



Athlete Scholarship Program

Ontario Player Development League (OPDL)

Guidelines on the 2020 OPDL Athlete Scholarship Program

April 1st, 2020

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Section I – Introduction

The OPDL Athlete Scholarship Program is available to eligible full time players registered with an OPDL License Holders for the current year. The program provides concentrated funding to OPDL players with a demonstrated significant playing potential.

The Athlete Scholarship Program started in the inaugural year of the OPDL, 2014, where 32 grants of \$500 were given to OPDL players, who met the established criteria. In 2015, 64 grants of \$500 were given. In 2016, 102 grants of \$750 were given to OPDL players. From 2014 to 2020 over \$583,000 in grants have been made available to OPDL players. In 2020 the OPDL Athlete Scholarship Program will award a total of \$100,000 with grants ranging from \$750-\$1,500.

Compliance to NCAA Eligibility Rules

Any athlete considering applying to an NCAA institution is strongly encouraged to contact the NCAA Eligibility Center prior to applying to the OPDL Athlete Scholarship Program.

Section II – Eligibility

All OPDL players applying for the Athlete Scholarship Program must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident (previously known as a Landed Immigrant).
- Athlete must be living in and continuing to train in Ontario
- Athlete must be in good standing with the License Holder
- Athlete must not be under a sanction that prohibits competition as per Ontario Soccer Policies and Procedures

Players will be assessed based on the following criteria:

- a) Financial assessment, as verified by License Holder Official
- b) Technical development potential, as assessed by Technical Director
- c) Dedication to the sport of soccer and high performance training
- d) Community Leadership

Financial Assessment

The following table, made based on the Stats Can Income Cut-off Tables from 2014 to 2018, shall be used as a guide for assessing financial need:

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	1 POINT AWARDED	3 POINTS AWARDED	5 POINTS AWARDED
2 PERSONS	\$30,287 or more	\$25,556 to \$30,286	\$25,555 or less
3 PERSONS	\$37,235 or more	\$31,823 to \$37,234	\$31,822 or less
4 PERSONS	\$45,207 or more	\$39,702 to \$45,206	\$39,701 or less
5 PERSONS	\$51,273 or more	\$45,208 to \$51,272	\$45,207 or less
6 PERSONS	\$57,826 or more	\$50,137 to \$57,826	\$50,136 or less
7 OR MORE PERSONS	\$64,381 or more	\$55,066 to \$64,381	\$55,065 or less

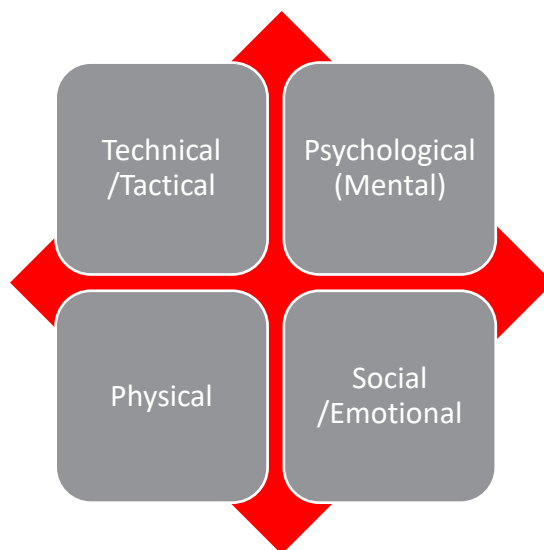


Technical Assessment

A Technical Assessment must be completed by the License Holder's Technical Director, highlighting key attributes of the player in the 4 corners that make him/her a talented player.

- When available, the last player rubric submitted in the previous year will be used as part of this assessment.

Applicants will receive a maximum of **5** (five) points towards their application total.



Player Commitment

A brief summary, outlining the commitment exhibited by the player and family to soccer within the License Holder historically, or the OPDL environment to date, shall be included with the application.

Summary shall be limited to 150 words. Applicants will receive a maximum of **5** (five) points towards their application total.

Community Leadership

Applicants with demonstrable commitment to community service and volunteerism will receive a maximum of **3** (three) points towards their application total.

Reference letters confirming length of service from each organization the applicant has volunteered for must be submitted along with the application.



Section III - Application Information

Interested candidates shall contact their OPDL License Holder with necessary information to validate financial criteria.

License Holders shall appoint an Official to collect and review information provided by candidates, complete the application form, and act as a point of contact with Ontario Soccer.

Upon completion of the financial assessment by the designated License Holder Official, the Technical Assessment must be completed by the License Holder's Technical Director and submitted in the application form.

Applications are to be submitted by OPDL License Holders directly to Ontario Soccer via the online application form available here:

[OPDL Athlete Scholarship Program – Application Form](#)

Application Form shall include:

- a) License Holder Information
- b) Player's Contact Information
- c) Parent/Guardian Information
- d) Family Information
- e) Financial Information
Including most recent Notice of Assessment
- f) Technical Information, as assessed by the License Holder's Technical Director
- g) Demonstrated commitment, as assessed by the License Holder Official

Section IV - Application Dates & Deadlines

Only one application form per player shall be completed by the License Holder Official in accordance to the window deadlines outlined below:

First application window	
February 1 st , 2020	Application opens
April 1st, 2020 May 15th	Application closes
April 30th, 2020 June 15th	Successful Applicants and License Holders notified

All applications will be reviewed by Ontario Soccer during the assessment period and successful applicants and License Holders will be notified directly. A list of successful candidates from the License Holder will be shared with the License Holder's Official.

Applications must be submitted directly by OPDL License Holders. Applications submitted by parents/guardians will **not** be reviewed.



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