



Force Fund Player Assistance Program

Updated August 2026

Metro West Force Female Hockey Association (MWF) is committed to enabling all girls to have access to the game of hockey. In 2023, MWF launched the Force Fund, a financial assistance fund created for players by players, to help remove barriers by providing financial grants to registered MWF players who meet the following eligibility criteria*:

- **Players Requiring Financial Assistance**

The grants for players requiring financial assistance to participate in hockey are funded by current and former players of MWF who contributed to this fund through profits from former provincial tournaments and other initiatives.

AND/OR

- **Players who are New Canadians**

The grants for New Canadians, during the 2023/24 season were funded by the Hockey Canada Foundation Gala and Golf Grow the Game Grant, which MWF successfully secured. Note: there weren't any applications in this category for 2023/24 and the Hockey Canada Foundation did not offer funding for 2024/25.

**Please note that the eligibility criteria for the Force Fund is subject to change from season to season as we continue to grow and diversity the game.*

How will a family demonstrate that they require financial assistance?

Families that meet the Low Income Cut-Off (LICO) guidelines from Statistics Canada and/or families who will experience lower income during the upcoming season due to being impacted by a natural disaster (e.g. wildfire, hurricane) or significant personal event (e.g. loss of job, loss of spouse) are eligible to apply for the Force Fund. Families must provide confirmation of their situation, and this will be discussed with families on an individual basis.

How much funding will the Force Fund provide?

The Force Fund may provide grants of up to 100% of a player's registration fee, depending on the number of applications received and the availability of funds at the beginning of the upcoming season.

How do players apply for the Force Fund?

Players and/or families can apply for grants through the Force Fund by completing the application form that will be received by our Force Fund Selection Committee, consisting of three members (our Director, Membership Growth and two former members of MWF) who operate in confidence.

Should I apply for other grants first?

As this is a supplementary fund, we ask that players and/or families apply to other

grants, prior to applying for the Force Fund. If you are declined by other funds/grants, you will be considered for the Force Fund.

The following is a list of active player assistance grants known to MWF:

- Canadian Tire Jumpstart
- Hockey Canada Assist Fund
- KidSport Nova Scotia Grant
- The Grindstone Award

What is the application deadline for the Force Fund?

The application deadline for the Force Fund for the 2026/27 season is **October 1, 2026**. Applications received after this deadline will be considered for the next season.

Who can I contact if I have additional questions?

If you have additional questions or wish to discuss your application in confidence, please contact Keri Irwin, Vice President Membership Growth, at membershipgrowth@metrowestforce.com.

A sincere thank you to all of our current and former players and families who have contributed to the Force Fund over the years. Your generosity continues to help support players and families across our Force community.