

Disestablishment of Sports Scholarships

Frequently Asked Questions

Why is Community Trust South disestablishing sport scholarships?

This decision follows a comprehensive review carried out to assess the Trust's funding to the sport and active recreation sector, and its alignment to our strategic priorities. The decision to disestablish sports scholarships reflects a strategic shift away from funding mechanisms that do not strongly support equity, grassroots participation, and community-level impact. While sport scholarships have provided meaningful personal experiences, they have limited alignment with our strategic outcomes and reach to priority populations.

When will the sport scholarships be discontinued?

The sport scholarship funding mechanism – including support for for Olympic and Commonwealth Games participation will be officially disestablished effective 1 April, 2026. No new scholarships will be awarded for any event occurring after 31 March 2026.

What insights informed this decision?

This decision was based on:

- Accountability data from past scholarship recipients.
 - Stakeholder interviews.
 - Observations of emerging trends in sport participation.
 - Identified barriers for para athletes and underrepresented groups.
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What will happen to current scholarship recipients?

Current recipients will continue to receive their approved funding and support as agreed. There will be no changes to existing commitments.

Will Community Trust South continue to support sport?

Yes. The Trust remains committed to supporting sport in ways that are inclusive, equitable, and impactful. This will be achieved through our other funding mechanisms which will focus on increasing access, participation, and wellbeing at the community level.

Who can I contact for more information

If you have questions or would like to discuss this change, please contact our team at info@communitytrustsouth.nz | 0800 500 185

