

Financial aid programs 2025-2026

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Financial measures readily accessible for schools in the Maritimes

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Background information

The health of the sports movement depends on the ability of clubs, leagues, and federations to finance their training activities, events, and infrastructure.

This guide outlines the main funding sources available to sports associations in the Maritimes, along with essential links for each program.

You will find information for:

- New Brunswick
- Nova Scotia
- Athlete support programs

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Section 1: New-Brunswick

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1.

GO NB grant

⇒ The “GO NB” program **offers three distinct components** designed to meet the various needs of schools. Community organizations can work directly with schools to access these funds, creating valuable partnerships that support youth sports development.

1. Physical Literacy Component
2. Leadership Component
3. Sport for All Component

⇒ Application deadlines for these programs are set at four points throughout the year: May 30, August 30, November 30, and February 28, with funds released three to four weeks after these dates.

Additional information



The Leadership component provides up to **\$15,000 per year** for the training of qualified coaches and leaders.

This funding allows schools to organize National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) training, modules for Indigenous athlete coaches, and equity, diversity, and inclusion training. Schools can also use these funds to hire technical coordinators who deliver training across the province, creating a multiplier effect in the development of sports skills.

Additional information



The Physical Literacy component provides **\$5,000 to \$10,000** annually to create opportunities that help youth develop fundamental physical skills such as agility, balance, and coordination.

This program specifically supports the implementation of certified programs such as Rally Cap (baseball), Snow Stars (alpine skiing), and CanSkate (skating), which are particularly relevant for schools looking to establish or strengthen their foundational sports programs.

Additional information



The Sport for All component also offers **between \$5,000 and \$10,000 per year.**

It specifically targets equity-deserving groups: Indigenous youth, persons with disabilities, women and girls, youth facing financial barriers, newcomers, and 2ELGBTQIA+ individuals. This funding can cover up to \$10,000 for the purchase of adapted sports equipment, which is especially valuable for schools aiming to develop inclusive programs.

2.

Regional Grants for Sport and Recreation

- ⇒ The Government of New Brunswick also offers regional grants in two forms: **the Regional Profile Grant and the Regional Project Grant.**
- ⇒ These programs provide **up to \$5,000 per project, per year**, and are available to municipalities, non-profit organizations with a mandate in sport and recreation, as well as sports clubs and organizations.
- ⇒ Schools can collaborate with these organizations to develop joint projects that will benefit their students.

Additional information



These grants focus on three key development areas: organizational development, leadership development, and athlete development. They follow the same application deadlines as the GO NB program, making it easier to coordinate multiple funding requests.

3.

Active Communities Grant

- ⇒ The Active Communities grant program aims to encourage physical activity by addressing common barriers to participation.
- ⇒ With a maximum funding amount of \$5,000 per project, it accepts applications from local communities, municipalities, and non-profit organizations.
- ⇒ Schools can partner with these groups to create initiatives that increase physical activity opportunities for their students.
- ⇒ The application deadlines follow the same quarterly schedule as the other provincial programs.

4.

“Bon Départ” Sport Plus Grant

- ⇒ The program offers an innovative approach for **rural schools in southeastern New Brunswick**. This non-profit initiative provides inclusive after-school sports clinics for students from Grade 3 to Grade 8. Sessions take place three times a week from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., and include a healthy snack and homework support before the sports activities.
- ⇒ Schools interested in this model can explore similar partnerships in their regions.

5.

Fund for Inclusivity in Sport

- ⇒ The New Brunswick Sport and Recreation Branch has developed the Sport Inclusivity Fund, which covers **up to 75% of eligible expenses, up to a maximum of \$10,000.**
- ⇒ This fund is particularly relevant for schools seeking to develop sports programs that are accessible to students with disabilities or other specific needs. Funding is based on demonstrated needs and aims to eliminate barriers to sports participation.

6.

Para NB – Sports and Recreation

- ⇒ **Para NB** is a provincial program that involves working with individuals with physical disabilities, schools, provincial sport organizations (PSOs), disability organizations, recreational organizations, and facilities to build capacity and lead the development and coordination of a system that engages people with physical disabilities in parasport and recreation.
- ⇒ **Schools can collaborate with Para NB** to develop inclusive programs and access specialized resources. The program also provides support for coach and leader training in parasport, which can benefit school programs seeking to become more inclusive.

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Section 2: Nova-Scotia

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1.

Healthy Schools Grants

- ⇒ For the 2023–2024 school year and beyond, each school receives **\$5,000 plus \$1 per enrolled student.**
- ⇒ These funds must be used to support the implementation of the Physical Activity Framework (PAF), which includes:
 - Sports workshops
 - Equipment purchases

Additional information

→ **Common examples of how sports workshops are used include:** African dance workshops, specialty classes such as Zumba, aerobics, taekwondo, judo, ringette, and pickleball; physical activity days (winter activity days, track and field days, fun runs); school sport clubs (running club, basketball); and outdoor clubs.

→ **Eligible equipment purchases include playground and recreation equipment** (chalk, sandbox toys), supplies for active learning, adaptive physical education equipment, indoor recreation equipment, outdoor equipment (sleds, cross-country skis, orienteering gear, disc golf, archery, canoes, snowshoes, bicycles), specialized sports equipment (lacrosse, pickleball, badminton), and outdoor clothing for students (running shoes, boots).

2.

Support4Sport - Provincial program

⇒ The Support4Sport program, managed by Sport Nova Scotia, **is a major sport funding initiative in the province.** Supported by the Nova Scotia Gaming Corporation, this program offers funding across seven distinct areas, all of which can benefit schools in various ways:

- Individual Coach Initiatives
- Individual Official Initiatives
- Athlete Assistance
- Community Sport Fund Grants
- Provincial Sport Organization (PSO) Projects
- Support Projects
- Technical Leadership Employment Program

3.

Recreational Facility Development Grant

⇒ This provincial program helps community groups, municipalities, and non-profit organizations develop or upgrade facilities to increase public participation in sport and physical recreation. **Approved projects can receive up to two-thirds of the total capital cost, with a maximum of \$150,000.**

Eligible facilities include: recreation centres and halls, pools, arenas, sports fields, parks, playgrounds, and trails. Particularly relevant for schools, the program also funds school improvements intended for community use.

This means that schools can apply for funding to enhance their sports facilities, especially if these facilities will also be accessible to the community outside of school hours.

Additional information



The Rink Revitalization Fund is part of this program and specifically supports organizations that operate rinks in investing in the revitalization or upgrading of capital infrastructure to ensure the long-term sustainability of their facility. Rinks include curling clubs, arenas, and permanent outdoor rinks. The application deadline is February 14 each year.

4.

School Advisory Council (SAC) Innovation Fund

- ⇒ Nova Scotia offers the SAC Innovation Fund, a program of approximately \$250,000 that can provide School Advisory Councils **with grants of up to \$10,000.**
- ⇒ This fund encourages creative and innovative ideas that promote student success and well-being, and that help address real issues faced by students and schools.
- ⇒ The funding is intended to allow SACs to test an idea that, if successful, could be implemented in other schools. Applications must be innovative and add value to the educational experience of the school's students.

Additional information :

Recent projects

- ➔ Recently funded projects demonstrate the diversity of initiatives supported. At Champlain Elementary School in the CSRCE, the “Right to Bike” project provides Grade 3, 4, and 5 students with access to larger bicycles, helmets, tools, high-visibility vests, and bike racks. The project builds partnerships with the community, integrates cycling skills into instructional periods, and increases physical activity.
- ➔ At Sydney River Elementary School in the CBVRCE, the “Movement – Up and to the Right” project expands participation in the ASK (Active Smarter Kids) program to create a bank of lessons accessible to teaching staff and to provide students with outdoor learning tools for recreational activities.

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Section 3: Grants for students

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1.

KidSport

⇒ KidSport provides direct financial support to families to remove financial barriers to children's participation in sport.

⇒ In New Brunswick, the program offers up to **\$400 per eligible child per year (from January 1 to December 31)**.

⇒ In Nova Scotia, the program offers up to **\$500 per eligible child per year**.

⇒ These grants cover registration fees for sport programs and, in some cases, sports equipment. In Nova Scotia, if a child requires equipment, the program provides a voucher to purchase appropriate gear from Cleve's Source for Sports, the program's equipment partner.

2.

Jumpstart program from Canadian Tire

- ⇒ The national Jumpstart program helps children overcome financial and accessibility barriers to participating in sport and recreational activities. Supported by Canadian Tire Corporation, the program **has provided more than \$200 million to help over 2.5 million children since 2005.**
- ⇒ **Jumpstart offers two main types of support:**
 - Individual child grants to cover participation fees for sport and recreation activities
 - Community development grants to fund recreational infrastructure and programs
- ⇒ Schools can encourage eligible families to apply online through the website: jumpstart.canadiantire.ca.

Additional information



The program has also created Inclusive Play Spaces that are universally accessible. These facilities include multi-sport courts with adjustable equipment, allowing for basketball, pickleball, sitting volleyball, tennis, volleyball, wheelchair basketball, wheelchair tennis, and more. Schools can explore partnerships with Canadian Tire to develop such facilities.

3.

Gopher Physical Activity Equipment Grant

- ⇒ EPS Canada offers the Gopher Physical Activity Equipment Grant, which allows schools to receive up to \$2,500 in Gopher gift certificates to purchase the physical activity equipment they need to enhance physical activity opportunities and programs within their school community.
- ⇒ **Applicants may choose to request \$500, \$1,000, \$1,500, \$2,000, or \$2,500 in Gopher gift certificates to purchase the desired equipment.**
- ⇒ The application period for 2025–2026 is now open, with a deadline of November 28 at 11:59 p.m. (ET).

Depending on your situation, the measures mentioned above may cover the cost of the MCS platform!

What's MCS?

MonClubSportif is a management software for sports and cultural teams used by more than 200 schools and associations across Canada.

Too many tools to manage your groups? Inefficient and unsecured communication wearing you down? Try our platform free for 30 days. No commitment!

[Learn more](#)

Depending on your situation, the measures mentioned above may cover the cost of the MCS platform!



Simplify the management of your sports and cultural activities

What's MCS ?

MCS is a team management solution designed to facilitate the organization, communication, and management of sports and cultural activities.

For whom?



Directors



Athletic Director and Recreation Technician



Coaches



Parents and athletes

Key benefits



Time saving
Up to 10h/week

Automation of administrative tasks (registrations, payment tracking, attendance management, automated reminders).



Centralized communication

Integrated messaging, notifications, shared calendars



Enhanced athlete safety

Right to monitor exchanges, compliance with the rule of two, health record, option to report abuse

Improved efficiency and increased safety

Why us?

Optimize your time, centralize everything, and secure your environment

"80% of reports of sextortion are made on Instagram or Snapchat."

"The app has saved me around **10 hours of work per week.**"

Implementing MCS

Turnkey platform configuration

We can set up your manager platform in 72 hours with our turnkey service. Just provide us with your information, and we'll take care of the rest.



+ 300
schools and associations use MCS

+ 300 000
players use MCS

+ 45 000
teams use MCS

Ressources

If you would like to receive additional resources to further support your research, **please send an email to the address below.**

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