



Canadian Ski Cross Team – Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program Carding Criteria for 2019-2020 Nominations

1. INTRODUCTION

The goal of the Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program (AAP) is to contribute to improved Canadian performances at major international sporting competitions such as the Olympic/Paralympic Games, and World Championships. To this end, the AAP identifies and supports athletes already among, or having the potential to be among, the top 16 in the world.

Athletes approved by Sport Canada for the AAP may be eligible for a living and training allowance, tuition support, deferred tuition support, and special needs assistance. Athletes funded by AAP receive a monthly financial compensation as follows:

Card Type	Monthly Compensation	Annual Value
Senior International Card (SR1/SR2)	\$1,765	\$21,180
Senior National Card (SR)	\$1,765	\$21,180
Senior Probationary Card (C1)	\$1,060	\$12,720
Development Card (D)	\$1,060	\$12,720
D-Regional (D-Reg)	\$1,060	\$12,720

Further information on the Sport Canada AAP can be obtained through the Sport Canada website at:
http://canada.pch.gc.ca/DAMAssetPub/DAM-PCH2-financement-funding/STAGING/texte-text/athlete_assistance_program_2015_1449583292452_eng.pdf?WT.contentAuthority=13.0

2. ELIGIBILITY

In order to be considered for nomination for AAP support, athletes must:

- Be named to the Canadian Ski Cross Team A, B, C or D teams, or Regional Development athletes specifically identified by Canadian Ski Cross Team (CSCT) Staff
- The athlete must be a **Canadian citizen** or **permanent resident of Canada** at the beginning of the carding cycle for which the athlete is being nominated. Permanent residents must live in Canada for a full year preceding the carding cycle for which the athlete is being considered for AAP support.
- Under the eligibility requirements of the sport's International Federation (IF) as it pertains to citizenship or residency status, the athlete must be eligible to represent Canada at major international competitions, including World Championships, at the beginning of the carding cycle for which the athlete is being nominated.
- The athlete must participate in national team preparatory and annual training programs during the time period in which they are qualifying for AAP support.
- The athlete must be available to represent Canada in major international competitions, including World Championships, Olympic Games and Paralympic Games.
- For athlete in Olympic or Paralympic sport who have been permanent residents of Canada for three years or more, continued eligibility to receive AAP support is contingent on the athlete becoming eligible to represent Canada at the Olympic or Paralympic Games.
- The athlete must meet published NSO approved, AAP compliant sport specific carding criteria.

3. DEFINITIONS

3.1 “World Cup Ranking” (“WCR”) refers to the final FIS Freestyle Overall World Cup ranking in Ski Cross prior to the World Cup Finals. Results from the Ski Cross World Cup Finals will not be used for FIS Freestyle Overall World Cup ranking. Only podium results from the Ski Cross World Cup Finals may be used for team selection.

3.4 “FIS Rankings” means the rankings set out in the FIS Ranking List, which is produced by the FIS exclusively for the National Sport Organization’s (“NSO”) for their use in making team selections for their national and developmental teams. The FIS Ranking List contains rankings for each discipline and is provided to the NSO by the end of April 2019.

3.5 “CSCT” means the Canadian Ski Cross Team, including Athletes active on the “A,” “B,” “C” and “D” teams.

3.6 “CSCT Leadership Group” means the World Cup Head Coach, NextGen Head Coach, IST Lead, Athletic Coordinator – Ski Cross and ACA Athletic Director – Ski Cross.

3.7 “2019/20 CSCT Selection” means the tiered and ranking of athletes outlined inside section 3 & 4 of the 2019-2020 Nomination Guidelines for Selection to the Canadian Ski Cross Team

3.8 “SDRCC” refers to the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada.

4. **PRIORITY OF NOMINATIONS**

CSCT has a quota of 15 Senior Cards, which is currently equal to \$317,700. The card quota is subject to change based on Sport Canada’s AAP review that normally takes place after every Olympic/Paralympic Games. Athletes will be informed of any changes to the quota and the anticipated impact of those changes.

Cards will be allocated in the following Priority order to eligible athletes named to the Canadian Ski Cross Team:

Senior Cards will be allocated in the following priority order:

1. Athletes who meet SR1 criteria;
2. Athletes who meet SR2 Criteria;
3. Athletes who meet injury requirements and were carded at the SR2 level the previous year, ranked based on FIS Rankings;
4. Athletes who meet the SR/C1 Priority 1 criteria;
5. Athletes who meet the SR/C1 Priority 2 criteria;
6. Athletes who meet the SR/C1 Priority 3 criteria;
7. Athletes who meet injury requirements and were carded at the SR/C1 level the previous year, ranked based on FIS Rankings.

If a card quota is remaining after all CSCT A, B and C athletes, who have met the above senior criteria have been approved, it will be available to nominate athletes that meet the Development (D) card criteria.

D Cards will be allocated in the following priority order:

1. Athletes who meet the D Priority 1 criteria;
2. Athletes who meet the D Priority 2 criteria;
3. Athletes who meet injury requirements, were carded at the D level the previous year and named to the D Team. These athletes will be ranked based on FIS Rankings;
4. Athletes who meet the D Priority 3 criteria. These athletes will be ranked based on FIS Rankings.

5. **CARDING LEVEL CRITERIA**

The Athlete Assistance Program qualification criteria are as follows:

INTERNATIONAL SENIOR CARDING CRITERIA (SR1/SR2)

Sport Canada establishes the international criteria used to award the SR1 and SR2 cards. These criteria are based on results in Olympic events at the World Championships and at the Olympic Games.

Athletes must meet the following criteria to be eligible for SR1/SR2 cards:

- Finish in the top 8 and in top ½ of the field in an Olympic event at World Freestyle Ski Championships and Olympic Games, counting a maximum of 3 entries per nation.

Athletes who meet the international criteria are eligible to be nominated for two consecutive years; the card for the first year is referred to as an SR1 card, while the second-year card is known as an SR2. The second year of carding is contingent on the athlete being re-nominated by ACA and maintaining a training and competitive program approved by ACA.

Notes:

- 1) The next opportunity to qualify for a SR1 Card will be at the 2019 World Championships.

SENIOR NATIONAL CARDING CRITERIA (SR/C1)

The criteria for Senior national cards has been designed to identify athletes with the potential to achieve the international criteria. Athletes nominated for Senior cards for the first time are awarded C1 cards.

CSCT's athletes must meet the one of following criteria to be eligible for SR/C1:

Priority 1 – CSCT “A” Team selected athletes

- Athletes will be ranked according to the 2018/19 CSCT Selection

Priority 2 – CSCT “B” Team selected athletes

- Athletes will be ranked according to the 2018/19 CSCT Selection

Priority 3 – CSCT “C” Team selected athletes

- Up to 2 male and 2 female athletes ranked according to the 2018/19 CSCT Selection may be nominated for Senior National Carding based on the expert opinion of the CSCT Leadership group. To be eligible the athlete must demonstrate greatest potential to be selected to the “B” team in the short term.

The carding criteria starts the first year an athlete becomes carded at the Senior level, i.e. C1. The following progression then applies to each successive year for the athlete to remain eligible for carding support at the SR levels (SR1, SR2, SR and C1).

SR/C1 Progression:

Men & Women:

Year 5 (2022/23)	250 FIS Points
Year 4 (2021/22)	225 FIS Points
Year 3 (2020/21)	200 FIS Points
Year 2 (2019/20)	175 FIS Points
Year 1 (2018/19)	150 FIS Points

Athletes that have started the Senior levels progression, and are carded at the D level or at the injury, will need to meet the progression missed to be eligible for carding the next year. Example: athlete carded C1 in 17-18 and D in 18-19 will need to meet SR criteria Year 2 to be eligible for carding support in 19-20.

Maximum number of years at Senior National Card Level

Normally, the maximum number of years an athlete may remain at the Senior National Card (SR/C1) status is five (5). Years carded at the SR injury, SR1, SR2 and when the athlete was still FIS junior age will not count toward this maximum.

In order to be nominated for carding for 6th or more years the athlete must demonstrate progression toward International Senior Card status (SR1 and SR2) and be recommended by Alpine Canada Alpin. Proof of progression will be determined by ACA staff and assessment of athlete's on-snow results, fitness testing and subjective evaluation of the athlete's commitment to reaching International Senior Card status.

DEVELOPMENT CARDING CRITERIA (D)

Development cards are intended to support the developmental needs of younger athletes who clearly demonstrate the potential to achieve the Senior Card international criteria but are not yet able to meet the Senior Card criteria.

Normally, a Development Card cannot be allocated to an athlete previously carded at the Senior Card level (C1, SR, SR1, SR2) for more than two years, except for an athlete carded as a senior card while still eligible to compete at the Junior international age level.

CSCT reserves the right to provide partial carding to development level athletes based on their assigned program and CSCT selection/ranking. D card priority is directly related to an athlete's commitment to the centralized program offered by CSCT.

Eligible athletes will be nominated in the following priority order:

Priority 1: CSCT "C" Team (NextGen Team) athletes meeting the following D progression.

- Athletes will be ranked according to the 2018/19 CSCT Selection

Priority 2: CSCT "D" Team (NextGen Team) athletes meeting the following D progression.

- Athletes will be ranked according to the 2018/19 CSCT Selection

Priority 3: Regional Development program athletes meeting the following D progression.

- Athletes will be ranked according to the 2018/19 CSCT Selection.

The carding criteria starts with the first year an athlete becomes carded at the D level. The following progression then applies to each successive year for the athlete to remain eligible for carding support at the D level.

- FIS Alpine Transition Athletes selected to the NextGen Team may have 0 Freestyle FIS points in year 1. FIS Alpine Transition Athletes must attend the CSCT spring selection camp to be nominated to the NextGen Team. Nomination is based on coaches assessment of Ski Cross & Alpine skill sets. Athletes will only be considered Alpine Transition Athletes if they have no prior FIS Ski Cross racing experience.

D Progression:

Men & Women:

Year 3 (2020/21) 125 FIS Points

Year 2 (2019/20) 100 FIS Points

Year 1 (2018/19) 75 FIS Points / 0 FIS Points if Alpine Transition Athlete

Maximum number of years at Development level

Normally, the maximum number of years an athlete may remain at the Development Card (D) status is three (3). Years carded at the D injury will not count toward this maximum.

In order to be carded for more years the athlete must demonstrate progression toward Senior Card status and be recommended by Alpine Canada Alpin. Progression will be determined by athlete's on-snow results, fitness testing and ARS scores each year carded on D card.

Athletes committed to the centralized program pursuing post-secondary education while competing will be exempt from the timeline stated above. For example, if an athlete takes 3 years to complete their post-secondary education, their 3-year Development Card (D) status will start following those 3 years.

6. INJURY STATUS

A carded athlete who at the end of the carding cycle has not achieved the standard required for the renewal of carding status because of strictly health related reasons may be considered for re-nomination for the upcoming year provided the athlete meet the requirements set out by Sport Canada's "Failure to Meet

Renewal Criteria for Health-related” AAP policy (section 9.1.3) http://canada.pch.gc.ca/DAMAssetPub/DAM-PCH2-finance-funding/STAGING/texte-text/athlete_assistance_program_2015_1449583292452_eng.pdf?WT.contentAuthority=13.0

For exceptions to the SR, C1, and D card criteria made based on Athlete injuries, a specific criterion for the continuation of carding for future years shall be determined on a case by case basis considering details of the injury and expected recovery requirements.

When an athlete is carded on an injury provision in any given year, that year is not counted as a year for AAP qualification criteria toward the national senior card priority 2 criteria or development criteria. An athlete who receives injury status in year two (2) of the carding will be eligible for carding under the national senior card priority 2 criteria in year three based on year two criteria.

7. **APPEALS**

- Any dispute in relation to ACA, AAP nomination/re-nomination decision or of ACA’s recommendation to withdraw carding, must be brought directly to the SDRCC to be heard pursuant to the Canadian Sport Dispute Resolution Code.
- An athlete who wishes to appeal shall, within 3 business days commencing from the day they are advised on their AAP nomination or withdrawal of carding, file an appeal with the SDRCC.
- Appeals will not be accepted after this date.

N.B. In the event of a discrepancy between the English and French version of the Athletes Assistance Criteria 2019-2020 AAP Nomination process, ACA will refer to the English version.