

How should I format the salary/wages on the budget form for a team grant application?

We ask that each team member's salary (from their job) be listed separately. This is consistent with what we ask of an individual applicant.

Does my spouse's/partner's salary qualify under the "Other Household Income/Support" or "Other Sources" portion of the application?

Please include this information under "Other Household Income/Support."

I'm having a hard time saving the completed Budget Form, what should I do?

If you are having a hard time saving the form, we recommend that you print a copy then scan it as a PDF and upload that PDF to your application. If you are still having trouble, please e-mail Elizabeth Flores-Amaya at EFlores-Amaya@WomensSportsFoundation.org to obtain the form in a different format.

Can my first letter of recommendation be from my local or regional Sports Governing Body?

No. Letters from local entities will not be accepted. Your letter must be from the National Governing Body for your sport. We encourage applicants to contact the high performance staff at their National Governing Body to obtain the required letter of recommendation.

Should the second letter of recommendation be written by an individual affiliated with the team (a coach or player) or by an individual with no official affiliation (a referee or other member of the community)?

The second recommendation letter can be from anyone particularly familiar with your individual or your team's competitive athletic record. We recommend that the letter be written by an individual affiliated with the team such as a coach.

Can I attach an additional list of athletic competitions to my application if I run out of space under the "Athletic Information" section?

Yes. You can attach this information under the "Additional Information" section. However, we recommend you list high-level competitions/top performances to avoid having to attach an additional list.

How do I view and/or print my online application packet?

You must go to the top of the application page and click "Print Packet" to view or print your application packet.

To request a sample of a completed application, please e-mail Elizabeth Flores-Amaya at EFlores-Amaya@WomensSportsFoundation.org.

Do I have to enter all of the application information at one time?

No. Applicants can save their work at any time, regardless of whether they've filled out all required fields in the application. Use your username and password to access and submit your application before the deadline.

Can I copy and paste text from Microsoft Word?

Yes. Although some formatting is lost, including bullet points, the text remains intact and usable.

Will I be notified of the receipt of my application?

Yes. You will receive an e-mail at the email address provided in your profile confirming the receipt of your application.

How do I find out the status of my application?

[Log on](#) to our grant-management system, Foundant GLM and check the status of your application.

Who do I contact if I need technical assistance or have further questions?

If you have any questions, please feel call Anne Peltier at 646.833.0424 or e-mail her at APeltier@WomensSportsFoundation.org.