



ALBERTA ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (AADP) POLICY 2025

Key information:

- Athletes must complete [the online application form](#) for AADP funding by the submission deadline (January 28, 2026 at 12:00 PM).
 - *Electronic submissions only: any other submissions will not be considered.*
- Athletes must renew their Athletics Alberta membership prior to the submission deadline.
- A performance will only be accepted if the athlete is an Athletics Canada member in good standing at the time the results achieved.
- Performances must be on Athletics Canada rankings to be eligible.
- All athletes registered with an Athletics Alberta Track and Field Club in good standing who apply for AADP funding will be considered.
- Athletics Alberta Clubs receiving funds **must be registered with Alberta's Corporate Registries as a non-profit or not for profit**. *Proof of this may be requested by Athletics Alberta*. If proof is unable to be provided, in accordance with Athletics Alberta's funding sources, Athletics Alberta reserves the right to hold funds until such proof can be obtained. Clubs in the application process can be considered for receiving funds.
- Athletics Alberta will produce a list of recipients by March 31, 2026.
- Athletes receiving Sport Canada Carding (AAP from Athletics Canada) are not eligible to receive AADP funding.
- Athletes must achieve a minimum of "C" standard in their category to be eligible to receive AADP funding.
- Achieving a standard does not guarantee that an athlete will receive funding.

GOAL OF THE PROGRAM

To identify and assist Alberta athletes with their future individual training and competition expenses by awarding funding based on individual accomplishments at the Provincial and National levels as well as those performances measured against Athletics Alberta standards.

PHILOSOPHY OF THE PROGRAM

The philosophy of the program is to fund U20 and Open identified athletes in the province. **AADP is a stepping-stone to Sport Canada Carding**. Athletes receiving this funding must compete at the Athletics Alberta Outdoor Provincial Championships and take part in Athletics Alberta programs, such as the Canada Summer Games team.

AADP SCORING CRITERIA

Athletes receive points based on performance, provincial championship placing, national championship placing, for participation on designated Athletics Canada National Teams, and for participation on Provincial Teams such as Canada Summer Games.

AADP STANDARDS

The AADP Standards are based on Canadian performances on a four-year average to reflect the strength of each event in Canada. Column 1 (26+ years "A") is based on the average of 10th place in the Open National Rankings. Column 7 (U20 "C") is based on 12th place in the U20 National Rankings. The standards are subject to adjustment to better represent the level of performance expected.

FUNDING ALLOCATION

- An ad-hoc programs committee will allocate funding utilizing the 3 tiers indicated below. The dollar value of each tier will be confirmed by the committee at the time of evaluation. **The selection committee can consider total points, World Athletics Points Tables, placing at National Championships, and placing at Provincial Championships when ranking athletes. Athlete trajectory may also be considered.**

Tier One

- Points will be totaled, and athletes will be ranked according to these totals. Athletes achieving an Open "A" (Column 1) standard will be considered for tier one funding first, and athletes achieving 'A' Standard in the succeeding categories may be considered to fulfil any remaining cards. The Technical Manager and the Programs ad-hoc committee will determine the number of cards given at each tier based on factors such as the number of applications, the annual funding budget, and the level of athlete performance.

Tier Two

- Points will be totaled, and athletes will be ranked according to these totals. Athletes must achieve a minimum of "C" standard in their category. The Technical Manager and the Programs ad-hoc committee will determine the number of cards given each year based on factors such as the number of applications, the annual funding budget, and the level of athlete performance.

Tier Three

- Points will be totaled, and athletes will be ranked according to these totals. Athletes must have a minimum of a "C" standard in their category. The Technical Manager and the Programs ad-hoc committee will determine the number of cards given each year based on factors such as the number of applications, the annual funding budget, and the level of athlete performance.

Para-Athlete Cards

- Athletes will be ranked based on their performance as a percentage of the 3rd ranked performance on the world top lists in Olympic or World Championship events. Up to 4 para-athlete cards may be supported at the Tier 1 or Tier 2 level. Athletes must minimally be classified at the national level at the time of the performance and selection to AADP.

FUNDING GUIDELINES

- i. All athletes receiving AADP must compete at the Athletics Alberta Outdoor Provincial Championships. Competing in a secondary event can fulfill this requirement (e.g. at 100m runner competing in the 200m, and 800m runner competing in a 400m or 4x400m, etc.)
- ii. For events not contested at the Alberta Outdoor Provincial Championships, results at the National Championships may be considered for points instead. Athletes in these situations must participate in another event at Alberta Outdoor Provincial Championships
- iii. Funding tiers will be selected relative to each athlete's individual context. Proximity to Sport Canada Carding may be considered.
- iv. Athletes must submit their electronic AADP application form to the Athletics Alberta by the submission deadline.
- v. Athletes must be Canadian citizens or have landed immigrant status and be pursuing their citizenship prior to **November 30th** of the funding year, official documentation may be requested. **Athletes who fail to do so risk being removed from the AADP list.**
- vi. Athletes competing internationally for a country other than Canada are deemed ineligible.
- vii. Athletes must be a resident of Alberta by January 1 of the funding year.
- viii. At the time of performance athletes must be a member of an Athletics Alberta Track and Field Club in good standing to be eligible for AADP.
- ix. Athletes must ensure that their results are listed on the Athletics Canada Rankings.
- x. Athletes must remain a member of an Athletics Alberta club in the year in which funds are to be distributed.
- xi. **Athletics Alberta Clubs** must be a registered society within Alberta and have their own AADP policy in place to ensure distribution of funds are in accordance with Athletics Alberta's funding sources. Athletics Alberta reserves the right to hold back funds until such a policy is in place.
- xii. Athletes must reside in the Province of Alberta to be eligible for AADP funding unless they are attending a Canadian post-secondary educational institution or an Athletics Canada Training Centre.
- xiii. Athletes attending non-Canadian educational institutions may receive funding in accordance with their educational institutions' policies and they must compete at the Athletics Alberta Outdoor Provincial Championships.
 - a. Athletes should contact the compliance officer for their school if they need clarification if they are eligible to receive this funding.
- xiv. Up to four Para athletes meeting criteria may be eligible to receive Tier 1 or Tier 2 funding at the discretion of

- the evaluation committee. Eligible athletes must be minimally classified at the national level.
- xv. Able Bodied and Para-athletes who are currently receiving Sport Canada Carding (AAP from Athletics Canada) are not eligible to receive Athletics Alberta Funding.
 - xvi. Able Bodied and Para-athletes returning from carding are eligible to receive Athletics Alberta Funding.

FUNDING PROCESS

- i. Upon receiving applications, the technical manager will verify the eligibility of the athletes, and the information provided, and then create the AADP list. This list will be reviewed with the Director of Programs and an ad-hoc committee.
- ii. AADP funds will be distributed after Athletics Canada confirms its annual list of AAP Carded Athletes.
- iii. AADP funds can be used to offset any of the following expenses incurred between January 1st and December 31st of the funded year:
 - a. Travel to and from training camps and competitions
 - b. Accommodations
 - c. Meals (not exceeding \$60/day)
 - d. Expendable training materials and equipment (e.g. spikes)
 - e. Training costs (e.g. facility rental)
 - f. Club membership dues
 - g. Personal expenses (e.g. specialized or additional coaching costs)
 - h. Therapy (e.g. Physiotherapy)
 - i. Team fees
- iv. If an athlete does not train or compete and therefore does not expend all the AADP funding, then the club must return the unexpended portion of this funding.
- v. **If an athlete transfers clubs in mid-year**; it is the responsibility of the two clubs to negotiate any transfer of AADP funds. The original club may keep AADP funds to cover costs incurred on behalf of the athlete as per the above guidelines.
- vi. Athletics Alberta must be notified of any AADP funds to be transferred and accordingly a completed release/transfer form must be sent to the Athletics Alberta office:
 - a. Release/Transfer form
- vii. Note: funds cannot be paid out until the appeal process at the Sport Canada Carding level (in athletics) has been finalized.

APPLICATION PROCESS

- i. Athletes must achieve a minimum of "C" standard in their category.
- ii. Athletes must complete [the online application form](#) for AADP funding by the submission deadline (January 28, 2026 at 12:00 PM).
- iii. AADP is based on performances in the past outdoor season. Points will be awarded in 4 categories and must be claimed **as U20 or Open but not both**. Points will be totaled, and athletes will be ranked according to these totals.
- iv. U18 athletes are only eligible for provincial participation points if they compete in the U20 age category at Outdoor Provincial Championships.
- v. Athletes competing outside the province must ensure their official results are submitted to the Athletics Canada to be included within Athletics Canada rankings. The Athletics Canada rankings list as of the calendar year will be used for funding purposes.
- vi. Performances in 100m, 200m, Sprint Hurdles, Long Jump and Triple Jump must include wind information. (Only performances with a legal wind will be accepted for the standard section)
- vii. The athlete's points will be totaled, and all performances verified. Athletes will be ranked accordingly. Only those athletes achieving an Open "A" (Column 1) standard will be considered for tier one funding.
- viii. Performance regression over several years and nearness to Sport Canada Carding may be considered when selecting funded athletes.

SPECIAL SITUATIONS

National Team Commitment

When National Team commitments conflict with Provincial Championships, an athlete may claim up to 8 points upon approval of the Programs Committee. When National Team commitments conflict with National Championships, an athlete may claim up to 16 points upon the approval of the Programs ad-hoc committee. The Programs ad-hoc committee will use the performance from the conflicting meet compared to the missed Championships to help determine points awarded.

Age Group Eligibility

U18 Athletes that meet AADP criteria are allowed to apply, but the committee reserves the right to reject any application due to age restrictions of the program. Eligibility may be considered under special circumstances at the time of as determined by the selection committee.

Injury Card

At the committee's discretion Athletes may be considered if:

- The injury was sustained January 1st – April 1st of the funded outdoor season.
- Athletes must present valid medical documentation of the injury/ prognosis, and rehabilitation plan from a valid medical professional.
- Athletes will not receive a higher level of funding than in the previous funded year.
- Athletes will not receive more than one year of funding on an injury card.

Approximate Funding Amounts and Breakdown:

Tier 1: ~ \$2600.00 (10)

Tier 2: ~ \$1500.00 (10)

Tier 3: ~ \$900.00 (10)

****Exact funding amounts and breakdown will be determined at the time of selection.***

AADP SCORING CRITERIA

Event

Athletes must select and indicate on the application the one event they wish to be considered for funding in the following categories.

Standards Points

Performance standards must be achieved in events on the Athletics Alberta Outdoor Fixtures list or be sanctioned by the appropriate athletics governing body. Age groupings are as of December 31st of the year of competition.

“A” = 20 points

“B” = 15 points

“C” = 10 points

Provincial Participation Points

The Programs ad-hoc committee will designate Provincial Championships on Athletics Alberta's Fixtures list. If an event is not contested at Provincials the athlete will be given an opportunity to earn AADP Provincial points through their performance at the Athletics Canada Outdoor U20 and Senior National Championship.

1st = 8 points

2nd = 6 points

3rd = 4 points

4th = 3 points

5th = 2 points

6th = 1 point

National Participation Points

1st = 16 points

2nd = 14 points

3rd = 12 points

4th = 10 points

5th = 8 points

6th = 6 points

7th = 4 points

8th = 3 points

National Team/Games Points

National Team points will be awarded as follows:

Tier 1

Olympic Summer Games	30 Points
World Athletics Championships	30 Points

Tier 2

Pan American Games	25 Points
Commonwealth Games	25 Points
NACAC Senior	25 Points

Tier 3

Summer Universiade Games (FISU)	20 Points
Junior Pan American Games	20 Points
World Athletics U20 Championships	20 Points
World Athletics Relay Championships	20 Points

Tier 4

Francophone Games	15 Points
Pan Am U20 Championships	15 Points
World Athletics Cross Country Championships (U20 and Open)	15 Points
FISU Cross Country Championships	15 Points
Canada Summer Games	15 Points

Tier 5

NACAC U18 and U23	10 Points
WPA World Championships	10 Points
World Cup Race Walk	10 Points
Other Athletics Canada designated National Teams	10 Points