



Ski Jumping Canada Team – Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program Carding Criteria for 2024-2025 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, 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.

Ski Jumping Canada (SJC) supports these aims when nominating athletes to Sport Canada for this funding stream. For the 2024-2025 year, SJC is targeting the following athletes who are:

- performing at a high level and who have potential to do well at the 2025 World Championships and the 2026 Olympic Winter Games, for senior funding, and
- next generation athletes with potential to do well at the 2030 Olympic Winter Games and beyond, with development level funding.

The Athlete Assistance Program is part of the total program of support that SJC gives its athletes with the goal of enabling them to reach their highest potential throughout their athletic career and beyond.

Athletes approved by Sport Canada for the AAP may be eligible for a living and training allowance, tuition support, deferred tuition support, and supplementary AAP support. 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
Development Card (D)	\$1,060	\$12,720

Further information on the Sport Canada AAP can be obtained through the Sport Canada website [HERE](#)



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1. DEFINITIONS

- “Carding Cycle” is the twelve-month period commencing June 1 of any year, athletes that have been successful in being awarded carding will normally be informed in May of that year on successful completion of the carding approval process.
- “COC Ranking List” refers to the FIS Continental Cup ranking list published by FIS annually.
- “FIS Cup (FC)” is a series of ski jumping competitions arranged yearly by the International Ski Federation, ranked below the World Cups and Continent Cup.
- “FIS World Cup Ranking List” refers to a female athlete’s ranking in the current World Cup season.
- “FIS World Ranking List (WRL)” refers to a male athlete’s world ranking.
- “SJC” or “Ski Jumping Canada” means the Canadian Ski Jumping Team, including the National Team, the National Development Team or named as a “Next Generation” athlete.
- “SJC Leadership Group” means the Head Coach and the High-Performance Director.
- “World Cup” refers to the FIS World Cup/Grand Prix competitions held between July 28, 2023, and April 1, 2024.

2. PROCESS

In order to be nominated for AAP support, an athlete must:

1. Meet the ELIGIBILITY requirements below.
2. Be nominated based on established PRIORITY OF NOMINATIONS (see section 3).
3. Be ranked against other eligible athletes using the CARDING LEVEL CRITERIA (see section 4)



2.1 Eligibility

In order to be eligible for nomination for AAP support, each athlete must:

- Be named to the Canadian Ski Jumping National, National Development Team or named as a next generation athlete as of July 1 of the qualifying year.
- Be a Canadian citizen at the beginning of the carding cycle for which the athlete is being nominated.
- Be eligible per FIS rules to represent Canada at major international competitions, including World Championships, at the beginning of the carding cycle for which the athlete is being nominated.
- Participate in national team preparatory and annual training programs during the period in which they are qualifying for AAP support.
- Meet published NSO approved, AAP compliant sport specific carding criteria.

3. PRIORITY OF NOMINATIONS

Ski Jumping Canada currently has a maximum card quota of 5 senior cards, equating to \$105,900. Sport Canada regularly reviews its carding quotas; therefore, this allocation is subject to change. Cards are allocated in the following priority order to eligible athletes named to the Canadian National Ski Jumping Team:

1. Athletes who meet Senior International criteria (4.1)
2. Athletes who meet Senior International criteria (injury) (4.4)
3. Athletes who meet the Senior National criteria (4.2)
4. Athletes who meet the Senior National criteria (injury) (4.4)
5. Athletes who meet the Development criteria (4.3)
6. Athletes who meet Development criteria (injury) (4.4)



More detail is available in each section below, including injury exemptions.

4. CARDING LEVEL CRITERIA

The Athlete Assistance Program qualification criteria for Ski Jumping Canada are detailed below:

4.1 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 Olympic events at the World Championships and at the Olympic Games.

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 SJC and maintaining a training and competitive program approved by SJC.

4.1.1 Eligibility Criteria

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

Priority 1 – World Championships and Olympic Winter Games

1. Finish in the top half of the field in a World Championship event.
2. Finish in the top half of the field in an Olympic event at the Olympics

Note: The Olympics which are scheduled to take place in Milano/Cortina in February 2026.



4.2 Senior National Carding Criteria (SR)

The criteria for Senior national cards have been designed to identify athletes with the potential to achieve the international criteria.

4.2.1 Eligibility Criteria

Athletes must meet the following criteria to be eligible for SR cards:

Priority 1 – World Cup/Grand Prix Results

1. An athlete may qualify for an SR card by achieving 3 World Cup/Grand Prix results that achieve 75% of the total score (distance plus judge points) of the average of the top three athletes (average of the podium scores) in those competitions, which must be held between July 28, 2023 (the start of the jumping season) and April 1, 2024, inclusively. For example: if the average is 250 points the athlete must achieve 187.5 points.

4.2.2 Priority Ranking

1. If more athletes qualify through priority 1 than there are cards available, the cards will be allocated based on the athlete's positions on the World Ranking List (men) or the World Cup Ranking (women).
2. In the event of a tie on the WRL or World Cup Ranking, the athlete's top World Cup finish in the qualification period will be the tie breaker; if there is still a tie, the athlete's second-best World Cup finish will be the tie breaker.



Maximum number of years at National Senior level

Normally, the maximum number of years an athlete may remain at the National Senior Card (SR) status is seven (7). Years carded at the SR injury, SR1 and SR2 will not count toward this maximum.

In order to be nominated for carding for eight (8) or more years the athlete must demonstrate improvement toward International Senior Card status (SR1 and SR2) by being ranked amongst the top 40 (men) and top 30 (women) on the FIS World Ranking list (men) or FIS World Cup Ranking (women) and having competition results that achieve 80% of the total score (distance plus judge points) of the average of the top three athletes (average of the podium scores) in those competitions, which must be held between July 28, 2023 (the start of the jumping season) and April 1, 2024, inclusively. For example: if the average is 250 points the athlete must achieve 200 points.

4.3 Development Carding Criteria (D)

Development cards are targeted at athletes who show potential for the 2030 Olympic Winter Games - and beyond - based on their current performance and their predicted future maximum potential. Athletes who fail to demonstrate future potential will not be carded.

Normally, a Development Card cannot be allocated to an athlete previously carded at the Senior Card level (SR, SR1, SR2) for more than two years. An exception may be made, at Sport Canada's sole discretion, for an athlete carded at the Senior Card level for more than two years for exceptional circumstances; for example, an athlete carded as a senior card for 2 or more years while still competing at the Junior international level.



4.3.1 Number of Cards Available

The remaining AAP budget will be allocated to athletes as Development cards. The maximum total allocated for all development cards is \$63,600.

4.3.2 Eligibility Criteria

Athletes must meet ALL the following criteria to be nominated for Development cards:

1. Meet the minimum requirements in their physical tests as defined by the coaching and support team and included in Appendix 1, AND
2. International Competitions:
 - a. Athletes must achieve a top 75% of the total score (distance plus judge points) of the average of the top three athletes (average of the podium scores) in one FIS Cup, COC, Summer Grand Prix or World Cup, which must be held between July 28, 2023 (the start of the jumping season) and April 1, 2024, inclusively. For example: if the average is 250 points the athlete must achieve 187.5 points; OR
 - b. One top-30 finishes at either a Grand Prix or World Cup between July 28, 2023, to April 1, 2024.

4.3.3 Priority Ranking

1. Ranking will be done based on average points obtained on Normal or Large hill competitions, average will be calculated separately for each level of competition and WC will outrank Grand Prix, which will outrank COC which will outrank FC; only competitions where athletes have attained top 30 results will be used in calculating the average points.



2. In the event of a tie in #1, the athlete's top competition finish in the qualification period will be the tie breaker, with World Cup points outranking Grand Prix points, outranking COC points, and COC points outranking FIS Cup points earned in the qualification period.

The last ranked nominee may only receive partial Development Card funding if full funds are not available. Partial cards can only be allocated if there is a minimum of four months carding available.

Maximum number of years at Development level

Normally, the maximum number of years an athlete may remain at the Development Card (D) status is five (5). Years carded whilst still a Junior Competitor (under 20) or at the D injury will not count toward this maximum.

4.4 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 meets the requirements set out by Sport Canada's

<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/funding/athlete-assistance/policies-procedures.html> - a10a3

AAP policy (section 9.1.3).

Athletes must provide written confirmation of their health-related condition, a plan for returning to training and competition approved by their doctor and provide a written commitment to make a full return to training and competition by a specific date agreed upon by the athlete, medical team and the SJC High Performance Committee, all of which must be completed prior to them being considered for re-nomination.



Athletes that meet these requirements will be considered for carding nominations using the criteria outlined above for each of the SR, and D cards. Competition results from the 12 (twelve) months prior to their date of injury (as specified by the SJC medical support team or the Head Coach) will be used in the carding decision making process for determining both the eligibility and prioritization of athletes.

When athletes return to training after an injury but are not considered to be ready for competition (as specified by the Head Coach), the injury status will remain in place. Only once an athlete is deemed ready for competitions that the injury status will be removed. However, a ‘count-back’ mechanism will be used for an athlete that returns to competition part way through a qualification period such that, for example, an athlete that missed the first four World Cup competitions would have their first four World Cup results from the season prior to their injury included in the eligibility and ranking calculations.

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.

4.5 Competition Schedule Disruption

If a pandemic, geo-political activities, or other factors disrupt the FIS competition schedule such that more than 75% of competitions are cancelled, different qualifying criteria will be used.

4.5.1 Eligibility

In order to qualify for carding athletes must meet all the criteria below:



1. Meet the minimum requirements in their physical tests, as defined by the coaching and support team and included in Appendix 1.
2. The coaching team will hold a series of five (5) team competitions at a familiar location of their choice in Europe, depending on training conditions, using a Canadian coach and two other national team coaches as judges, and following a schedule set at the discretion of the coaching staff, designed so that as many Canadian athletes as possible can attend. Each eligible athlete's best three (3) results from those competitions will be used and the total score from their best three (3) competitions will be added together.

4.5.2 Priority Ranking

The athletes will be ranked in order of their total points from their top three competition rank finishes.

In the event of a tie the athletes highest rank in the competition series will be used, the event of a tie in the highest rank the athletes average rank across all five competitions will be used.

Athletes that were previously carded at a Senior level who qualify for carding in this manner will retain their Senior Carding status, athletes who were previously carded at a Development level or who were not carded previously will be carded at a Development level while carding funds are available. The last ranked nominee may only receive partial Development Card funding if full funds are not available. Partial cards can only be allocated if there is a minimum of four months carding available.

5. APPEALS

Appeals of SJC's AAP nomination/re-nomination decision or of an SJC's recommendation to withdraw carding may be pursued only through the SJC appeals process.



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.



Appendix 1

Physical tests and minimum attainment:

- Standing long jump: 135% of FIS height
- Triple long jump: 400% of FIS height
- Balance skills adequate to Ski Jumping assessed by professional coaching staff via rollerblade and roller board exercises
- Blind exercises on the floor
- Vertical jump from squat position with hand on side performed in a technically specific manner:
 - Women: 25% of body height
 - Men: 30% of body height
 - 30-metre sprint: less than 5 seconds
 - Squat bodyweight: starting position 10% lower than in-run position