

March 18, 2021

**Dear Applicant:**

Thank you for applying for a grant from the Dare2tri Ability Fund. The goal of the Ability Fund is to allow established and committed Dare2tri athletes the ability to achieve their athletic goals by eliminating the barrier of high-priced equipment, travel, coaching, and race entry fees.

Due to the ongoing financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, there will be limited funding available for grants. Please be thoughtful about your requests.

**PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES AND INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE YOU APPLY**

**Athletes may apply for grants in of the following categories:**

- Home workout equipment
  - Equipment may include resistance bands, balls, mats, and weights, among other items, for home training.
  - Applicants must specify which equipment they'd like to purchase and provide the associated cost(s).
  - There is a maximum grant award for home workout equipment is \$250.
  
- Indoor bike trainers
  - There is a maximum grant award of \$650 that varies based on the type of bike trainer and the competitive level of the athlete.
  - Applicants must research bike trainer costs and specifications online and/or by speaking with Dare2tri coaches and provide with their application a price quote. Dare2tri reserves the right to award an equipment grant from a different manufacturer than requested.
  - Equipment purchased through the Ability Fund is owned by Dare2tri. Athletes retain personal use of the granted equipment as long as they are participants in the program and actively training for races. To maintain this personal use of the equipment, athletes must be active participants in Dare2tri programming. If they leave the program or are no longer actively competing, athletes have the option to purchase the equipment at its depreciated value or return it to Dare2tri.

- Equipment/Equipment upgrades (e.g. bikes, hand cycles, racing wheelchairs, etc.)
  - Equipment purchased through the Ability Fund is owned by Dare2tri. Athletes retain personal use of the granted equipment as long as they are participants in the program and actively training for races. To maintain this personal use of the equipment, athletes must be participants of Dare2tri and participate in a minimum of two events (i.e. camps, clinics, races) per season (not including practices). If they leave the program or are no longer actively competing, athletes have the option to purchase the equipment at its depreciated value or return it to Dare2tri.
  - There is a maximum grant award per piece of equipment that varies based on the type of equipment and the competitive level of the athlete (i.e., a member of the elite team). Athletes must research equipment costs and specifications online and/or by speaking with coaches and provide with their application a price quote and a detailed description of how they would like the equipment configured including sizes, adaptations, etc. Dare2tri reserves the right to award an equipment grant from a different manufacturer than requested.
  - Athletes may also apply for grants to upgrade their personally owned equipment (see equipment guidelines for maximum upgrade costs). Upgrades made to personally owned equipment will remain the property of the athlete.
- Sport-specific prosthetics
  - Athletes may apply for sport-specific prosthetics and must provide detailed information about what they are requesting along with the name and contact details of their prosthetist. (Due to the custom nature of prosthetics, they will not be returned to Dare2tri).
  - To maximize the funding available for all athletes, Dare2tri may award partial grants to cover some of the cost of the prosthetic if the athlete can afford a portion of the total cost.
- Sport Specific Coaching/Training
  - This could include private swim lessons, sport specific functional training and other services above and beyond what is offered by Dare2tri. Specific need must be demonstrated as to why services are needed beyond what Dare2tri offers.

- Race/Travel assistance
  - Entry fees, travel or other costs to attend camps, clinics or races. Athletes must specify camps, clinics or races they wish to attend and include itemized costs. This includes any virtual or in-person race scheduled in 2021.
  - Travel assistance grants are for athletes only (with the exception of blind athletes who can also apply for assistance for a guide).
  - The maximum grant award for race entry fees is \$250.

### **Eligibility to Apply**

- Active participation in Dare2tri in the past 18 months, defined by consistent attendance in programming and subject to approval by Dare2tri staff.
  - June 2019-March 2020: In-person programming
    - Dare2tri practices
    - Ambulatory Run Clinics
    - Learn2Tri Camp
    - Train2Race Camp
    - Kids Camp
    - Multisport Clinic
    - Elite/Development Camp
  - March 2020-March 2021: Virtual programming
    - Virtual Strength Training
    - Virtual Cycling
    - Virtual Veteran Cycling Program
    - Virtual Yoga
    - Holiday Health Series (Winter 2020)
- Recommendation from a Dare2tri coach or program staff member
- Demonstrated financial need

### **Acceptance criteria**

- Financial need
- Motivation/goals (impact of grant on athlete's life and athletic potential)

- Willingness to give back to Dare2tri (for example, serving as a mentor for other athletes, acting as a spokesperson for Dare2tri, writing an occasional blog post, or volunteering during Dare2tri events and fundraisers)
- Completeness of application
- Strength of coach/staff recommendation

### **Application process**

- Applications will be distributed to all Dare2tri athletes in two cycles:
  - Early season grants: applications open in mid March, due in late March and awarded by early April
  - Late season grants: applications open in early August, due in late-August and awarded by mid-September
- Applicant must get a letter of recommendation from a Dare2tri coach or program staff member
- Applications are to be submitted via online form by the specified due date
- Required proof of income must be submitted with the online application form
- Applications will be processed and reviewed by a committee managed by Dare2tri
- Applicants will be selected on an objective and nondiscriminatory basis

### **Procedures following grant approval**

- Athletes must complete a signed letter of agreement.
- For all awards other than equipment grants, athletes are required to submit receipts to Dare2tri within 30 days of fund expenditure to prove that the grants were used for their intended purpose.
- Approximately 6 months after receiving a grant, athletes are to submit a short written report including a testimonial describing how the Ability Fund has impacted their goals, athletic training and the rest of their life.