



## **Funding Opportunities available to SOMT Teams**

Special Olympics Montana is pleased to offer the following grants & scholarships as opportunities to supplement their fundraising plans.

- LETR Dave Hedley Memorial Scholarship
- Team Hardship Grant
- Area Management Team Grant

### **LETR Dave Hedley Memorial Scholarship**

- Awarded by?
  - The Law Enforcement Torch Run Executive Council.
- Who is eligible?
  - Criteria – Click [HERE](#)
- How to apply?
  - Application - <https://go.somt.org/26DaveHedleyApp>
  - Deadline June 30, 2026
- How many grants are available?
  - From two to four \$250 - \$500 grants annually
- When are grants awarded?
  - After the LETR Council assesses the 2026 applications.

### **Team Hardship Grant**

These grants are available to teams experiencing some sort of budget shortfall due to variables such as - distance to SOMT events and scarcity of travel options, high or multi-levels of athlete needs, or reactivating/new teams – that may otherwise prevent them from attending state-sponsored games.

- Awarded by?
  - A committee made up of SOMT staff, making the process ongoing and nimble.
- Who is eligible?
  - SOMT teams in Good Standing.
  - Teams that have demonstrated varied attempts at fundraising.
  - New teams.
  - Inactive teams that are wanting to become active again.
- How are funding decisions determined?



- Funding decisions are based on criteria including – geographic distances/population density, team make-up, census data from the previous calendar year, and previous team fundraising contributions.
- How to apply?
  - Apply using the [link to this form](#)
  - The online application form is also available on the Team Planning page of the SOMT website.
- How many grants are available?
  - Number and amounts vary according to available funds.
  - Attempts will be made to be equitable across the state as awards are made, not awarding numerous teams from the same geographic area for example.
- When are grants awarded?
  - This process is ongoing throughout the year. Apply any time.

### **Area Management Team Grant**

This grant provides supplemental funding for existing teams needing assistance or start-up costs for new or re-engaging teams.

- Awarded by?
  - Volunteers on the local Area Management Team.
- Who is eligible?
  - New or re-engaging SOMT Teams in Good Standing residing in a SOMT regional Area that awards grants.
- How to apply?
  - Click [here](#) to download the Grant Request Form or visit the Team Planning page on the SOMT website.

### Teams in Good Standing must:

- Have a certified Local Program Coordinator
- Have a current budget on file with their Area Finance Coordinator
- Have at least one qualified athlete.

### Teams in Good Standing best practices:

- State & Area game participation.
- All team members follow the code of conduct.
- All athlete, volunteer registrations & certifications up to date.