

Athlete Funding Opportunities

ASUPP Funds

The U.S. Figure Skating Athlete Support (ASUPP) Fund is one that financially supports the U.S. Team envelope A, B, and C athletes by assisting them with their skating expenses. Members are selected by the International Committee Management Subcommittee and will be notified of their nomination. (Team envelopes are determined based on specific criteria which can be found at www.usfigureskating.org) Depending on their envelope, athletes will receive various funds throughout the season including ASUPP funds, Performance Enhancement and Tracking funds and podium bonus funds.

Prize Money

Depending on the international event, athletes who medal at the following events will receive podium prize money:

- All Junior Grand Prix events
- All senior Grand Prix events
- Junior Grand Prix Final and senior Grand Prix Final
- Four Continents Championships
- World Junior Championships
- World Championships

Developmental Team Grants

The Developmental Team Program is intended to enhance the training and development of athletes in the novice, juvenile and intermediate levels. Athletes placing fourth, fifth or sixth in novice ladies, novice men, novice pairs or novice ice dancing at the 2009 U.S. Figure Skating Championships are automatically placed in the Developmental Team envelope. Athletes placing in the top three in all disciplines in the juvenile and intermediate levels at the 2009 U.S. Junior Figure Skating Championships are automatically placed in the Developmental Team envelope.

Memorial Fund

The Memorial Fund's Competitive Skaters Assistance Program is intended to subsidize the training expenses incurred by competitive figure skaters in the singles, pairs and ice dancing disciplines. Awards are based on financial need and competitive history.

The Memorial Fund Academic Scholarships are intended to assist figure skaters who are pursuing a college degree. Awards are based on financial need, academic performance and continuing participation in competitive figure skating or current involvement in activities of U.S. Figure Skating. Applications for both awards will be available online by June 1, 2009 at www.usfigureskating.org.

Scholastic Honors Team

The Scholastic Honors Team is a program designed to recognize high school-age U.S. Figure Skating members who have distinguished themselves both in figure skating and high school academics. Selected team members will receive a monetary scholarship. Applications will be available online by June 1, 2009 at www.usfigureskating.org.

Sponsorship and Non-Sanctioned Events, Appearances and Advertisements

Sponsorships are agreements between the sponsor and the athlete only — U.S. Figure Skating is not involved in this agreement. The only time the athlete should question his or her eligibility is if the sponsor asks to participate in an event that is not sanctioned by U.S. Figure Skating. (This includes non-sanctioned events, appearances or advertisements). If this occurs, the athlete can still accept the sponsorship but only if the participation has been approved. To obtain approval, he or she must complete a form called the Eligible Skater's Compensation Agreement (ESCA). Once this is completed, submitted and approved by the executive director, the athlete's eligibility will be protected. The purpose of the ESCA is to provide the vehicle whereby skaters may enter into an arrangement providing financial assistance while still protecting their eligibility to compete in U.S. Figure Skating, ISU or Olympic competitions. The ESCA is an extremely important resource for athletes to understand. The chart below can provide further assistance when determining when an ESCA is needed:

	Athlete Will Receive Compensation	Athlete Will Not Receive Compensation
U.S. Figure Skating-Sanctioned Event	ESCA NOT needed BUT athlete's name, U.S. Figure Skating # and compensation amount must be attached to the sanction application and submitted to Headquarters	ESCA NOT needed but sanction application must be submitted to U.S. Figure Skating by host club
Non-Sanctioned Event	ESCA must be completed and submitted to U.S. Figure Skating along with the applicable processing fee (See Processing Fee *** for explanation)	ESCA must be completed and submitted to U.S. Figure Skating along with a \$10 processing fee
ISI (Ice Skating Institute)-Sanctioned Event	ESCA must be completed and submitted to U.S. Figure Skating along with the applicable processing fee (See Processing Fee *** for explanation)	ESCA NOT needed but athlete's name must be submitted to U.S. Figure Skating if the athlete has skated novice or above the last two years at U.S. Championships

U.S. Olympic Committee Tuition Grants

Another way the United States Olympic Committee financially supports our athletes is through tuition grants. Tuition grants are intended to help defray a portion of the athletes' tuition costs and, in doing so, encourage athletes to further their formal education in preparation for lifelong career goals.

Beginners Information

The following are ideas for athletes and their parents regarding assistance early in their careers:

- Ask your skating club what monies, if any, it has budgeted to assist its skaters
- Inquire with service clubs or organizations within your city that may have sponsorship funds available to young people. Some examples are the Kiwanis Club, Lions Club, Rotary, Knights of Columbus or even your church or school.
- Create a fundraising campaign that can help you raise money for training such as bake sales, garage sales, car washes, etc.

* Funding amounts are based on the budget.