



Athletics Canada Becoming Para Ready – Para Athletics Development Grant 2024-2025

Overview

Athletics Canada is committed to supporting the development of Para Athletics across Canada. Using the Athletics Canada Becoming Para Ready resource as a framework, we are inviting Athletics Canada Branches, Disability Sport Organizations and Clubs to apply to the “Becoming Para Ready – Para Athletics Development Grant” (BPR Grant) to increase inclusion and integration of athletes with a disability in Provincial and Territorial programming. The BPR Grant is intended to support applicants in the delivery of new or ongoing programs and services that align with [Athletics Canada’s Strategic Plan](#).

Who Can Apply?

- Provincial/Territorial Branches (Branches). The Branches are the organizations in each province and territory of Canada recognized by their respective provincial and territorial governments as the governing body for the sport of athletics within that area.
- Disability Sport Organizations (DSO). DSOs are organizations in each province and territory of Canada that are recognized by their respective provincial and territorial governments as an organization supporting the development of Para Athletics within their province or territory.
- Athletics & Para Athletics clubs (clubs). Clubs are community-based organizations that deliver coaching and programming in Athletics and/or Para Athletics.
- Organizers of Athletics Canada sanctioned events.

Funding

The 2024-2025 BPR Grant comprises of a total available pool of funding of up to \$15,000. Applicants can apply for grants of \$1,000, \$2,000, \$3,000, and \$5,000.

Funding will be distributed based on the strength of the application and alignment with Athletics Canada’s Strategic Plan and Athletics Canada’s Becoming Para Ready framework.

[Athletics Canada Strategic Plan](#)

[Athletics Canada Becoming Para Ready Resource](#)

*A formal agreement will need to be in place before any funding is distributed. Agreements will include project timeline, key deliverables, and reporting procedures.

Project Eligibility

This grant is designed as a project-based funding opportunity. Applications must meet the following criteria to be considered:

- All projects must be submitted to Athletics Canada via the form linked below by May 31, 2024
- Applications and projects must demonstrate strong collaboration between a Member Branches, one or more Disability Sport Organizations and/or Member Clubs with Para Athletics programs.
- Applications submitted by an organization other than a Prov/Terr Branch must include a letter of endorsement from the respective Branch
- Projects must demonstrate support for the growth of Para Development and Para Athletics knowledge and awareness in one or more of these key areas:
 - Coach Education
 - Officials Education
 - Para Athlete Development (training, equipment, talent identification, etc.)
 - Classification
 - Facilities upgrades
 - Club Development (to accommodate and support Para Athletes)
- Projects must show alignment with Athletics Canada's Becoming Para Ready framework.
- Projects should aim to serve and include all disability/impairment types under the umbrella of Para Athletics (i.e., Vision Impairments, Intellectual Impairment, Physical Impairment) and offer opportunities in both wheelchair/seated and ambulatory events when applicable.
- Projects **should also aim to** include the following when possible:
 - No/limited cost to participants
 - Subsidies to participants to reduce the barriers to attend the event (travel cost for new athletes, coaches and/or officials)
 - Athlete and participant identification, engagement, development, and an opportunity to try a variety of events.
 - Coach education and mentorship in Athletics and Para Athletics and inclusive coaching (training sessions on Para Athletics and other inclusion modules) for coaches of the club receiving the grant.
 - System alignment, communication, and collaboration
 - Competition opportunity for participants (official training and development)

Eligible Projects (list not exhaustive):

- Try-it and demonstration days
- Coach mentorship and development
- Training camps
- Official mentorship and development
- Staff Training / Professional Development
- Equipment purchases not specific to an individual athlete.
- Classification

Ineligible Expenses:

- Staff Salaries. Honorariums related to the BPR initiatives are acceptable.
- Athlete Assistance Programs / Direct funding to athletes
- High performance programming

Timeline

The application deadline for 2024-2025 BPR Grant is May 31, 2024

All project activities must be completed by March 31, 2025. (Exceptions may be requested for projects which will be completed prior to June 30, 2025.)

Applicants are encouraged to leverage the 2024 Paralympic Games to raise awareness for Para Athletics in their community. Consider promoting during the Games, hosting watch parties, inviting alumni to support your initiative.

Application

[Application form](#)

Athletics Canada aims to create a barrier-free application process and work with all applicants in planning and delivering a Becoming Para Ready initiative. If you require a different format to apply or have any questions regarding your application, please contact:

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