

Sports Bursary Scheme Criteria & Application Form

CRITERIA

Purpose:

To facilitate the further development of aspiring athletes who reside in the Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council area and have the ability and potential to bring credit to the borough with success at Provincial level or higher. The sports bursaries are for athletes who have the potential to compete and achieve success at a very high level within their sport.

Criteria:

Those athletes of proven ability whose ranking is judged against, Irish, British, European and World standards and indicates significant potential to compete with credit at international level or with distinction in British and Irish Championships.

Budget:

The Sports Forum will allocate a budget for each level of award i.e. Development, Top Up and Ambassador. It should be noted that not all individuals who meet the criteria will necessarily receive awards due to the limited finance available for distribution. The Sports Forum will only consider awarding bursaries when funds are available to do so.

Eligibility:

1. Applicants must reside within the Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council area.
2. Applicants must be affiliated to the Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Sports Forum as an individual or through their club.
3. Applicants must be involved in an amateur capacity and be affiliated, either individually or by club, to the Sport Northern Ireland, Sport Ireland or UK Sport recognised Governing Body.
4. Applicants must be aged 12 and over at the closing date of application.
5. Applications received after the closing date or not fully completed will not be considered.
6. Applicants who receive investment from an Athlete Award Programme will not be eligible for funding at the Development level.
7. For individuals who are involved in team sports, applications must be made on an individual basis and supporting documentation from the Governing Body must be made on the individual needs and potential of this person.
8. Recipients must report the result of their targeted event to the Sports Forum by email/letter.
9. Recipients who do not submit a report to the Sports Forum on their achievements (through email/letter) will not be considered for a future award.

Awards:

Development Awards:

Applications for Development Awards will be considered from the following:

1. Athletes who are a member of a provincial/national squad and/or have a high ranking in Ulster/NI/Ireland and are trying to reach the next level by committing to a programme of training/competition outside their normal practice and normally outside Northern Ireland (Please attach a copy of the programme).
2. Athletes who have an improving competitive record (please attach a copy of previous results).
3. The potential to achieve podium finishes in your chosen sport and the potential to represent Northern Ireland/Ireland/Great Britain at international events.

Top Up Awards

Applications for Top Up Awards will be considered from the following:

1. NI/Ulster/Ireland and GB ranked athletes (age-band up to senior) who are in receipt of funding from Governing Bodies such as Sport NI/Sport Ireland and UK Sport.

Ambassador Awards:

Ambassador Awards will be selected using the following criteria:

1. Athletes who can be regarded as outstanding examples of Northern Ireland Sportsmen or Sportswomen.
2. The awards recognise that top competitors face heavy financial demands as they strive for sporting excellence and therefore athletes should be of a high international standard in their chosen sport.
3. Applications may be considered from individuals who have competed at Senior Olympic, Paralympic, World, European or Commonwealth level.
4. Ambassador awards are selected at the discretion of the Sports Forum and the recipient should be a sporting role model providing inspiration to the next generation of athletes.
5. Recipients are required to attend council functions as special guests to discuss how the Sports Bursary they received has benefited their sporting career.

Procedure:

1. Applications should be submitted on the approved application form and must be completed in full, legible, preferably typed or printed in black ink.
2. Applications must be signed by the individual, or if under 18 the parent/guardian.
3. Applications must be accompanied by Governing Body reports, recommendations and ranking lists.
4. The Governing Body must submit written comment in support of applications. These comments should be designed to inform the Sports Forum of the applicant's ability, potential, need and commitment in relation to the criteria.
5. The Governing Body representative must also sign the completed application.
6. All decisions are made at the sole discretion of the Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Sports Forum.

APPLICATION FORM

1. What level of bursary are you applying for:

Development

Top Up

Ambassador

2. Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ Postcode: _____

Tel. No. (H): _____ Tel. No. (M): _____

Email: _____

* If the Athlete is under 18 please provide contact details of parent/guardian.

3. Name of Club/School: _____

4. Sport Represented: _____

5. Governing Body: _____

6. Governing Body Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ Postcode: _____

Tel. No. (W): _____ Tel. No. (M): _____

Email: _____

7. Please attach details of your target competition that you have been or are aiming to be selected for by your Governing Body. Please include details such as, competition name, level, date, and venue. A letter of support from your Governing Body should also be attached which must include details about your commitment, potential in achieving selection for the competition and for future representation at higher levels within your chosen sport.
8. Have you applied for, or are you in receipt of funding from other sources, such as Sport NI, Sport Ireland, UK Sport, your Sport's Governing Body, or similar in respect of the application being applied for?

Yes No

If yes, please give details below:

Organisation	Details	£

9. Please attach approximate annual costings for competing in your sport i.e. memberships, entry fees, equipment, kit, player contributions, transport, mileage and other.
10. Please attach a Personal Statement on why you feel you should be awarded a Sports Bursary and how it could benefit your sporting career (max 500 words)

Declaration

I have read and understood the Sports Bursary Criteria and certify that the information submitted is accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signed: _____ (Applicant) Date: _____

Signed: _____ (Governing Body Representative) Date: _____

At Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Sports Forum we are committed to protecting your privacy. The General Data Protection Regulation gives you more control over how your personal information is used.

If you require any further information, our privacy notice is available on the Get Active ABC website or by request.

Checklist

Please return this application ensuring that you have ticked **ALL** of the boxes below. Please note that applications without all requested documentation will **NOT** be assessed.

1. Application completed in full
2. Application signed by Individual
3. Application signed by Governing Body
4. Letter of support from your Governing Body

****(This should include details about your commitment, potential in achieving selection for your identified target competition and for future representation at higher levels within your chosen sport.)****

5. A 6 month in-season training programme (***provided to you from your Governing Body***)
6. Competition record over 24 months
7. Ranking list to include number of competitors
8. Annual Costings
9. Personal statement (500 words max)
10. Previous Sports Bursary recipients, identified target competition report

(Recipients who received a Sports Bursary last year and have yet to submit their report on their achievements at their identified target competitions will not be eligible for a Sports Bursary this year.)

****IT WOULD BE ADVISABLE FOR APPLICANTS TO SHOW THIS APPLICATION FORM TO THEIR GOVERNING BODY REPRESENTATIVE TO ENSURE THAT THEIR LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THIS BURSARY INCLUDES ALL THE NECESSARY DETAILS.****

Completed applications should be returned to:
Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Sports Forum
C/o Sports Administrator
Lough Neagh Discovery Centre
Oxford Island
Lurgan
Co. Armagh
BT66 6NJ

Applications will close on Friday 15th November 2019 at 5pm

PLEASE NOTE THAT INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ASSESSED