



## **Athletics Canada High Performance Coach Apprenticeship Program**

### **Program Overview**

Athletics Canada is pleased to introduce its High Performance Coach Apprenticeship Program. The High Performance Coach Apprenticeship Program provides the opportunity for aspiring national team coaches to gain experience and to be fully immersed in the daily training environment with top Canadian athletes, Athletics Canada Hub Staff and Integrated Support Teams during designated training camps.

Each Apprenticeship opportunity will be unique, connected to a specific training camp geared towards specific event group(s). Athletics Canada endeavors to offer four to six opportunities each year, with each opportunity open to up to 2 coaches per camp (1 able bodied and one para) based on an open application process, subject to budget and team restrictions. The specific number of Apprenticeship opportunities and costs will be communicated at the same time as application process for each opportunity.

### **Learning Plan**

Once participation in the apprenticeship program has been confirmed, each apprentice coach will be assigned a “lead coach” with whom they will be required to participate in a learning plan meeting. During the learning plan meeting the apprentice will identify their learning objectives in participating in the apprenticeship program and develop a plan for how he/she will meet these objectives over the course of the camp.

### **Camp Goals, Objectives and Debrief:**

- Introductory Zoom meeting with lead coach including presentation of learning objectives
- Virtual participation in camp planning activities and discussions
- Completion of assigned tasks to support the team’s preparation for the camp
- Full immersion and active participation in the training camp as a coach supporting all activities of the camp, as assigned by camp leadership
- Opportunities to explore specific topics with other coaches and IST during evenings and rest days
- Coaches must attend for the full duration of the camp
- Participate virtually in any camp debrief(s) following the conclusion of the camp
- Debrief meeting with lead coach to review key learnings from the camp against learning objectives and discuss application of learnings in daily training environment

**Eligibility:**

Coaches must meet the criteria below to be eligible:

- Be Trained or Certified in an NCCP Athletics Coaching Context
- Be a current Coach member of a Branch of Athletics Canada
- Have completed a criminal record check in the last three years
- Have completed NCCP Safe Sport Training
- [www.thelocker.coach.ca](http://www.thelocker.coach.ca) Active athletics coach, with a minimum of 2 years' experience of Coaching National Level Athletes and 5 years coaching experience OR a recently retired National Team athlete committed to obtaining NCCP certification within 2 years
- Long term objective of coaching Senior National Team Athletes;
- Have not participated in the Athletics Canada High Performance Coach Apprenticeship Program within the past two years;
- Be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and willing to follow all COVID-related protocols travel to and at the camp (which may include testing, mask wearing, etc.)

AC is committed to creating an inclusive and diverse group of high performance coaches. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for apprenticeships without regard to race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, creed, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, family status or disability.

**Coach Selection**

All applications will be reviewed by a selection committee designated as part of the call for applications, who will consider factors such as

- Level of current athletes within the coach's training group; priority will be given to coaches of recognized CAPP athletes
- Fit between learning objectives of the coach and training camp design and overall commitment of coach to on-going professional development;
- The athletics events / event groups most likely to be represented at each camp.
- Perceived gaps in the current pool of national team coaches appropriately to cover all athletics events / event groups / age groups.