

Rally Together Fund

To boost sport participation and volunteerism

Sport Participation Grant

*Deadline: Applications will be accepted until 11:59 p.m. PT on **November 4, 2022***

BACKGROUND

The vast majority of British Columbians believe that sport contributes to healthy communities and individuals. Over the last years, it was clear that sport connects us and helps us thrive. So that more British Columbians can benefit from the positive power of sport, the Province of B.C. is investing \$4 million to re-ignite participation and volunteerism in the amateur sport sector.

Rally Together (comprised of the Sport Participation and Sport Volunteer Grants) was developed to provide one-time recovery funding for amateur sport organizations that have seen a decrease in membership and volunteerism due to COVID-19. This fund will help B.C.'s amateur sport system continue to provide opportunities for sport development and recovery as well as the significant community and economic benefits. The *Rally Together Fund* has a total funding envelope of \$4M and is supported by the Province of B.C. and administered through viaSport British Columbia.

SPORT PARTICIPATION GRANT OVERVIEW

Funding is available to B.C.-based, non-profit provincial sport organizations, disability sport organizations, and local sport organizations that have experienced a significant loss in participation due to COVID-19. The purpose of the grant is to provide one-time funding that is intended to support the development of programs focused on rebuilding sport participation and membership in an amateur sport organization. Membership in an amateur sport requires participants to register for a sport program.

The grant has a total funding envelope of approximately \$2M. Provincial sport organizations are eligible for funding ranging between \$15,000 - \$35,000 if applying as an individual organization, or \$35,000 - \$160,000 if applying in partnership with other organizations.

Local sport organizations are eligible for funding ranging between \$5,000-\$15,000 if applying as an individual organization, or between \$15,000 - \$80,000 if applying in partnership with other organizations.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Applications for eligible activities may be submitted by viaSport [accredited, recognized, or affiliated](#) provincial or disability sport organizations. Non-profit, local sport organizations that are members of eligible provincial or disability sport organizations may also apply. All eligible organizations will need to show a 20% loss in their membership due to the impacts of COVID-19.

Provincial and disability sport organizations that don't meet the membership loss threshold will be able to apply for special consideration if they can express how their organization meets the intent of the grant (i.e. there was a decline in sport participation in their sport but it is not reflected in the annually reported membership data and can be explained).

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

Applicants must demonstrate how their program will support the growth of their membership. Programs running between December 1, 2022 and January 15, 2024 are eligible for funding.

Possible use of funds for projects may include, but are not limited to:

- Coach training or honoraria/ fees to deliver programs
- Marketing and communication materials design and distribution
- Program design expertise
- General operating expenses (staff salaries, office rent) – up to 10%
- Celebration and community engagement activities
- Facility or equipment costs
- Travel costs

Funding requests for the following types of activities are NOT eligible:

- Programs that provide services solely to an organization's existing membership
- Tournament, competition, and athlete travel fees
- Capital expenditures (renovation, construction, computer equipment)
- Deficits incurred from past activities
- Re-granting programs
- Political or religious activities

PARTNERSHIP STREAM

Two to four organizations are able to submit an application together. All organizations named in the application must meet the basic eligibility (i.e. accredited, recognized, or affiliated with viaSport or a member of an organizations that is designated as one of the three listed here). Other important information about the partnership stream includes:

- The type of partnerships that can be formed are:

- Provincial/disability sport organization with other provincial/disability sport organizations
 - Local sport organizations with other local sport organizations
- Provincial organizations cannot partner with their members.
- The funding range for the partnership stream is as follows:
 - Two to four provincial organizations partnering have a funding range of \$35,000 to \$160,000
 - Two to four local organizations partnering have a funding range of \$15,000 to \$80,000
- Organizations cannot apply for the partnership stream, or be named as a partner, while also submitting an application for the Sport Membership Grant on their own.
- In this context, 'partnership' is a collaboration with other organizations. There is no legal requirement in this grant for organizations to become legal partners.

REVIEW PROCESS

Grant funding is allocated through a competitive application-based process. Organizations should be able to demonstrate how they plan to implement an initiative that supports membership growth.

Eligible applications are evaluated by a review panel consisting of sport sector experts. The panel members are chosen to ensure diverse representation. The panel bases its recommendations on the eligibility and assessment criteria described above. Funding levels are recommended by the review panel as well, and based on:

- Merit of application (those applicants ranked highest will receive higher levels of funding)
- Scope of programming (subject to availability of funding, recipients may be asked to reduce or broaden program outreach).
- Equitable geographic distribution and/or amongst population groups (if applicable)

It is anticipated that more applications will be received than can be funded, and therefore only eligible applications will be reviewed. Applicants may be contacted to provide further information regarding their proposal before final funding selections are confirmed. Once the panel finalizes the funding recommendations and provides them to viaSport, viaSport presents the recommendations to the provincial government for final approval.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed according to the following criteria, with the relative importance of each area indicated by percentage.

1. Strategy to increase sport membership (40% of assessment)

- Applicants must be able to explain the ways in which the proposed programming will lead to an increase in their organizations' membership.
- Priority will be given to applicants that can explain how the program will be developed and implemented.

2. Impact (30% of assessment)

- Applicants will be assessed on the projected impact that such a program will have on their intended community.
- Applicants should be able to articulate barriers to participation that resulted in membership loss (i.e. affordability, awareness, cultural, physical, access, language, etc.) and how the proposed program is addressing identified issues.
- Priority will be given to applicants that can clearly articulate how they will measure impact.

3. Quality sport (15% of assessment)

- Applicants must demonstrate that sport activities align to the principles of quality sport. Activities should be led by a qualified coach, delivered in a safe and ethical manner, as well as be inclusive and developmentally appropriate for the age group.

4. Sustainability and capacity building (15% of assessment)

- This funding is intended to be a catalyst for continued growth. A plan for sustainability beyond grant funding should be clearly outlined in the proposal, including:
 - Approximate financial value of organizational and/or other resources committed to project in addition to grant funding.
 - Connection to your organization's long-term strategies to grow sport participation.
 - Capacity-building within your organization to ensure that programs/participation is sustained over the long-term.

CONDITIONS AND LIMITATIONS

- Support from the Province of British Columbia and viaSport must be appropriately acknowledged on all materials related to the funded project. Formats and guidelines for logo use and acknowledgement of funding will be provided to successful applicants.
- Only one application per organization will be accepted.
- All program activities must be completed and funding expended before January 15, 2024. Final reports are due one month after program completion and no later than February 15, 2024.

- Recipients must adhere to reporting requirements as set out in their grant agreement and submit a final activity and financial report using the reporting templates provided by viaSport.
- Successful applicants may be asked to participate in interviews on their experience receiving this funding, to provide letters demonstrating project impact from program participants, or agree to participate in follow-up communications at the discretion of the viaSport grants team.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications for funding will only be accepted ONLINE. Please complete the online application form at the following link: https://viasportgrants.smapply.io/prog/team_up/

Applications must be received by **11:59 p.m. PT on November 4th, 2022**

If you wish to discuss your proposal and its eligibility prior to submitting an application, please contact us at grants@viasport.ca