



Dear Prospective Grant Recipient:

Thank you for requesting a grant from the Challenged Athletes Foundation (CAF). Please read this letter carefully as it outlines the requirements each applicant must meet to be considered for funding from CAF. It is the mission of CAF to provide you the opportunities and support your need to reach your goals, big or small. It is our goal to distribute meaningful grants that will make a difference in your pursuit of physical fitness and sports.

CAF offers 3 different grant categories that you can apply for possible funding. Each person may submit **ONLY ONE** request in **ONLY ONE** of the following categories:

1. **Equipment grant**
2. **Training grant**
3. **Competition grant**

Please be sure to fill out the application exactly as instructed, complete with financial statements and necessary documentation. Your grant request must be **postmarked by the extended deadline of Dec 15th, 2007** in order to be considered for a 2008 grant. **ALL** grant requests received after that date will be put on a **wait list** and only be considered if funds are available for the 2008 grant distribution. If funds are not available you will need to reapply for the next grant period in 2009. If you are a past grant recipient, you must have completed all the requirements from your previous grant to be eligible for another CAF grant (i.e. Receipts from previous CAF grants, etc). If in 2007 you received a 2-year equipment Grant, you **will not** be eligible to apply for a 2008 equipment grant.

When considering your request please think of the following:

- If you are asking for equipment, do your homework, check out the specifications on the Internet or call the manufacturers, find out what kind of equipment is right for you. However, CAF reserves the right to award an equipment grant from a different manufacturer than requested.
- Please note that equipment grants will match your athletic endeavors and accomplishments. If you are at a recreational level of play, you will be awarded a recreational valued equipment grant.
- You must have been participating in your sport for at least 6 months to be eligible for a CAF equipment grant.
- Items such as a handcycle, monoski, sports wheelchair (rugby, basketball, etc) or prosthetics are considered 2-year grants.

NOTE: CAF distributes **ALL** wheelchair sports/handcycle/racing chair sport equipment grants through vouchers redeemable at the CAF selected distributor. If you receive a wheelchair sport grant voucher, you **MUST** go through our distributor to redeem it. **Cash reimbursement for equipment grants are not given for these items.** Also, if you receive a 2008 equipment grant, you will not be eligible for a CAF **equipment** grant in 2009; equipment grants are considered 2-year grants.

Please note: A postcard will be mailed from the CAF office verifying we received your application. If you don't receive a verification postcard by January 5th, 2008, please call the office at 858-866-0959 x-109.

The following information is mandatory to include with your application.

Note: *submitted materials, photos, news clippings, etc. will not be returned.*

- **PROOF OF INCOME:** Please attach documents to the financial statement on pg. #4
- **REFERENCE LETTERS:** Include **two letters of reference** along with phone numbers.
 - One letter must come from a **physician** verifying your qualifying physical challenge.
 - The other must be from a fellow athlete, peer, physical therapist, family member, teacher or coach.
- **Your UPDATED biography or story:** 1-3 paragraphs about yourself. Include how you came to be in your current situation and your fitness goals.
- If you have **competed** in your sport before, please let us know your updated results.
- A photo of yourself, preferably in your sport or at play
- **(Optional)** Other printed press clippings **(NO videotapes, CDs, or DVDs please)**
- Please **DO NOT** Submit binders or bulky folders.
- **FAXED SUBMISSIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED** – APPLICATIONS MUST BE **MAILED** WITH ALL MANDATORY ITEMS IN **ONE PACKET**, THEY CANNOT ARRIVE SEPARATELY.
- Your grant request **MUST** be **postmarked by the extended deadline of Dec 15th, 2007** in order to be considered for a 2008 grant. **ALL** grant requests postmarked after that date will be put on a **wait list** and only be considered if funds are available for the 2008 grant distribution. If funds are not available you will need to reapply for the next grant period in 2009.

CAF considers the following criteria when evaluating each grant application:

- CAF funds those with physical disabilities and uses the same qualifying criteria set forth by the Paralympic committee. Disability classifications are amputee, blindness, spinal cord injury, polio, spina bifida, cerebral palsy and les autres. More information on disability classification can be found at <http://www.paralympic.org>
- Financial need (*Income is a major factor in determining eligibility. Only those with the greatest needs will be granted*)
- Motivation of grant applicant
- Effort of grant application
- Volunteer & Community work
- Support of CAF

If approved for a grant, you will be required to do the following:

- Return a signed letter of agreement.
- Use your grant for the purpose it was approved.
- Submit a receipt to prove the funds were used for the purpose it was approved. ***This excludes wheelchair sports/handcycle/racing chair sport equipment as we receive the receipt directly from our distributor.***
- Follow-up with CAF in regards to your results and accomplishments in relation to this grant.
- Represent CAF and its mission in a positive manner.

Please send your **COMPLETED** grant application and **ALL** mandatory attachments to:

For regular US Post Office Mail Service:

Challenged Athletes Foundation
P.O. Box 910769
San Diego, CA 92191

For non US Post Office Mail Service:

Challenged Athletes Foundation
9990 Mesa Rim Road
San Diego CA 92121

You will be **notified by US mail after April 1, 2008** if you have been selected to receive a grant from the Challenged Athletes Foundation. For Questions please call JulieAnne White at (858) 526-6565

Sincerely,

JulieAnne White
Program Manager/Grant