

18th December 2018

Jersey Sport – Travel Grant 2019 Update

Dear Sport,

2018 has seen Jersey Sport administer the States of Jersey sports travel grants for the first time. It is a pleasure to see the number of talented athletes in Jersey. The dedication and commitment from so many athletes across so many sports is inspiring.

On behalf of the Committee I wish to congratulate the athletes and thank the coaches, chaperones, committees, officials, parents and travel grant coordinators, the majority of whom are volunteers, for playing your vital part in supporting island sport.

Due to the changes made to the travel grants in 2018 we are now confident every funded sport has safeguarding practices in place, supported athletes are on a performance pathway and we are on course to spend the whole grant. These are positive steps forward for the sports community. However, although we have made progress, we recognise there are things to learn so we have been reflecting and intend to share our proposals for 2019 with you.

Throughout this year we have been listening to sports and this is a summary of some of the anecdotal feedback about the travel grant process:

- “Too much admin for volunteers.”
- “Is the admin worth it for £40 a trip?”
- “Collecting and presenting receipts with claims is a lot of work.”
- “It’s sometimes difficult to know who, if anyone, will go to each event so far in advance.”
- “Events and dates may not be available until later in the year, making it difficult to plan and apply for grants.”

Note: receipts were required as part of the formal grant conditions from the States of Jersey in 2018.

Funding has not yet been confirmed by the States of Jersey for 2019 and it is not yet clear when confirmation will be received regarding 2019 travel grants. So, at this stage we are only able to start preparing and are unable to open applications. The purpose of this message is to highlight the changes we are looking to make, subject to securing funding and associated terms with the States of Jersey. The proposed 2019 changes have assumed a similar level of funding to 2018.

We must stress that we do not expect any additional travel grant funding for 2019 from the States of Jersey and expect it may be at a similar level to the £125k awarded for 2018.

2019 Principles

The Jersey Sport Travel Grant Advisory Committee (TGAC) aim to reduce the administration for all involved with the travel grants process whilst continuing to ensure the grant requirements of the States of Jersey funding agreement are met, and grants positively support athlete development and meet the agreed grant criteria (ages, levels of competition, sport governance, safeguarding, and transparency of accounting etc.).

The Committee recognise sports have submitted detailed calendars of activity in 2018 and they do not wish to require sports to have to undertake the same administration burden where the levels of activity are likely to be similar in 2019. However, details are required if additional funding is requested and for new applicants, who did not receive grants in 2018.

2019 Grant Proposal

So, based on the feedback these are the changes we are looking to make for 2019:

1. Simplify the application form and process.
2. Remove the requirement for sports to provide a detailed annual list of events upfront if the level of activity and grant request is up to the amount approved and paid in 2018. Please note, detail will be required if additional funding is requested and for new applicants.
3. 2019 applications will be required from each sport. The level of funding for each sport will be initially based on the level paid in 2018. Increases in funding requests will need to be justified and details provided for the Committee to consider in the context that there is unlikely to be any additional funding available in 2019 (above the 2018 £125k budget).
4. Greater flexibility for sports to allocate funds to eligible trips that meet the agreed criteria throughout the year, as things change. Funding will no longer be tied to specific trips agreed at the start of the year.
5. Receipts will no longer be required to be produced with each claim. However, proof of attendance must be retained by the applicant for spot checks and audits.
6. Grant conditions and criteria must be met, and two signatures will be required on a 'grant assurance' basis with each application and claim.
7. The maximum allocation of £40 per person per trip will remain on the basis no additional funding is expected.
8. Quarterly financial profiles (forecasts) will be required for cash flow and monitoring purposes with the application and quarterly with each claim.
9. Payments will continue to be made quarterly in arrears, following receipt of a travel grant claim form.
10. Where grants are disseminated to member/ affiliated clubs and organisations, they must meet the requirements of the grant, including safeguarding, and use the grant solely for the intended purpose and agree to the terms and conditions.

The grant agreement (terms and conditions) have been updated and enclosed. Please take the time to read this carefully. It also includes details of what activities the travel grants may be used to fund.

You will also find the 2019 draft application form enclosed for your information.

2019 Timelines

Application timelines will be published as soon as Jersey Sport receives confirmation from the States of Jersey regarding the level of travel grant funding for 2019. Please do not yet apply.

If you have any questions you are invited to discuss the 2019 process with James Tilley, Sports Partnership Manager, at: James.Tilley@JerseySport.je or 01534 757710

Kind regards,

Steve Law

Jersey Sport Travel Grant Advisory Committee Chair
Jersey Sport Director