



Application Guidelines for Regional Athlete Travel Subsidy Scheme

What is the Athlete Travel Subsidy?

The Regional Athlete Travel Subsidy Scheme (ATSS) provides a funding subsidy to assist talented athletes who reside in regional Western Australian with out-of-pocket travel and accommodation costs to compete at regional, state and national championships or events.

The intent of ATSS is to support regional athletes that have progressed into the Talent Development/High Performance pathway of their chosen sport. Athletes must have undergone a selection process* endorsed by their respective Regional (RSA)/State (SSA)/National Sporting Association (NSO) to participate at an event/competition within their pathway* that is essential to be considered for selection to a higher-level team/event.

* refer *Assessment Criteria section on page 2 for detailed definitions of selection and pathway.*

The ATSS is part of the State Government's *Regional Athlete Support Program*, administered by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC), supported by the Royalties for Regions Program.

Athlete Eligibility

Applications can be submitted by individual athletes who must:

- Permanently reside in regional (country) Western Australia (as per regional boundaries designated by the department),
- Be selected and competing in one of the three performance categories,
- Be attending a recognised event that is part of their sport's State or National pathway,
- Be an Australian citizen or permanent resident,
- Be aged 13* – 21 years at the commencement date of the event they are participating in,
- Be a current registered member of a club or association that is affiliated with a SSA that is deemed eligible by the department (refer Appendix 2 for eligible SSAs).
- Be validated and endorsed by their SSA[#]

Note*: 13 and Underage group events/competitions are not eligible for support, even if an athlete has turned 13 years of age prior to the event/competition start date.

Note[#]: athletes who are not endorsed by their SSA for reasons not related to performance criteria (e.g., outstanding debts to the SSA, breaches of codes of conduct, etc) will either be deemed ineligible for subsidy support or will have their subsidy payment withheld until the SSA advises that the issue has been resolved.

Note: regional athletes who attend school or university and are boarding in metropolitan Perth are classed as regional athletes **but are ineligible to apply for Performance Category levels 4 and 5 or receive Regional Athlete Support Scheme funding for other performance categories**. Refer to the department's website for [clarification on metropolitan and regional boundaries](#).

What will be funded?

A subsidy is provided to offset the athlete's **out-of-pocket travel and accommodation costs only** associated with involvement in one of the Performance Categories.

Funding is allocated against the applicant's out-of-pocket amount and will not exceed the specified maximum funding limits. In cases where the number of applications exceeds the budget, eligible athletes will receive lower funding.

Note: Out-of-pocket expenses refer to travel/accommodation costs less any other financial support e.g., Western Australian Institute of Sport (WAIS), Local Sporting Champions, Local Government grants, etc.

Assessment Criteria

Athletes who meet all points in the section above and are selected* to represent their region or Western Australia in an eligible SSA/NSO sanctioned state or national talent championships/event will be eligible to apply for funding.

* *Selection refers to a process whereby clearly defined performance criteria are applied to select only the highest performing athletes onto a squad/team, within the athlete development pathway** controlled by the recognised SSA/NSO, and no element of chance is applied to that selection process. Where applicable, athletes must achieve advertised entry standards.*

** *The sport's pathway is determined by those events and competitions that complement the progression of the athlete towards National representation with the recognised peak organisation for the sporting activity in Australia. It refers specifically to what is recognised by the SSA and the NSO as the milestone events that it is critical for athletes to participate in, to progress along that pathway.*

Athletes must meet one of the three performance categories in line with Australia Institute of Sport (AIS) Foundations, Talent, Elite and Mastery (FTEM) framework to capture different sporting pathways **during the eligible funding period** (refer to the department's website) to be eligible for a subsidy.

What will not be funded?

A subsidy cannot be used to offset costs associated with the following:

- Meals,
- Team uniforms,
- Sporting equipment,
- Medical/physiotherapy expenses unless the above costs are included within a contribution levy required to be paid by the athlete to an NSO/SSA/RSA,
- Travel to an international event, or a non-selection training camp, as a member of a national team,
- Travel to Country Week not forming part of a SSA formal selection process,
- Travel to school/university/touring team events,
- Travel to events where the athlete has **chosen** to represent WA or a Region in an event they have qualified or nominated for and has **not** been selected by the NSO/SSA/RSA,
- Travel costs incurred by athletes competing in sports not deemed eligible by DLGSC
- Travel costs incurred by athletes competing in State representation teams, talent squads and/or training squads **not** selected/endorsed by the NSO/SSA/RSA,
- Travel costs incurred by athletes competing at events/competitions which do not form part of, or contribute to, the recognised NSO/SSA pathway,
- Expenses for family members attending the event with the athlete.

Performance Categories

Athletes may only apply once for the same sport at the same category level, in the same financial year.

If an athlete has progressed to a higher category in the same financial year, an application can be submitted for consideration.

ATSS CATEGORY	FTEM ALIGNMENT	SUPPORT	
Category 5 Athlete selected through a formal selection process to represent their sport's region, traveling to compete in a state championship/event vying for selection into a state squad or WA country team or equivalent.	Talent <u>T1 Demonstration of Potential</u> Athletes typically exhibit demonstrable gifts or talents in the physical, physiological, psychological and skill domain, which indicate potential in high performance sport. This may occur through formal (TID testing) or informal TID processes including self-identification prompted by an individual's self-awareness of their ability to outperform their peers. In recognition of the complexity and limits of athlete prediction, T1 represents an initial assessment of potential only and ideally should be confirmed in the next FTEM phase, T2.	Foundations <u>F3 Sport Specific Commitment and/or Competition</u> Sport-specific skills are being refined and progressed, and where the young able-bodied athlete or athlete with a disability is committed to regular training and formal or informal competition. This level commonly is the beginning of most club-based sporting pathway experiences.	Regional Athlete Support for eligible athletes
Category 4 Athlete as a member of a WA State squad, WA country team or equivalent, traveling to compete in State squad training/competition commitments, vying for selection into a WA State team.	Talent <u>T2 Talent Verification</u> The confirmation or verification of talent (T2) is seen as sequential and complementary to T1, where evidence-based testing (T1) is supplemented by the subjective judgements of coaches and talent scouts within the training and competition environment. There are no fixed time frames for the T2 process, although months rather than days or weeks are recommended. During the T2 phase, athletes are observed in a trial period of a specific training and competition environment to demonstrate and confirm their 'trainability' (sport-specific skill acquisition), commitment, motivation, 'coachability', and other positive psychological, self-management and relevant traits. This phase is crucial to confirm whether initial impressions of potential can be sustained. Verification of talent by a known benchmark ideally leads to formal support of an athlete within the T3 phase.	Regional Athlete Support for eligible athletes	

Category 3 Athlete as a member of a state team (or equivalent) traveling to represent Western Australia at national championships.	Talent <u>T3 Practising and achieving</u> After being confirmed as <u>potential elite athletes</u> (T2), athletes are now committed to sport specific practice and investment in high training volumes, striving for continual performance improvements. This phase arguably contains the largest cohort of <u>future elite athletes</u> . Central to maximising an athlete's development at this level is the strategy of deliberate programming. In addition to skill practice, deliberate programming encompasses other planned factors such as high-quality strategic planning, access to quality coaching, equipment, and the best possible competitions. Further, technical, financial and sport science and medicine support is advocated to ensure athletes fulfil their potential.	Up to \$500 PLUS Regional Athlete Support for eligible athletes
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Note 1: Athletes competing at national championships as part of a state country or region-specific team e.g., North West or country specific teams will be assessed as Category 4 or 5 as they are representing a specific region and not the entire State.

Note 2: Athletes competing at national championships as part of a club team or as an individual are only eligible as a Category 3 if they are also ranked as a state level athlete by their SSA.

Note 3: Athletes competing as part of a WA State School team / Special Olympics State team are only eligible if school/Special Olympics teams / competitions are recognised and integrated into their SSA's pathway. Athletes should contact their SSA prior to submitting their application to confirm the status of the team.

Note 4: Where an RSA or SSA selects multiple teams in the same age group for the same event, only athletes in the highest ranked team are eligible. If equal teams are selected, then only those athletes ranked by the RSA/SSA as equivalent of the highest ranked team will be eligible. Regional athletes in State 'B' teams will be eligible for Category

What is the application process?

- Applicants should read and understand the application guidelines before commencing the application process.
- Applicants should direct any initial queries to their local DLGSC office, their SSA or via the travel subsidy enquiry email address (see next page for contact details).
- Applications can only be made online retrospective of the event attended, aligned to the athlete's application.
- Applications must be submitted using the online application form available via the DLGSC website (www.dlgsc.wa.gov.au) and all sections must be completed (refer Appendix 1 for all application information required). In submitting the application, the athlete makes a commitment to the department to comply with the Terms and Conditions applicable to ATSS.
- Athletes will be eligible to apply for funding more than once per financial year in the same sport, provided any subsequent application is not in the same performance category.
- Payments are made to the nominated bank account stated within the application form, via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) after the round has closed and all applications have been assessed, validated by the SSA and processed.

How will applications be assessed?

Statewide assessment

- DLGSC will contact the SSA to validate that the information relating to the athlete's performance level and travel costs is accurate, and to confirm the team/event is integrated into the recognised pathway for that sport.
- The SSA may withhold endorsement for matters not related to performance.
- DLGSC will assess applications based on the Eligibility Criteria and Performance Categories funding framework.
- Subsidy amounts are subject to the number of eligible applications received and allocated budget. Minimum funding thresholds will be applied and be determined by DLGSC.
- The assessment decision is final and no appeal regarding a decision will be entered.

Notification

- The assessment and notification process will be completed within approximately 6-8 weeks of application.
- Successful applicants will receive a letter from the Minister of Sport and Recreation, as well as a remittance email when the subsidy is deposited via electronic transfer.
- Unsuccessful applicants will be notified via email.

Application periods

Applications are open all year round.

Regional Athlete Support Scheme

Athletes who permanently reside in a regional location as defined by the State Government's regional boundaries and are required to travel to attend events as described in the **Performance Categories** may be eligible for additional support through the Regional Athlete Support Scheme:

Athletes selected in a state team (category 3) and deemed eligible and endorsed by their SSA will receive up to \$500 plus the below amounts based on available budget.

Region	Funding Limit
Kimberley	Up to \$500
Pilbara	Up to \$500
Gascoyne	Up to \$500
Goldfields	Up to \$350
Mid-West	Up to \$350
Great Southern	Up to \$350
Wheatbelt	\$150
South West	\$150
Peel	\$100

Note: Regional athletes boarding in Perth are not eligible for Regional Athlete Support.

Refer to the department's website (www.dlgsc.wa.gov.au/about/regions) for information on regional boundaries.

Assistance

For assistance, please contact your local Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries office:

Region	Phone	Email
Gascoyne	9941 0900	gascoyne@dlgsc.wa.gov.au
Goldfields	9022 5800	goldfields@dlgsc.wa.gov.au
Great Southern	9892 0100	greatsouthern@dlgsc.wa.gov.au
Kimberley	9195 5750	kimberley@dlgsc.wa.gov.au
Mid-West	9956 2100	midwest@dlgsc.wa.gov.au
Peel	9550 3100	peel@dlgsc.wa.gov.au
Pilbara	9182 2100	pilbara@dlgsc.wa.gov.au
South West	9792 6900	southwest@dlgsc.wa.gov.au
Wheatbelt	9690 2400	wheatbelt@dlgsc.wa.gov.au
Metropolitan	9492 9700	travelsubsidy@dlgsc.wa.gov.au

Or use the travel subsidy enquiry email address: *Note: Enquiries made via the email address will be responded to during office hours only.*

Terms and Conditions that apply to applications and funding

Applicants must read and agree to the Terms and Conditions in the Athlete Travel Subsidy Scheme online application form before applying.

Note: DLGSC reserves the right to randomly audit successful athletes as outlined in the terms and conditions.

Frequently asked questions

What is the application process?

- Applications must be submitted using the online application form available via the department's website (www.dlgsc.wa.gov.au) and all sections must be completed.
- Athletes will be eligible for funding once only per financial year in the same sport in the same performance category.
- Applications must be lodged online post the event.
- All applications must be endorsed by the relevant SSA.

Are athletes who reside in metropolitan Perth eligible to apply?

No. Funding is no longer available to support the metropolitan component of this scheme.

Is there an age limit for applicants?

Yes. Athletes must be aged between 13 to 21 years of age at the commencement date of the event. (Note: athletes selected for 13 and Underage group events are not eligible).

The ATSS age limits align with DLGSC's and the Australian Sports Commission position on junior sport: that sport involvement of children aged under 13 are best focused on participation, the progression of fundamental skills and developing a commitment to lifelong participation in physical activity.

Are athletes selected in National teams eligible for a subsidy?

Unfortunately, no. The Guidelines have changed as the department's position is that funding of national representation is the responsibility of the NSO.

Are athletes who have been selected in Australian squads who have to travel to national selection camps eligible for a subsidy?

No. The focus of ATSS is to support WA athletes aspiring to represent WA at national events.

Can an athlete who is attending two different events in the same sport within the eligible event dates submit more than one application in the same application period?

No, only one application per athlete per sport per year in the one category will be considered for support.

Can an athlete qualify for a subsidy in different sports in the same year?

Yes. Athletes who meet the criteria are eligible for a subsidy in different sports in the same financial year.

Do I need to submit receipts for Out-of-Pocket expenses?

No, however DLGSC reserves the right to randomly audit successful applicants so you should keep a record of the costs associated with the event / competition you are participating in.

If a regional athlete is boarding in Perth but has returned to their home in a regional area for school holidays at the time of the event, are they eligible for a subsidy?

Yes. (Note: athletes will not be eligible for the additional Regional Athlete Support Scheme if they are boarding in Perth at the time of the event).

Are athletes who have been selected in State Country Teams eligible for a subsidy?

Athletes must be selected in a bona fide State Team to meet Performance Category Level 3 (refer page 3). Athletes competing at national championships as part of a bona fide State country team will be assessed as Performance Category Level 4 as they are representing country WA and not the entire state.

Is an athlete who is selected to represent their club in a team or as an individual at a sanctioned National Championship event or State Championship event or tournament eligible to apply?

Yes. The success of the application will be determined once the application is assessed against the Performance Category levels and the relevant SSA consulted as to the athlete's performance level/national ranking in that sport's high-performance pathway.

Are athletes who have been selected in State School Teams eligible for a subsidy?

Athletes must be selected in a bona fide State Team to meet Performance Category 3 (refer page 2). Athletes selected in a State School Team that is endorsed by the SSA and forms part of the SSA's athlete development pathway may be eligible for a subsidy.

Are athletes who have been selected in a club / representative touring team that will travel overseas or interstate to compete against another country or states eligible for a subsidy?

Unfortunately, no. Touring teams are not considered part of the performance pathway and are not eligible under this subsidy scheme.

If an athlete already receives support from other organisations (e.g., Australian Sports Commission, SSA, WAIS, South West Academy of Sport, Mid West Academy of Sport, Local Government, etc.), are they eligible for a subsidy?

Yes - if there is no surplus income against the out-of-pocket travel and accommodation costs.

Is an athlete eligible for a subsidy if they attend a boarding school in another regional area from where they live?

Yes. An athlete attending a boarding school in another regional area from where they live will be eligible for a subsidy. However, Regional Athlete Support will be based on the location of the boarding school.

Appendix 1

Information required to complete the online application.

Event Details

- Event name (*the full official event name e.g., 2017 National Under 15 Boys Hockey Championships*)
- Team/squad Name (*the full official team name e.g., 2016 WA Under 15 Boys Hockey Team*)
- Event start date
- Event town/suburb
- Event state
- Event country
- Australian citizen/permanent resident
- Sporting activity (refer Appendix 2)
- Name of your State Sporting Association (refer Appendix 2)
- Performance level category (as per these guidelines, p3)
- Out-of-pocket athlete travel and accommodation only costs

Athlete Details

- Name
- Gender
- Date of birth
- Parent/guardian consent (if under 18 years)
- Parent/guardian details (if applicable):
 - Name
 - Home and/or mobile phone
 - Email address
- Residential address
- Postal address (if different to residential)
- Home and/or mobile phone
- Email address
- Your Local Government/Council

Other

- School/university you are currently attending, and the region (if applicable)
- Name of your club, and the region (that you are a registered member of)
- Bank account details (for subsidy payment if you are successful)
 - BSB number
 - Bank and Branch Name
 - Account number
 - Account name

Media Permission

- Agree / decline permission to share contact details with local media for promotional stories

Terms and Conditions

- Must meet and agree to all

Appendix 2

Eligible Sports and the relevant State Sporting Associations

Sport Activity	State Sporting Association
Archery	Archery Western Australia
Athletics	Athletics Western Australia
Axemen	Axemen's Council of Western Australia Inc
Badminton	Badminton Association of Western Australia Inc
Baseball	Baseball WA Ltd
Basketball (incl Wheelchair)	Western Australian Basketball Federation
Billiards and Snooker	Billiards and Snooker Association of WA Inc
BMX	BMX Sports Western Australia Inc
Bocce	Federation Sport Bocce of WA Inc
Bowhunters	Australian Bowhunters Association Inc
Bowls (Lawn)	Bowls WA
Boxing	Boxing WA Inc
Calisthenics	Calisthenics Association of WA Inc
Clay Target Shooting	Western Australian Clay Target Association Inc
Cricket	Western Australian Cricket Association Inc
Croquet	Croquet West
Cycling – Road and Track	AusCycling WA
Dancesport	DanceSport Australia Ltd
Darts	Darts Western Australia Inc
Diving	Western Australian Diving Association Inc
Dragon Boating	Dragon Boating WA Inc
Eight Ball (Pool)	West Australian Eight Ball Federation Inc
Equestrian	Equestrian Western Australia Incorporated
Fencing	Western Australian Fencing Association
Field and Game	Western Australian Field and Game Association Inc
Floorball	Floorball Association of Western Australia
Flying Disc	Western Australian Flying Disc Association
Football – Australian Rules	West Australian Football Commission Inc
Football - Soccer	Football West Limited
Gaelic Football / Hurling	Gaelic Athletic Association of WA Inc
Gliding	West Australian Gliding Association Inc
Goalball	Goalball WA Inc
Golf	Golf Western Australia Inc
Gridiron	Gridiron West
Gymnastics	Gymnastics Western Australia
Handball	Handball West
Hang Gliding	Hang Gliding Association of WA
Hockey	Hockey WA
Ice Hockey	Western Australian Ice Hockey Association Inc
Ice Skating	Western Australian Ice-Skating Association Inc
Ice Speed Skating	Western Australian Ice Speed Skating Association
Ice Sports (Olympic)	Luge Australia
Ice Sports (Olympic)	Sliding Sports Australia
Judo	Judo Western Australia Inc
Karate	Australian Karate Federation WA Inc
Karting	Australian Karting Association WA Inc
Kiteboarding	Australian Sailing Ltd (WA office)

Kung Fu Wushu	Kung Fu Wushu Western Australia
Lacrosse	Lacrosse WA Inc
Marching	Marching WA (Drilldance WA)
Modern Pentathlon	Western Australian Modern Pentathlon
Motor Sport	Confederation of Australian Motor Sport Ltd (WA)
Motorcycling	Motorcycling Australia WA Inc
Mountain Biking	Western Australian Mountain Bike Association
Netball	Netball WA Inc
Orienteering	Orienteering Association of Western Australia
Paddling	Paddle Western Australia Inc
Parachuting	West Australian State Parachute Council Inc
Pistol Shooting	West Australian Pistol Association Inc
Polo	WA Polo Association Inc
Polocrosse	Polocrosse Association of WA
Pony Club	Pony Club Association of Western Australia Inc
Power Boating	WA Council of the Australian Power Boat Association
Practical Shooting	International Practical Shooting Confederation WA Inc
Riding for the Disabled (Dressage)	Riding for the Disabled Association of WA Inc
Rifle Shooting	West Australian Rifle Association Inc
Rogaining	Western Australian Rogaining Association Inc
Rowing	Rowing WA
Royal Life Saving	Royal Life Saving Society WA
Rugby League	Western Australian Rugby League Ltd (NRL WA)
Rugby Union	Western Australian Rugby Union Inc
Sailing	Australian Sailing Ltd (WA office)
Skating	Rollersports Association of WA Inc (Skate WA)
Small Bore Rifle Shooting	West Australian Small Bore Rifle Association Inc
Snow Sports	Ski and Snowboard Australia
Softball	Softball Western Australia Inc
Speedway	Western Australian Speedway Commission
Sporting Shooters	Sporting Shooters Association of Australia WA Inc
Squash	WA Squash
Surf Life Saving	Surf Life Saving Western Australia Inc
Surfing	Surfing Western Australia
Swimming	Western Australian Swimming Association Inc
Synchronised Swimming	Synchro WA
Table Tennis	Western Australian Table Tennis Association Inc
Tae Kwon Do	Sports Taekwondo Western Australia
Tennis	Tennis West
Tenpin Bowling	Tenpin Bowling Association of Western Australia Inc
Touch	Touch Football Australia Incorporated
Triathlon	Triathlon WA
Underwater (Hockey)	Australian Underwater Federation
Volleyball	WA Volleyball Association Inc
Water Polo	Western Australian Water Polo Inc
Water Skiing	Western Australian Water Ski Association Inc
Wave Skiing	Western Australian Wave Ski Association Inc
Weightlifting	Weightlifting Western Australia Inc
Wheelchair Rugby	Rebound WA (formerly Wheelchair Sports WA)
Wrestling	Wrestling Western Australia

Note: eligible Special Olympics athletes should select the relevant Sport Activity and related State Sporting Association