

Things You Should Know: Financial Support for Physical Activity

There are a few financial assistance programs for children to be involved in sport that parents should be aware of.

Children's Fitness Tax Credit

Offered by the Government of Canada, this tax credit allows a non-refundable tax credit for eligible fitness expenses paid by parents to register a child in a prescribed physical activity program.

This tax credit is available to parents of children who are, at the beginning of the year in which the expense is paid are under the age of 16 or if eligible for the disability tax credit, under the age of 18.

If eligible, up to \$500 can be claimed on income tax.

For more information, contact the Canada Revenue Agency in your area or visit their website at www.cra-arc.gc.ca

KidSport Saskatchewan

KidSport is a charity which assists children of families facing financial obstacles to participate in community sports programs. This funding is available to children aged 5 to 18 and grants are to be used for registration only.

All applications must be endorsed by an adult (teacher, coach, professional in family services or social work, etc.) and applications are reviewed and approved by local KidSport chapters or the provincial office.

Grants of up to \$300 can be awarded per child, per calendar year.

For more information on eligibility and/or to find out where the nearest chapter is, contact KidSport Saskatchewan, 800.319.GAME (4263), or visit the KidSport website at www.kidsportsask.ca

Canadian Tire Jumpstart

This program assists families with financial challenges to get their individual children aged 4 to 18 years involved in sports and recreation programs.

Funding up to a maximum of \$300 per child can be awarded per submission session. Usage of funds for registration fees, equipment and travel are decided on a case-by-case basis.

For more information on eligibility requirements and how to apply contact the Canadian Jumpstart program at 877.616.6600 or visit their website at www.canadiantire.ca/jumpstart/funding.

Parents may also be able to access financial assistance or fee discounts through other sources:

- recreation or sport organizations
- local service clubs (Lions/Lioness, Kiwanis, Elks, etc.)
- community associations

Be sure to ask for assistance as available. Many organizations are willing and able to work with parents to ensure children are able to participate in the sport of their choosing.

