



Canadian Para-Alpine Ski Team – Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program Carding Criteria for 2021 - 2022 Nominations

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

ELIGIBILITY

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

- Be named to the Canadian Para-Alpine Team (CPAST), CPAST NextGen or a Prospect Program athlete specifically identified by Canadian Para-Alpine Ski Team (CPAST) 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.

DEFINITIONS

- “AAP” refers to Athlete Assistance Program.
- “ACA” refers to Alpine Canada Alpin.
- “CPAST” refers to Canadian Para-Alpine Ski Team.
- “CPAST Alpine Staff” refers to any one of the following: Para-Alpine Athletic Director, Head Coach or any other coach that is designated as a CPAST Coach, from time to time by ACA.
- “D Card” refers to a Development Card.
- “FIS” refers to International Ski Federation.
- “IPC” refers to International Paralympic Committee
- “WPAS” refers to World Para-Alpine Skiing
- “SDRCC” refers to the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada.
- “SR1/SR2 Card” refers to a Senior International Card.
- “SR Card” refers to a Senior National Card.
- “2021-2022 CPAST Nomination Guidelines” refers to the document outlining nomination criteria to support athlete nomination to the 2021-2022 CPAST.

QUOTA

Canadian Para-Alpine Ski Team currently has a maximum card quota of \$296,520 or equivalent to 14 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. Athletes will be informed of any changes to the quota and the anticipated impact of those changes.

PRIORITY OF NOMINATIONS

Cards will be allocated in the following Priority order to eligible athletes named to the Canadian Para-Alpine 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 WPAS May points list;
4. Athletes who meet the SR/C1 Priority 1 criteria;
5. Athletes who meet the SR/C1 Priority 2 criteria;
6. Athletes who meet injury requirements and were carded at the SR/C1 level the previous year, ranked based on WPAS lists points (annual WPAS points list);

If a card quota is remaining after all CPAST 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 card criteria;
2. Athletes who meet injury requirements, were carded at the D level the previous year, ranked based on WPAS list points (annual WPAS points list).

CARDING LEVEL CRITERIA

The Athlete Assistance Program qualification criteria are as follows:

1. 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 Paralympic events at the World Championships and at the Paralympic 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 Paralympic event at World Para-Alpine Ski Championship and Paralympic 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:

The next opportunity to qualify for a SR1 Card will be at the 2022 World Para-Alpine Ski Championships and 2022 Paralympic Winter Games.

* Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021 World Para-Alpine Ski Championships were postponed to January 2022.

2. SENIOR NATIONAL CARDING CRITERIA (SR/C1)

Athletes must be selected to the Canadian Para-Alpine Ski Team in order to be eligible for SR/C1 cards and meet one of the following criteria:

1st Priority: Athletes placing in the top 15 and top ½ of the annual WPAS May Point list in any discipline with a minimum of 10 countries represented on the list.

2nd Priority: Athletes that have accumulated the following points, based on the number of years carded at the Senior National Card levels. Injury cards do not count toward this progression.

Number of years of a Senior National Card (SR or C1). Entering:	Criteria
4 th year or more of carding	Less than 80 WPAS points in at least two disciplines.
3 rd year of carding	Less than 100 WPAS points in at least two disciplines and less than 120 WPAS points in at least 3 disciplines.
2 nd year of carding	Less than 120 WPAS points in at least two disciplines and less than 100 WPAS points in one discipline.
1 st year of carding	No restriction to athletes nominated to the Canadian Para-Alpine Senior Ski Team.

Example: If an athlete was carded C1 in 2019-20, and SR in 2020-21, to be eligible for nomination for 2021-22, the athlete would need to have met criteria for entering 3rd year of carding: Less than 100 WPAS points in at least two disciplines and less than 120 WPAS points in at least 3 disciplines.

Generally

1. C1 carded athletes are funded at the Development Card level in the first year they meet the national criteria for a Senior Card even if they have previously been carded at the Development (D) level. If, however, the athlete has been carded at the SR1 or SR2 level or has competed in the World Championships or Paralympic Games before meeting the national criteria for the Senior Card, the athlete will be funded at the Senior Card (SR) level rather than at the Development Card level.
2. Normally, the maximum number of years an athlete may remain at the Senior National Card (SR/C1) status is five (5), excluding years at Senior International Card (SR1/SR2).

In order to be nominated for a card six (6) or more years the athlete must demonstrate improvement toward International Senior Card status (SR1/SR2) and be recommended by Alpine Canada, or qualify for the Canadian Para-Alpine Ski Teams “A Team” as set forth in the CPAST Selection

Criteria (<http://alpinecanada.org/community/docs-forms>) and be recommended by Alpine Canada.

1. For the purpose of creating a priority listing of candidates meeting the criteria, athletes will be ranked based on their lowest WPAS points from the annual WPAS May list.
2. Paralympic cards awarded mid carding cycle (i.e. during a Paralympic season) will not count towards an athlete's number of years at a National Senior (SR/C1) card level.

3. 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.

Athletes must be selected to the CPAST NextGen Team or Prospect Program in order to be eligible for D cards and must have accumulated the following point's base on the number of years carded at the Development Card levels. Injury card(s) do not count toward this progression:

Number of years with Development Card Entering:	Criteria
3 rd year or more carding	Six (6) WPAS sanctioned race starts and less than 160 points in 2 disciplines
2 nd year of carding	Minimum of three (3) WPAS sanctioned race starts and less than 250 points in 1 discipline
1 st year of carding	No restrictions to athletes nominated to Canadian Para-Alpine Senior Ski Team, CPAST NextGen Team or Prospect Program.

Maximum number of years at Development level

1. Normally, the maximum number of years an athlete may remain at the Development Card (D) status is three (3).

In order to be carded for four (4) or more years the athlete must demonstrate improvement toward Senior Card status and be recommended by Alpine Canada.
2. Athlete who has been previously carded at the SR1 or SR2 levels are not eligible for D cards.
3. Normally an athlete previously carded at the Senior level (SR, C1) for more than two years may not be nominated for a Development card , excluding years the athlete was carded at the Senior card level while still a junior athlete.
4. For the purpose of creating a priority listing of candidates meeting the criteria, number of WPAS points in the athlete's lowest discipline will be used from the annual WPAS May list.

Guides of Visually Impaired Athletes

A visually impaired Athlete approved for nomination will normally result in two cards – one for the visually impaired athlete, the other for a Guide. Both Athlete and Guide will be put forward based on the ranking of the visually impaired Athlete, with the Guide ranked immediately behind the Athlete. In the event there is not enough funding to give both Athlete and Guide, the funding will be pooled, and the Athletes and Guide will receive equal amounts, as long as four months of carding is available for both Athlete and Guide. If there is less than four month of funding available for everyone, all funding will go to the visually impaired athlete. If an odd number of months are available for carding which cannot be divided equally, the visually impaired athlete will receive the extra month of carding.

For example if 9 months of carding is available, the Athlete will receive 5 months of carding, and the Guide

will received 4 months.

1. The Guide must be named to the Canadian Para-Alpine Senior Ski Team, CPAST NextGen Team or Prospect Program and guide the visually impaired Athlete.
2. A visually impaired Athlete may change Guides during the carding cycle if, in the opinion of the Para-Alpine Athletic Director or Head Coach, it is necessary for performance-based reason. In this case it may be possible to reallocate the remaining carding support to the new Guide.
3. Visually impaired Athletes may change Guides when the Guides retires at the end of the season, before carding nominations are made.
4. If a guide changes for any reason, carding will apply as follows:
 - If the new Guide is currently carded at the SR level, he/she will maintain this carding level
 - If the new Guide is not currently carded and the visually impaired Athlete is carded at the SR level, the Guide will be eligible for the Senior Card if he/she has previously been carded at the C1 level, or at the C1 level is he/she has not previously been carded at the Senior Level
 - If the new Guide is not currently carded and the visually impaired Athlete is carded at the D level, the Guide will be eligible for a D card.
5. More than one Guide per visually impaired athlete may be nominated for Sport Canada AAP support. Each Guide must have a full training and competition schedule and be fully integrated with the visually impaired Athlete's program. Additional Guides must be approved for AAP support by Sport Canada.
6. The Guide is eligible for injury status if he/she or his/her visually impaired Athlete becomes injured and meets Injury Status Criteria.

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-financement-funding/STAGING/texte-text/athlete_assistance_program_2015_1449583292452_eng.pdf?WT.contentAuthority=13.0

For the purpose of creating a priority listing of candidates meeting the criteria, athletes will be ranked based on their lowest WPAS points from the annual WPAS May list.

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.

COVID CONSIDERATIONS

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, CFAST will respect the published Nomination Criteria as written.

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.

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 Para-Alpine – High Performance Director, in consultation with the relevant individual(s) or committee(s) (as applicable), and in accordance with the stated performance objectives as stated herein.

UNFORSEEN CIRCUMSTANCES & REVISIONS

In situations where unforeseen circumstances do not allow the selection process to be applied in the manner set out in this policy, the Athletic Director, Para-Alpine, reserves the right to determine an appropriate course of action.

The Athletic Director, Para-Alpine, may exercise discretion to revise this agreement prior to the end of the qualifying period with any revisions as may be reasonably necessary to avoid disputes over the interpretation of the Selection Process. This clause shall not be used to justify changes after a competition or trials which formed part of these Team Nomination Guidelines unless it is related to an unforeseen circumstance. This is to allow for changes to this document that may become necessary due to a typographical error or a lack of clarity in a definition or wording.

APPEALS

Appeals of Alpine Canada Alpin's AAP nomination/re-nomination decision or of an Alpine Canada Alpin's recommendation to withdraw carding may be pursued only through the Alpine Canada Alpin's review process, which includes an application to the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SDRCC). Appeals of AAP Decision made under Section 6 (Application for and Approval of Cards or Section 11 (Withdrawal of Carding Status) may be pursued through Section 13 of the AAP Policies, Procedures and Guidelines.