

HOSTING BC PROGRAM GUIDELINES

*Deadline: Applications will be accepted until **5:00 pm PST on January 31st, 2026.***

Events taking place between March 1st, 2026 and June 30th 2027 are eligible to apply.

OBJECTIVE:

The Hosting BC program was originally launched leading up to the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games in an effort to strengthen sport, economic, and community development across BC. With this program The Province of BC through the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport invests to help communities, organizations, and volunteers enhance their event hosting capacity, generate economic and tourism impact, and support sport excellence and athlete development pathways.

Since 2004, \$8.7 million has been invested in 1738 sporting events in 100+ unique communities across BC developing a legacy of sport hosting expertise.

WHO CAN APPLY:

Applications can only be submitted by registered not-for-profit societies that are:

- A viaSport Designated Sport Organization (i.e., accredited, recognized, or affiliated)
- Local Sport Organizations (LSOs) that are affiliated and in good standing of a viaSport Designated Sport Organization
- BC municipality, regional district, other local government body, First Nations community associations
- National Sport Organization (NSO), Federally or Provincially Registered Society associated with an NSO or PSO

Only those sports that are designated under **viaSport's Designation Sport Program** in BC are eligible to be considered for Hosting BC funding. See [Appendix 1](#) for eligible sports. (Note: Applicants from Combative Sports must seek PSO approval or, where applicable, BC Athletic Commissioner sanction prior to submission of their application)

Sports not listed in [Appendix 1](#) (i.e., do not currently fall under viaSport's Designation Sport Program) may apply for Hosting BC funding in the Invitational Events category only. It must be demonstrated that the sport is an emerging sport and that the event will lead to further development of the sport within BC (i.e. the sport is making steps to align with an existing PSO and/or establishing a new PSO).

For more information on **viaSport's Designation Sport Program** please visit:

<https://viasport.ca/accredited-recognized-affiliated-sports-in-bc/>

It is anticipated that more applications will be received than can be funded, and therefore only eligible applications will be reviewed

REVIEW CRITERIA AND SELECTION PROCESS:

Grant funding is allocated through a competitive application-based process. Eligible applications are evaluated by a review panel consisting of sport sector experts. The panel members are chosen to ensure balanced representation. The panel bases their recommendations and funding levels on the eligibility and assessment criteria described in these guidelines with guidance from viaSport, but reserves the right to recommend an application that falls outside of these guidelines if the project description demonstrates it supports the overall objective of the program. Priority may be as follows: International, National, Western Canadian Championships, Provincial and University National Championships, Regional Events, Invitational Events that clearly fulfill a hosting void in the community and events that fit within the Train to Train, Train to Compete, and Train to Win stages of the [LTD framework](#). See [Appendix 3](#) for stage descriptors.

OVERARCHING ASSESSMENT:

- Merit of application
- Scope of programming
- Availability of funding
- Equitable geographic or demographic distribution

GRANT SPECIFIC ASSESSMENTS:

Applications will be assessed according to the following criteria:

1. The event has a defined connection with the sport system (PSO sanctioned and LTD identified) and provides a valuable competitive opportunity within the high-performance development pathway for athletes, coaches and officials.
2. The event provides a strong contribution to increasing the capacity of the provincial sport system and develops skills and experience of volunteers, technical officials, and event organizers.
3. The event has the potential to generate measurable economic impacts, tourism benefits, and legacies while providing a valuable sport development opportunity for athletes, coaches and officials.
4. There is significant community support demonstrated for the event and potential for audience reach.
5. The geographic location of the event is considered to ensure funds are distributed across B.C.
6. The event has plans to follow all public health orders and guidance and implement appropriate health and safety measures.

POSSIBLE USE OF FUNDS:

An application is eligible for Hosting BC funding if the grant will only be used for event operating costs. Additionally, the event must:

- take place in British Columbia;
- be sanctioned by an appropriate, recognized organization (PSO, NSO, International Federation (IF), etc.);
- be identified as part of the PSO's and/or NSO's Canadian Sport for Life implementation plan (see [Appendix 3](#))

Funding requests for the following are NOT eligible:

- Events that are unconfirmed or still in the bidding process
- Sport festivals or participation focused events
- BC Elementary, Middle, and High School Championship events
- Hosting multi-sport events (i.e. multi-sport Games)
- Sport development/training camps
- Provincial, national, or international conferences, congresses, symposiums, Annual General Meetings, etc.
- Capital expenditures, gifting, and prize money

BUDGET:

The grant has a total funding envelope of approximately \$500,000 split among three intakes. Eligible applicants are invited to apply for funding between \$1,000 and \$35,000 depending on the event's category. **Please see [Appendix 2](#) for a detailed funding breakdown and maximum funding amounts by event type before applying.** The latest intake granted funds ranging from \$1,000 - \$12,500.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

All applicants must become familiar with the following:

- A maximum of two grants per sport discipline may be awarded in any one intake. If multiple applications are submitted for any one sport, the sport governing body (PSO and/or NSO) will be consulted to advise on which events are a priority in the sport's developmental pathway.
- Grants for annual recurring events in the same location each year may be considered for funding up to a maximum of three consecutive fiscal years (on a decreasing scale).
 - Applications must be submitted for each applicable intake period. Applicants must be able to demonstrate how Hosting BC funding will contribute to building hosting capacity and event sustainability.
- The applicant ensures all of the information contained in the application is true and complete.

- Applicants may be asked to provide additional supporting information at the discretion of viaSport staff or review panel.
- Successful candidates may be required to submit a post-grant report or survey. This may or may not include: how the funding was used, including receipts and invoices, grant cycle feedback.
- 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.
- The Province of BC and viaSport are able to publish the applicant/organization's name.
- Successful candidates may be required to properly acknowledge viaSport and government support, more information available here: <https://viasport.ca/press-kit/>
- Under normal circumstances, approved awards will only be paid via direct deposit (EFT) after the grant letter is signed by the intended recipient.
- In the case of an event cancellation or rescheduling outside eligible dates, repayment of the grant funds will be required. Any project funds not spent on eligible project expenses must be returned

HOW TO APPLY:

Applications for funding will only be accepted online. Please find your desired grant and fully submit an application form via the following link:

<https://viasportgrants.smapply.io/>

If you have applied for any grants through our online portal before, please use your existing account. If this is the first time you've applied, you are required to create an account. The platform allows you to save your application in progress and return to it at a future time. Remember to review your application prior to submission as you will not be able to modify your application after it has been submitted. Upon submission, please look for the notification email confirming your submission and save it. viaSport is not responsible for reviewing any unsubmitted applications.

Applications must be received by **5:00 pm PST on January 31, 2026.**

CONTACT AND OTHER GRANTS:

If you wish to discuss your proposal and its eligibility prior to applying, please contact:

Grants at viaSport BC: grants@viasport.ca

If you wish to learn more about how we are transforming and scaling the impact of sport in our province, upcoming grant opportunities, and the latest sport and physical activity news in BC:

- Sign up for our [monthly newsletter](#)
- Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#), and [LinkedIn](#)
- Visit viaSport.ca

APPENDIX 1: HOSTING BC PROGRAM – ELIGIBLE SPORTS

Provincial Sport Organization	Sport(s) eligible to be considered for funding
Badminton BC	Badminton
Basketball BC	Basketball
BC Alpine Ski	Alpine Skiing and Ski Cross
BC Amateur Baseball	Baseball
BC Amateur Softball	Softball
BC Archery	Archery
BC Artistic Swimming	Artistic Swimming
BC Athletics	Cross Country, Road Racing, Track & Field, Race Walking, Trail, Ultra and Mountain Running
BC Cheerleading Association	Cheerleading
BC Fencing	Fencing
BC Freestyle Ski	Freestyle Skiing
BC Gymnastics	Gymnastics and Trampoline/Tumbling
BC Hockey	Hockey
BC Lacrosse	Lacrosse Box and Field
BC Luge	Luge
BC Netball	Netball
BC Provincial Football	Football
BC Rhythmic Gymnastics	Rhythmic Gymnastics
BC Ringette	Ringette
BC Rugby Union	Fifteens and Sevens
BC Sailing	Sailing
BC Ski Jumping & Nordic Combined	Ski Jumping and Nordic Combined
BC Snowboard	Snowboard
BC Soccer	Soccer
BC Speed Skating	Long Track and Short Track
BC Target Sports	Shooting – Pistol and Rifle
BC Ultimate	Ultimate
Biathlon BC	Biathlon
Bobsleigh/Skeleton BC	Bobsleigh and Skeleton
Bowling Proprietors of BC	5 and 10 Pin Bowling
Bowls BC	Lawn Bowling
Canoe Kayak BC	Dragonboat, Marathon, Sprint, Surfski and Whitewater
Cross Country BC	Cross Country Skiing, Adaptive/Para Nordic Skiing
Curl BC	Curling and Wheelchair Curling
Cycling BC	BMX, Cross Country, Road Race, and Track
Dive BC	Diving

Field Hockey BC	Field Hockey
Golf BC	Golf
Horse Council of BC	Equestrian Dressage, Eventing, and Jumping
Judo BC	Judo
Karate BC	Karate
Orienteering BC	Orienteering
Pickleball BC	Pickleball
Racquetball BC	Racquetball
Rowing BC	Rowing and Adaptive Rowing
Skate Canada BC/YK Section	Figure Skating and Synchronized Skating
Sport Climbing BC	Sport Climbing
Squash BC	Squash
Swim BC	Swimming
Tennis BC	Tennis
Triathlon BC	Olympic, Sprint and Super Sprint Distances
Volleyball BC	Beach and Indoor
Water Ski & Wakeboard BC	Water Skiing and Wakeboarding
Waterpolo West	Waterpolo
BC Athletic Commissioner OR Taekwondo BC, Karate BC, Judo BC, Muaythai BC, Wrestling BC, Boxing BC	Taekwondo, Karate, Judo, Muaythai, Wrestling, and Boxing

Disability Sports

Provincial Sport Organization	Sport(s) eligible to be considered for funding
BC Blind Sports	Athletics, Goalball, Judo, Power Lifting, Soccer, Swimming, and Tandem Cycling
BC Deaf Sports	Badminton, Basketball, Bowling, Curling, Golf, Ice Hockey, Skiing, Swimming and Volleyball
BC Adaptive Snowsports	Alpine Ski and Snowboard
Special Olympics BC	Alpine Skiing, Athletics, Basketball, Bowling, Cross Country Skiing, Curling, Figure Skating, Floor Hockey, Golf, Powerlifting, Rhythmic Gymnastics, Snowshoeing, Soccer, Softball, Speed Skating, and Swimming
SportAbility BC	Boccia, Cycling, Power Soccer, Sitting Volleyball, Sledge Hockey, and Soccer
BC Wheelchair Basketball	Basketball
BC Wheelchair Sports	Athletics, Rugby, and Tennis

NOTE: Sports that currently do not fall under the jurisdiction of a PSO may apply for funding in the Invitational Events category only. It must be demonstrated that the sport is an emerging sport and that hosting the event will lead to further development of the sport within British Columbia (i.e. the sport is making steps towards aligning with an existing PSO and/or establishing a new PSO).

APPENDIX 2: MAXIMUM FUNDING AMOUNTS

International Event - World Cups and World Championships	Up to \$35,000*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Event must be sanctioned by IF and involve competition between athletes selected by the sport's recognized NSO. 	
Other International Events (including Nor Am)	Up to \$20,000*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Event must be sanctioned by relevant IF and/or NSO Must involve competition between athletes selected by recognized NSOs 	
National Championships	Up to \$15,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Event sanctioned by NSO and national champion declared Minimum of 6 provinces/territories represented Athletes selected by recognized P/TSO 	
College and University National Championships	Up to \$10,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sanctioned by CIS or CCAA 	
Western Canadian	Up to \$10,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sanctioned by NSO and/or PSO Minimum of 4 Provinces/Territories represented Club or Provincial/Territorial team 	
Provincial Championships	Up to \$10,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sanctioned by PSO Minimum of 6 regions in B.C. participating 	
Regional Championship	Up to \$10,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sanctioned by PSO and leads to a provincial championship Club or Representative teams 	
Invitational Events	Up to \$10,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sanctioned by PSO Significant participation Ability to contribute to sport, economic, and community development <p>For Invitational events only: Sports that do not currently fall under the jurisdiction of a PSO do not require sanctioning but must demonstrate how the event will develop the sport in B.C. to align with the Provincial Sport System.</p>	

Please note that your application does not guarantee any of the funding levels mentioned above. You can view lists of successful recipients and the amounts they received from previous intakes, by going to <https://viasport.ca/grants/hosting-bc/>

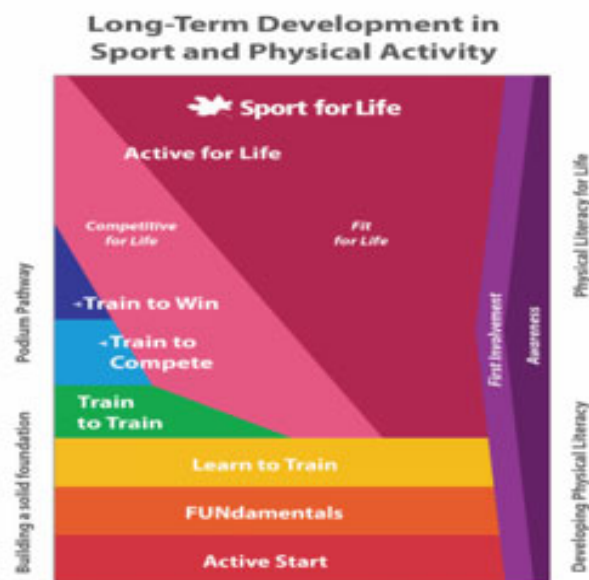
APPENDIX 3: [CANADIAN SPORT FOR LIFE \(LTD\)](#)

Stage Descriptors:

Train to Train: Athletes enter the Train to Train stage when they have developed proficiency in the athlete development performance components (physical, technical-tactical, mental, and emotional). Rapid physical growth, the development of sporting capability, and commitment occurs in this stage. Athletes will generally specialize in one sport towards the end of the stage. A progression from local to provincial competition occurs over the course of the stage.

Train to Compete: Athletes enter the Train to Compete stage when they are proficient in sport-specific Train to Train athlete development components (physical, technical-tactical, mental, and emotional). Athletes are training nearly full-time and competing at the national level while being introduced to international competition.

Train to Win: Athletes in the Train to Win stage are world class competitors who are competing at the highest level of competition in the world (e.g. Olympics, Paralympics, World Championships, World Cups or top professional leagues). These athletes have highly personalized training and competition plans and have an Integrated Support Team of physical therapists, athletic therapists, and sport psychologists providing ongoing support.



APPENDIX 4: APPLICATION QUESTIONS

General Details:

- Organization, Contact Information, Media Contact and Social Media Assets

Event Information:

- Event Name, Event Type, Event Date, has this event been confirmed/secured (Yes/No)

Event Details:

- Is this an annual event? (Yes/No)
- Does the event always occur in the same community? (Yes/No)
- Which of the following stages of the LTSD framework does the event fall within? (Multiple Choice)
- What will be the ages of the athletes attending the event? (Multiple Choice)
- Sanctioning (List any organizations sanctioning the event)

Event and Community Information:

- Communities and Facilities Hosting the Event
- Event Attendance (Estimated Male/Female Athletes, Coaches, Officials and Volunteers)
- Estimated % of Total Participants (Athlete, Coaches, Officials) that are from out of town and staying overnight
- Estimated number of nights each out of town Participant (Athlete, Coach, Official) will stay in the community
- Competitors (Prompts according to event category)
 - Number and list of countries/provinces/regions competing in event
 - Describe who is competing in the event
- Event Description
 - Provide a brief description of the event (150 words max.)
 - Describe how this event will provide economic impacts and tourism benefits (150 words max.)
 - Describe how this event will support the high-performance development pathway for B.C.'s athletes based on the Long-Term Sport Development framework (150 words max.)
 - Describe the capacity and event experience of the event organizers which gives the organization the technical ability to produce a high-quality event (150 words max.)
 - Describe how this event will help further develop coaches, officials and volunteers in your community (150 words max.)
 - How does your event activity promote diversity, equity, inclusion and/or advance reconciliation with Indigenous partners? (150 words max.)
 - Describe the community legacies you expect to generate by hosting this event (150 words max.)
- Event Budget Information
 - Upload Event Budget (Required Template provided)
 - Total Hosting BC Request
- References (This must include a point person from the PSO, NSO and/or IF that is sanctioning your event)