

Sports Aid Grant 2026-2027 Eligibility Criteria and Guidelines
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Senior Category

Competition/Category	Elite A			Elite B			Elite C		
Annual Grant		Standard	Enhanced		Standard	Enhanced		Standard	Enhanced
	Individual	\$178,200	\$209,520	Individual	\$99,840	\$117,480	Individual	\$71,400	\$83,880
	Team	\$664,920	\$782,280	Team	\$498,600	\$586,680	Team	\$207,840	\$244,440
• Olympic Games	1 st – 8 th (minus-one rule)			9 th – 16 th (minus-one rule)					
• Asian Games	Medalist (minus-one rule)			4 th – 8 th and top 1/3			4 th – 8 th and top 1/2		
• World Champs • World Cup (Finals)	Medallist and top 1/3			4 th – 8 th and top 1/3			1 st – 8 th and top 1/2		
• Asian Championships • National Games • World Universities Games • World Universities Champs • Asian Cup (Finals) • World Cup Series				1 st – 8 th and top 1/3			1 st – 8 th and top 1/2		
• Asian Cup Series • Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games • National Championships							Medallist and top 1/3		

Remarks: "Minus-one rule" means the athlete/team must have beaten one competitor/team in the event.

Junior Category

Competition/Category	Junior A			Junior B		
Annual Grant		Standard	Enhanced		Standard	Enhanced
	Individual	\$46,320	\$54,480	Individual	\$21,480	\$25,200
	Team	\$166,320	\$195,720	Team	\$49,800	\$58,560
• World Youth Champs • World Youth Cup (Finals) • Youth Olympic Games • Asian Youth Games	1st – 8th and top 1/3			1st – 8th and top 1/2		
• Asian Youth Champs • National Student (Youth) Games (Open Category) • Asian Youth Cup (Finals) • World Youth Cup Series	Medallist and top 1/3			4th – 8th and top 1/3		
• Asian Youth Cup Series • Asian Age Group Champs • National Youth Championships				Medallist and top 1/3		

Remarks: Athletes can only receive grants from either individual or team category

Team Only Sports Category

Team Only Sports	Annual Grant		For "Team Only Sports" NSAs which do not meet the criteria for SAG support, grant can be provided to support potential athlete(s) recommended by the respective NSAs.
	Standard	Enhanced	
	\$49,800	\$58,560	

A. General Guidelines

1. The Sports Aid Grant is open for application on an annual basis to all athletes who are not eligible for Elite Training Grant. Applications must be endorsed by the respective National Sports Association (NSA) and submitted to the HKSI before the deadline.
2. Categories of grants will be based on the performance of the applicant in the previous two calendar years, if the result has not been used for previous grant eligibility criteria.
3. Results achieved from demonstration events would not be considered.
4. Results should be achieved by athletes who were representing Hong Kong at international events with a minimum entry of four countries/regions. For medal results at Olympic Games / Asian Games, the minimum entry criterion does not apply.
5. “Minus-one” rule will be applied to results achieved at Olympic Games and Asian Games.
6. Athletes receiving grants should meet the three-year residency policy and hold a valid Hong Kong Identity Card.
7. Results should be achieved by athletes of National Sports Associations (NSAs) which are affiliated with the Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China (SF&OC).
8. Only results achieved at competitions sanctioned, recognised or endorsed by the relevant International Federation (IF) or Asian Federation (AF) will be considered, except for the National Games and National Championships.
9. Results achieved at international opens or professional events with the participation of six or more current world top ten ranking athletes will be eligible for EA/EB support.
10. For athletes not fully meeting the required level of performance, but fulfilling either one of the following three conditions, the same results could be considered for support for a further 12-month period maximum:
 - 10.1 Documented injuries, illness, and/or pregnancy, preventing training or competitions
 - 10.2 Lack of equivalent events due to the intervals of the relevant major competitions, i.e. Olympic Games, Asian Games, Youth Olympic Games, Asian Youth Games, World Championships, Asian Championships, World Junior Championships, Asian Junior Championships, on the condition that athletes must have taken part in at least one other competition during the year
 - 10.3 Athletes fulfilling ALL the following considerations:
 - (a) Pre-requisite: Recommended by the relevant National Sports Association and Coaching Supervisor
 - (b) Athletes with track record (meet either one of the following):
 - (i) Achieved top eight positions in the Asian Championships/equivalent events in the previous calendar year
 - (ii) Achieved top ten Asian ranking/top 30 world ranking in the previous calendar year

(For the condition 10.3 above, athletes would be granted such approval once in their sporting career and funding for these athletes would be fixed at the standard level, in order to maintain parity within the system.)

11. Athletes' result which has marginally missed out the "top one-third" rule by only one entry in the competition, could be considered for support under the related category. However, athletes applying to use this condition would only be granted approval once in their sporting career and funding for these athletes would be fixed at the standard level, in order to maintain parity within the system.
12. For team events (e.g. relays), athletes who have taken part in the competition (any round) are eligible for grants.
13. If NSAs have developed an Elite Vote Support Scheme (EVSS) sport-specific scoring table with HKSI, the SAG categories of their athletes will follow the agreed levels of competitions and related results as stated in that EVSS table.

B. Special Consideration for Support to Team Sports/Events

1. Grants for each athlete of team events should not exceed maximum grant for athletes of individual events.
2. The results of the team sports/events would only be considered provided that ALL members of the team have fulfilled the 3-year residency policy and hold a valid Hong Kong Identity Card.
3. "Team Only Sports" NSAs which do not meet the funding criteria for SAG support will be provided with a maximum grant of \$58,560 to support one or more potential athlete(s) as recommended by the respective NSAs. "Team Only Sports" NSAs are required to submit a proposal on to whom the support goes to, and their plan on how to develop these potential athletes to achieve excellence.

C. Adjustment of Grant Levels

1. To ensure steady grant for athletes in a year, athletes' approved grant categories should remain unchanged throughout the year.
2. All eligible athletes should receive the standard grant as a starting grant. NSAs could adjust the grant levels for their athletes within the enhanced grant of the respective categories, taking into account the following considerations:
 - Past grant levels
 - Significant result improvements
(e.g. Results which qualify athlete for a higher funding category or Multiple medals achieved at respective grant categories)
 - Number of years at high performance level
 - Other considerations, as appropriate

D. Suspension/Forfeiture/Termination of Grants

1. NSAs could suspend/forfeit/terminate grants for athletes if:
 - Athletes cannot fulfill training/competition requirements
 - Misconduct/disciplinary problems of the athletes
(Please refer to Annex I, showing an example of Disciplinary Procedures)
 - Athletes withdraw from the Elite Training Programme

E. Appeal Procedure

1. For Adjustment of SAG Categories

- Step 1: In case of queries on the SAG Category, athletes should approach the respective NSA to understand the situation.
- Step 2: If athletes wish to make an appeal, it should be applied in writing via the respective NSA to the High Performance Administration Department of the HKSI before the designated deadline. Appeal cases will be reviewed by the HKSIL Board.
- Step 3: The decision of the HKSIL Board will be final.

2. For Adjustment of Grant Levels

- Step 1: In case of queries on the level of grant, athletes should approach the respective NSA to understand the situation.
- Step 2: If necessary, athletes could contact the High Performance Administration Department of the HKSI for further information and assistance.
- Step 3: If athletes still wish to make an appeal, they can approach the Director of High Performance Management of the HKSI who will handle the case directly.
- Step 4: If athletes are not satisfied with the result of the appeal, they can meet with the Chief Executive of the HKSI to review the case to get a final decision.

F. Performance Assessment

1. Performance appraisal reports for all grant recipients have to be submitted twice a year, one interim report in October (for April to September) and a full-year report in the following April.
2. Coaching Supervisors will complete the standard report form which will be endorsed by the respective NSAs.

G. Payment Method

1. Grants will be paid to athletes in four installments, i.e. April, July, October and January of the following year.

(Updated in September 2025)

Example of Disciplinary Procedures

