

SportsAid

SportsAid helps young, unfunded athletes to overcome one of their greatest barriers to success - the financial challenge of trying to become Britain's next generation of Olympians, Paralympians and world champions. The charity helps over 1,000 athletes across more than 60 sports each year, the majority aged 12 to 18, by providing them with an average award of £1,000.

Since its formation in 1976, SportsAid has supported thousands of athletes during the early stages of their careers. The charity's extensive alumni includes Sir Mo Farah, Dame Jessica Ennis-Hill, Baroness Grey-Thompson, Sir Chris Hoy, Laura Kenny CBE, Sir Steve Redgrave, Ellie Simmonds OBE, Dame Sarah Storey, Dame Katherine Grainger and Tom Daley.

Further proof of SportsAid's hugely impressive track record came during the Rio 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Two-thirds of the athletes across the British teams were former beneficiaries of SportsAid support with 46 of Team GB's 67 medals (20 gold, 15 silver, 11 bronze) and 104 of ParalympicsGB's 147 medals (44 gold, 28 silver and 32 bronze) won by the charity's alumni.

The Process

Every athlete who receives SportsAid's support is nominated to the charity by their sport's national governing body (NGB). You have been nominated as your sport has identified you as being talented and believes you have the potential to progress. You will receive an email from SportsAid in November asking you to complete an online nomination form.

We then use the information you give us to approach partners who provide the funding for your award. Therefore, it's really important you provide as much detail as possible. SportsAid works with a variety of commercial organisations and charitable trusts across the UK who are interested in supporting young talented athletes and providing them with much-deserved recognition.

You will be notified via email if we are able to source an award for you. Awards are made at several points throughout the year - please do not panic if a team mate receives one before you. There are various stages we must go through in order to secure funding. We aim to make the majority of our awards by May but will continue to search for funding throughout the year.

The charity tries to support every athlete who is nominated by their NGB. Please note that we can only do so if we receive enough donations to meet the level of nominations submitted. Therefore, it's important to remember that not receiving a SportsAid award is not a reflection on your performance.

