



The 2021-2022 Carding Criteria will be handled as a roll over from 2020-2021 due to COVID-19. All changes made to the 2020-2021 criteria are noted in red below.

2021-2022 Carding Criteria Nominations Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program (AAP)

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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, Commonwealth Games, Pan Am 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

Further information on the Sport Canada AAP can be obtained through the Sport Canada website at: <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/funding/athlete-assistance.html>

2. DEFINITIONS

- 2.1. "AAP" refers to Athlete Assistance Program.
- 2.2. "AAP Policies" refers to published Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program Policies and Procedures.
- 2.3. "ACA" refers to Alpine Canada Alpin.
- 2.4. "Carding Cycle" refers to July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022
- 2.5. "CAST" refers to Canadian Alpine Ski Team.
- 2.6. "CAST Alpine Staff" refers to any one of the following: Alpine Athletic Director, discipline Head Coaches or any other coach that is designated as a CAST Coach, from time to time by ACA.
- 2.7. "D Card" refers to a Development Card.
- 2.8. "FIS" refers to International Ski Federation.
- 2.9. "SDRCC" refers to the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada.
- 2.10. "SR1/SR2 Card" refers to a Senior International Card.
- 2.11. "SR Card" refers to a Senior National Card.
- 2.12. "WCSL" refers to the final standings for each discipline at the completion of all World Cup races for the 2020-2021 season (April). ** Exception for Alpine Combined. Combined ranking will only apply if the athlete is ranked in the top 50% of all athletes ranked on the WCSL.



- 2.13. "World Ranking" or "WR" refers to an athlete's FIS world ranking in a discipline according to the 1st FIS Points list publication (expected publication date July 1, 2021).
- 2.14. "2021-2022 CAST Nomination Guidelines" refers to the document outlining nomination criteria to support athlete nomination to the 2021-2022 CAST.

3. QUOTA

- 3.1. Alpine Canada currently has a maximum card quota of **\$444, 780.00 or 21 Senior cards**. The card quota is subject to change based on Sport Canada's AAP review that normally takes place after every Olympic/Paralympic Games.

4. ELIGIBILITY

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

- 4.1. Be named to CAST or any other athlete specifically identified by CAST Alpine Staff.
- 4.2. Be a permanent resident of Canada on the date of the beginning of the carding cycle, and the athlete must have been a legal resident in Canada (student status, refugee status, work visa or permanent resident) for a minimum period of one year before being considered for AAP support. The athlete would normally have been expected to participate in ACA sanctioned activities during that period.
- 4.3. Must be eligible to represent Canada at major international events, including FIS World Championships, at the beginning of the carding cycle for which the athlete is being nominated per eligibility requirements of Federation International de Ski (FIS).
- 4.4. Achieve results meeting the published ACA Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program Carding Criteria.
- 4.5. Participate in national team preparatory and annual training programs unless a request for an exemption due to injury, illness or other legitimate circumstance is approved in advance in writing by the Athletic Director, Alpine. Athletes not participating in CAST national team preparatory and annual training programs will be required to provide the following information: a yearly training plan, dryland testing results, medical history and athlete tracking each month during the carding cycle year to Athletic Director, Alpine.
- 4.6. Must commit to sign and adhere to an Athlete Agreement as required by ACA and Sport Canada.
- 4.7. Must be a member in good standing of the Alpine High-Performance Program.
- 4.8. Must not be under suspension or other sanction for any doping or doping-related offense.

5. PRIORITY OF NOMINATIONS

- 5.1. Cards will be first allocated to athletes named to CAST. After the nominations of CAST athletes is completed, any remaining amount will be available for FIS carded athletes that meet eligibility and carding criteria requirements.
- 5.2. Carding will only be available provided athletes meet the following criteria, to be prioritized as follows:
 1. Athletes who meet SR1 criteria;
 2. Athletes who meet injury requirements and were carded at the SR2 level the previous year;
 3. Athletes who meet the SR/C1 criteria;
 4. Athletes who meet injury requirements and were carded at the SR/C1 level the previous year.



5. Athletes who meet D criteria;
6. Athletes who meet injury requirements and were carded at the D level the previous year..

5.3. Nominations will be made at each Carding level in the order of priority until there are no remaining eligible athletes in the Carding level before allocating cards to the next Carding level and so on, until there are no remaining cards, or there are no remaining eligible athletes. Note: a minimum of 4 months of carding support must be available for an athlete to be nominated.

6. CARDING CRITERIA

The Athlete Assistance Program qualification criteria are as follows:

International Senior Criteria (SR1/SR2)

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 FIS Alpine World Ski Championships and Olympic Games. A maximum of 3 entries per nation will count toward this result.
- In the Alpine Team Event, the athlete must compete in the event to be eligible for nomination*

**Per AAP Policies point 5.2: In individual sports with team type or relay events, athletes who compete in the event may be awarded a Senior International Card (SR1/SR2) if they directly contributed to the top-8/top-half result.*

The next opportunity to qualify for a SR1 Card will be at the 2021 FIS Alpine World Ski Championships. ~~For the purpose of creating a priority listing of candidates for 2020-21 season, athletes meeting SR2 criteria will be ranked in order of their best result from the 2019 FIS Alpine World Ski Championships.~~

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.

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.

For the purpose of creating a priority listing, athlete rankings will be used from the WCSL, based on best ranking. If equal on the WCSL, an athletes best World Ranking will then be used from the 1st FIS List.

Athletes need to achieve annual performance benchmarks to maintain their eligibility for Senior National carding. The requirements are outlined in the table below.



Women:

Year 4 and 5	1 Discipline: Top 70 WR, or 2 Disciplines: Average 95 WR or less
Year 3	1 Discipline: Top 85 WR, or 2 Disciplines: Average 120 WR or less
Year 2	1 Discipline: Top 105 WR, or 2 Disciplines: Average 145 WR or less
Year 1 (C1)	1 Discipline: Top 130 WR, or 2 Disciplines: Average 170 WR or less

Men:

Year 5	1 Discipline: Top 70 WR, or 2 Disciplines: Average 100 WR or less.
Year 4	1 Discipline: Top 90 WR, or 2 Disciplines: Average 120 WR or less,
Year 3	1 Discipline: Top 125 WR, or 2 Disciplines: Average 155 WR or less,
Year 2	1 Discipline: Top 155 WR, or 2 Disciplines: Average 190 WR or less
Year 1 (C1)	1 Discipline: Top 190 WR, or 2 Disciplines: Average 220 WR or less

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 18-19 and D in 19-20 will need to meet SR criteria Year 2 to be eligible for carding support in 20-21.

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 athletes were still FIS junior age will not count toward this maximum. **Given COVID-19, the 2020-21 year will not count toward this maximum.**

In order to be nominated for carding for 6 or more years the athlete must demonstrate improvement toward International Senior Card status (SR1 and SR2) and be recommended by ACA. Proof of progression will be determined by the Alpine, Athletic Director with input from the CAST Alpine Staff, taking into consideration the athlete's on-snow results, fitness testing and 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, an athlete previously carded at the Senior Card level (C1, SR, SR1, SR2) for more than two years cannot be nominated for a Development Card, except for an athlete carded as a Senior Card while still eligible to compete at the Junior international age level.

Athletes will be ranked according to their best World Ranking from the 1st FIS list. If equal on World Ranking, an athlete's next best discipline World Rank will then be used. For the purpose of creating a priority listing, cards will be allocated equally by gender to eligible athletes, with the athlete with the best World Ranking regardless of gender to be nominated first.

The carding criteria starts with the first year an athlete becomes carded at the D level.

Maximum number of years at Development level

Normally, the maximum number of years an athlete may remain at the Development Card (D) status is four (4). Years carded at the D injury will not count toward this maximum. **Given COVID-19, the 2020-21 year will not count toward this maximum.**

In order to be carded for more years (5) the athlete must demonstrate improvement toward Senior Card status and be recommended by ACA. Proof of progression will be determined by the Alpine, Athletic Director with input from the CAST Alpine Staff, taking into consideration the athlete's on-snow results, fitness testing and evaluation of the athlete's commitment to reaching International Senior Card status.

7.0 NOMINATION PROCESS

- 7.1 The CAST Alpine staff shall meet to evaluate all eligible athletes and make recommendations for nomination to Sport Canada for AAP.
- 7.2 Sport Canada reviews all nominations put forward by ACA and approves nomination in accordance with AAP Policies and the published and approved ACA AAP Carding Criteria.

8.0 NCAA ATHLETES

- 8.1 The following shall apply to any athlete who meets the carding criteria as noted above and who are attending an NCAA institution during the carding cycle:
 - 8.1.1 Sport Canada policy states that athletes attending a foreign post-secondary educational institution and who are receiving an athletic scholarship are not eligible to receive AAP support in the months in which they are attending the foreign post-secondary educational institution.
 - 8.1.2 It is the responsibility of the NCAA-based athlete who is nominated by ACA for AAP support to notify ACA and Sport Canada of the time period that the athlete will not be attending the foreign postsecondary educational institution. Sport Canada will review and approve all NCAA-based athlete schedules.
 - 8.1.3 It is the responsibility of the NCAA-based athlete to notify their institutions compliance department to confirm that they are eligible to receive AAP support. It is also the NCAA-based athlete responsibility to determine any procedures that



they must follow in order to meet the requirements of the institution's compliance department.

9.0 INJURY STATUS

- 9.1 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 met the requirements set out by AAP Policies (section 9.1.3)
https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/pch/documents/services/sport-policies-acts-regulations/app_policy_procedures_eng.pdf
- 9.2 For exceptions to the SR, C1, and D card criteria made on the basis of Athlete injuries, a specific criteria 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.
- 9.3 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.

10.0 WITHDRAW TEMPORARY OR PERMANENTLY

- 10.1 If an athlete wishes, for health-related reasons or other reasons, to withdraw temporarily or permanently from normal carded athlete training and competition activities, the normal rules for withdrawal from the AAP shall apply. The athlete will no longer be eligible for monthly training and living support, but may be eligible for Deferred Tuition or Special Needs support.

11.0 COVID CONSIDERATIONS

- 11.1 ACA is carefully following the evolution of the coronavirus on the global and domestic level and how it may impact the nomination of athletes for AAP Carding Support. Unless otherwise required by exceptional and unforeseen circumstances related to the impact of the coronavirus, CAST will respect the published Nomination Criteria as written.
- 11.2 However, situations related to the coronavirus pandemic may arise that require the Nomination Criteria to be modified. Any modifications will be made promptly and as often as required following developments that directly impact the Nomination Criteria. In such circumstances, any modifications will be communicated to all affected individuals as soon as possible.
- 11.3 Further, situations may arise that do not allow the Nomination Criteria to be modified or applied as written due to time constraints or other exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. In such situations, any decision, including nomination decisions, will be made by the individual(s) with decision-making authority, in this case, the Alpine Athletic Director, in consultation with the relevant individual(s) or committee(s) (as applicable), and in accordance with the stated performance objectives as stated herein



12.0 APPEALS

12.1 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.

12.2 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.

12.3 Appeals will not be accepted after this date.