

AOA Grant Policy

Revised March 14, 2018 - Replacing Oct 27, 2015

Objectives

To develop a financial granting plan to optimize the development of Alberta orienteers as athletes and leaders in the sport and to raise the profile of the sport.

- **Leadership Grant (previously “Orienteering and Learning Development Grant”):** Encourage AOA members to attend courses, clinics, workshops and conferences (either in Alberta or outside Alberta) that develop officials, coaches, mappers and/or club leaders.
- **High Performance Grant:** Support the elite athletes (AOA members) who are named by Orienteering Canada to the WOC, JWOC, WUOC, World Cup(s) and World Games National Teams and who also belong to HPP. Also support coaches and team leaders of National Teams who are AOA members.
- **Pursuit of Athletic Excellence Grant:** Encourage AOA members to compete in out-of-province and international orienteering training camps and competitions at the Canada Cup level and higher (even if they are not choosing to compete in their age category).

Definition of Eligibility (for all 3 grants)

- Applicant must be an AOA member in good standing for the current membership year.
- Applicant demonstrates (on application form) evidence of active volunteering (such as coaching, organizing or helping at events, writing article for newsletter, presenting at AOA retreat, writing for HPP blog, etc.) during the last 12 months prior to the date of their grant application.

Important General Information about all 3 Grants

1. Grant application deadline is Dec 1 every year.
2. Grant amounts: The AOA will be responsible for determining budget amounts available for all 3 grants every year. Funds available for grants are dependent on available funds in any given funding year. Funds distributed through the AOA shall not exceed the budget amounts. Therefore, pro-rating may be required, in which case applicants would not receive the full amount of their eligible funding. Applicants need to understand that AOA cannot guarantee the maximum grant amount, if we decide to prorate when budget total is exceeded.
3. AOA Board reserves the right to accept or reject applications for any of the 3 grants.
4. The decision of the AOA Board is final.

Leadership Grant criteria:

For whom: AOA members who attend official courses, coaching courses, mapping clinics, orienteering workshops or conferences etc. Any request for grants pertaining to attendance at workshops and conferences needs to be pre-approved by AOA through the executive director.

Objective: To develop their expertise, with the intent of contributing that expertise to the development of orienteering in Alberta.

Details about applications for this Grant:

- Applicant satisfies the Definition of Eligibility.
- Applicant must be an Alberta resident for the 12 months prior to the date of their grant application.

- The course/clinic/workshop/conference can be either in Alberta or outside Alberta
- Course fees and travel costs will be reimbursed, up to a maximum total of \$250 per person, or pro-rated among applicants should the grant budget maximum be reached.
- Receipts must be provided. Grant is based on actual expenses.
- Applicant cannot apply for this grant if already receiving one from another source (e.g. an orienteering club) for the same course.
- Mileage may be approved if the course is outside the city of residence. Carpooling is encouraged. Mileage rate is set by the AOA.
- Out of province travel costs may be approved.
- Grants will be awarded only after the event has been attended and the applicant's attendance has been confirmed.
- Applicant must apply with the correct form.
- Applicant must respect the deadline. Any application received after the deadline will not be accepted. Information will be emailed to AOA members and will also be posted on AOA's website.

High Performance Grant criteria:

For whom:

1. AOA members who have been named by Orienteering Canada to be on the National team for WOC, JWOC, WUOC, World Cup(s) and World Games and who are also members of Orienteering Canada's High Performance Program (HPP).
2. AOA members who are a coach or a team leader for a National Team.

Objective: To provide assistance with expenses which are directly related to the championship(s) for which they have been selected, to recognize their efforts as elite athletes or a National Team coach or leader, and to increase their profile in Alberta.

Details about applications for this Grant:

- Applicant satisfies the Definition of Eligibility.
- Applicant may currently live outside Alberta (e.g. for post-secondary education or elite training reasons)
- Applicant must have declared their Alberta Club as their home club, and must represent that club and AOA during the current competitive year.
- Elite athlete applicant must be a member of Orienteering Canada's HPP.
- Applicant must be named by Orienteering Canada to be on the National team for WOC, JWOC, WUOC, World Cup(s) and/or World Games in the year of the grant, or to be a National Team coach or leader.
- Applicant can submit only one application per year, irrespective of the number of competitions attended in the year.
- Applicant can receive a grant from another source for these competitions.
- Athlete cannot apply for a Pursuit of Athletic Excellence grant for the same event(s).
- Grants will be awarded only after the event(s) have been attended and the athlete's attendance has been confirmed.
- In the event of injury or illness:
 - If injury/illness prevents an athlete from participating in an event while at the event itself, the athlete will be able to apply for the grant.
 - If the injury/illness happens before the event and the athlete cannot attend the event, the athlete will not be able to apply for the grant.
- Applicant must apply with the correct form.
- Applicant must respect the application deadline. Any application received after the deadline will not be accepted. Information will be emailed to AOA members as a reminder, and will also be posted on AOA's website.

- Grant amount: maximum of \$500 per applicant. If the budget total is exceeded, the grant amounts will be prorated.

Pursuit of Athletic Excellence Grant criteria:

For whom:

1. AOA members who travel out of province to participate in a major event(s) e.g. COC, WCOOC, NAOC, WMOC, Non-Alberta Provincial Championship, Canada Cup, and/or international event. Applicants would NOT be required to compete in their age category, to encourage both recreational and competitive members to travel to distant competitions.
2. AOA members who travel out of province to participate in orienteering training camps (e.g. GVOC Sprint Camp).
3. AOA members who travel out of province to officiate (at the 300 level or higher) in Canada Cup (or higher level) events, in any of the following roles, unless their expenses have been covered by the event organizers.

- Course Planner
- Meet Director
- Controller
- Other (enquire with the AOA office)

Objective: To encourage AOA members to compete in competitions (at the Canada Cup level and higher), participate in training camps, and gain experience in key official roles at competitions.

Details about applications for this Grant:

- Applicant satisfies the Definition for Eligibility.
- Applicant must be an Alberta resident for the 12 months prior to the date of their grant application.
- Each member of a family can apply separately.
- Children being shadowed are not eligible for this grant.
- Cannot apply for this grant if another grant has been received for the same event(s) from another source (e.g. orienteering club, SOGO junior program).
- No receipts are required. Event results will be checked online by AOA.
- Grants will be awarded to athletes and/or officials only after the event has been completed and participation and/or contribution has been confirmed.
- In the event of injury or illness:
 - If injury/illness prevents an athlete/official from participating in an event while at the event itself, the athlete/official will be able to apply for the grant.
 - If the injury/illness happens before the event and the athlete/official cannot attend the event, the athlete will not be able to apply for the grant. The official may still apply for planning contributions for the event.
- Applicant must apply with the correct form and include the list of the event(s) he/she has competed in.
- Applicant must respect the application deadline. Any application received after the deadline will not be accepted. Information will be emailed to AOA members as a reminder, and will also be posted on AOA's website.
- Maximum amounts for this Grant:
 - \$100 for western Canada: BC, Saskatchewan, Manitoba & Yukon
 - \$200 for the rest of Canada
 - \$300 for International events, including the United States
- Grant amount: The AOA will reimburse up to a total of \$300 per person, or the amount will be prorated among the applicants should the budget maximum be reached.

All grant applications must be sent by December 1st of each year to:

- info@orienteeringalberta.ca OR
- **by mail to:**
Alberta Orienteering Association
Box 1576
Cochrane, AB T4C 1B5