

ELITE FEMALE COACHING SCHOLARSHIP (EFCS)

FUNDING GUIDELINES

Sport and Recreation

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1. ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Of the 160 coaches accredited at the 2016 Rio Olympic Games, only 15 – or 9% – were female. That was down from 12% at the 2012 London Olympics. In 2019, not a single head coach of an AFLW team is female, while only two W-League coaches and less than 40% of head coaches in the WNBL were female.

The 2018 Women in Sport Forum held by the ACT Government highlighted the unique perspective and value that female coaches can bring. Quality female coaches abound and yet, despite the continued development and heightened profile of major women's sporting competitions, pathways for female coaches appear more constrained than ever.

The Elite Female Coaching Scholarships (EFCS) aim to provide support to Canberra's next generation of elite, or potentially elite, female coaching leaders, supporting both their professional development and the opportunity for them to be engaged, and financially rewarded, for practical experience within a designated elite coaching environment.

It is proposed that the EFCS would provide up to \$5000 to participants (through their designated sporting organisation). Individuals wishing to apply for EFCS must have their applications endorsed by the State Sporting Organisation (SSO) governing their designated sport (or their elite team in the case where this is not linked to the SSO). Funds distributed for the provision of the scholarship must be assigned during the relevant calendar year.

The proposed EFCS is an ACT Government grant program administered by Sport and Recreation. The funding provided by Sport and Recreation is limited. All applications will be assessed on relative merit.

Applications for EFCS will be invited from 1 May 2019, closing on 1 June 2019.

Applications to the EFCS are submitted through the online grants portal accessible from the Sport and Recreation website – www.sport.act.gov.au

2. PRIMARY OBJECTIVE

The primary objective of the EFCS is to provide financial assistance to female coaches looking to progress from high level/semi-elite levels to professional positions within their sports. It is anticipated the EFCS will bridge the current gap in coaching development opportunities for female coaches and link participants, through their sports, to high level coaching education and resources. The scholarship will also allow sports to tailor a program for identified recipients that provides them with insight, experience and exposure in elite sporting environments. Finally it would be intended that part of the scholarship funds (no more than 50%) be used as an honorarium payment to reward/compensate the applicant for their engagement in this coaching environment.

3. OUTCOMES

The intended outcomes of the EFCS include:

- ➔ To increase women's access to quality coach development programs;
- ➔ To provide an industry supported employment pathway for ex-athletes;
- ➔ To provide training and education opportunities for female coaches that will assist in the development of that sport and elite female participation pathways;
- ➔ To assist in providing a clear pathway for women looking to become involved in higher level sports coaching; and
- ➔ Empower ACT SSO's and elite teams in creating and maintaining elite level coaching programs.

The Minister for Sport and Recreation is responsible for the final endorsement of all recommendations for the EFCS.

4. GENERAL ELIGIBILITY

Any individual applying for funding under the EFCS must:

- ➔ Be over the age of 18;
- ➔ Must identify as female;
- ➔ An Australian citizen or have been granted permanent resident status;
- ➔ Deliver programs or be seeking to deliver programs within the ACT elite sporting environment;
- ➔ Be endorsed by ACT SSO or elite sports team (CEO or President); and
- ➔ Must already be identified as high-level/semi-elite coach within their sport or have the potential to be identified as such.

5. WHO IS NOT ELIGIBLE TO APPLY

The following are not eligible to receive funding from the EFCS:

- ➔ Any individual that could be reasonably considered to already be in full time employment (in a coaching role) within an elite sporting environment;

6. CONDITIONS OF FUNDING

1. The declaration on the application form certifies that all information provided in the application is true and correct. Action may be taken for repayment of any grant made

where information contained in the application is subsequently found to be false or the grant is not used for its approved purpose.

2. All funding recipients and the individual scholarship recipients are accountable for funds received from Sport and Recreation and must adhere to all conditions and guidelines of the EFCS.
3. Successful applicants will need to seek written approval from Sport and Recreation to make any variation to the project, as detailed in the application form. Requests to amend the scope of the project need to be addressed to the Director, Sport and Recreation, clearly outlining why the change of purpose is required. Applicants should not assume that a change of purpose request will be approved.

7. GOODS AND SERVICES TAX (GST)

GST is payable to organisations that receive financial assistance under this program if they are GST registered with the Australian Tax Office and can provide an Australian Business Number (ABN), i.e. if turnover is greater than \$150,000 per annum.

For successful applicant organisations, Sport and Recreation will gross up the grant/s by 10% if registered for GST and after receipt of a Tax Invoice. Organisations that are not registered for the GST will not have their grants grossed up.

8. FUNDING PARAMETERS

All applicants must be aware of the following funding parameters:

- ➔ Applicants apply for a scholarship of up to \$5000. Those funds are provided to the SSO/team of their nominated sport;
- ➔ The full amount is to be used solely for the provision of the scholarship and may not be used by the SSO for another purpose; and
- ➔ The full amount is to be used in the calendar year. Funds may be granted by the recipient organisation to the individual as an honorarium (no more than 50% of the total) for the individual's undertaking of the identified role with the elite/high performance environment

9. ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

When Sport and Recreation receives your application, it will be checked to ensure eligibility for funding (refer to Item 4 for eligibility requirements). All eligible applications are then provided to an assessment officer and a panel to be rated. The assessment panel is chaired by a senior staff member of Sport and Recreation.

Each application will be assessed against the guidelines and selection criteria on the application form. In addition, the assessment panel will consider the application as a whole and make an assessment as to the merit of the application in meeting the aims and objectives of the assessment round and its overall ability to address priorities for the intended outcomes of the EFCS.

Applications that meet all the general eligibility requirements will be assessed against the following criteria in meeting the primary objective and outcomes of the EFCS:

- ➔ Demonstrated need;
- ➔ Demonstrated benefits;
- ➔ Coaching program design; and
- ➔ Application quality.

Even though an application may meet the above criteria, approval will depend on the number of applications received, the relative merit of the application, government priorities and available funds.

Recommendations for funding will then be made to the Minister for Sport and Recreation for final approval. Applicants will be advised of the outcome of their application as soon as possible after Ministerial approval has been given. Sport and Recreation is unable to provide feedback on the outcome of your application prior to the conclusion of the assessment process.

10. WHAT MAY BE CONSIDERED FOR FUNDING

- ➔ Education and training costs in industry training and accreditation courses both within the sport and external to the sport.
- ➔ Travel (Flights, accommodation, etc) costs for attendance at local, interstate and international education and training course/s.
- ➔ Training peaks or other sport specific IT
- ➔ External consultants, i.e. psychologists, nutritionists, career counsellor, etc.
- ➔ Media training
- ➔ Coaching equipment specifically for scholarship recipient
- ➔ Honorarium for scholarship recipient (no more than 50% of the total funding is available for this – the specific role to be undertaken by the applicant must be clearly identified within the application process)

11. WHAT WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR FUNDING

- ➔ Requests for retrospective funding;
- ➔ Costs not specifically incurred by scholarship recipient;
- ➔ General administrative and management costs associated in operating the organisation;
- ➔ Costs associated with salaries for supporting staff of scholarship recipient or currently employed by the applicant's organisation;
- ➔ Requests for items damaged by vandalism, theft, fire, or any natural disaster where those should have been covered by the appropriate insurance;
- ➔ Honorarium greater than 50% of the total amount
- ➔ Prize money, trophies, catering and hospitality expenses.

12. SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM DESIGN

All applications must submit an outline of the program to be undertaken by the scholarship recipient. Items such as training course costs and travel, should be listed with approximate costs identified. This would also include details of the purchase of equipment items and details of the honorarium to be paid (and the role for which the honorarium applies). Failure to submit this information may jeopardise any offer of funding.

13. ACQUITTAL OF EFCS FUNDING

Within three months after the termination date of the grant period, organisations (and scholarship participants) must provide Sport and Recreation with the following:

- ➔ a signed "Acquittal Form", certifying that the organisation has utilised the financial assistance in accordance with the Conditions and Guidelines of the EFCS; and
- ➔ a copy of relevant invoices, receipts, bank statements or other financial documentation that **clearly** identifies the income and expenditure of the scholarship, or
- ➔ documentation that **clearly** identifies the income and expenditure of the scholarship, signed by the official auditor of the organisation

For further information on the Elite Female Coaching Scholarship contact the Senior Project Officer on (02) 6207 2528.