



**Northwest Association for Blind Athletes
Craig & Linn Dee Stein Mini Grant Fund**

About the Fund

The Craig & Linn Dee Stein Mini Grant Fund was established through a transformational gift from Linn Dee Stein in memory of her husband, Craig Stein. Since becoming supporters of Northwest Association for Blind Athletes (NWABA) in 2015, Craig and Linn Dee Stein have helped expand life-changing opportunities for individuals who are blind or visually impaired throughout the Northwest. In 2025, Linn Dee Stein made a legacy gift in Craig's memory. This legacy investment helps ensure NWABA can continue expanding programs that build confidence, independence, health, and community through sports and physical activity.

The Craig & Linn Dee Stein Mini Grant Fund honors that legacy by helping remove financial barriers for athletes pursuing opportunities beyond NWABA's regularly offered programs and services.

More information: [NWABA Mini Grants](#)

Program Purpose

The Fund provides financial assistance that helps remove financial barriers to sports and physical activity opportunities not otherwise available through NWABA's regularly offered Programs & Services.

Available Funding

- Funding is limited and awards are made based on available funds.
- Complete applications are reviewed on a rolling basis.
- If funding is unavailable at the time of review, eligible applications may be considered during a future funding cycle.

Fiscal Quarters:

Q1: Jul 1–Sep 30

Q2: Oct 1–Dec 31

Q3: Jan 1–Mar 31

Q4: Apr 1–Jun 30

Award Amounts

Individuals: Up to \$500

Team or Group Requests (three or more eligible athletes): Up to \$1,000 per eligible activity or event.

Submitting an application does not guarantee funding. Award amounts are determined by available funds and eligible expenses.

Funding Limits

The Fund is intended to maximize opportunities for as many athletes as possible while responsibly stewarding donor funding.

- Individual applicants may request up to \$500 per funding request.
- Team or group requests may request up to \$1,000 per eligible activity or event.
- Multiple individual applications submitted for the same team, activity, event, or shared expense may be combined and reviewed as a single team request.
- NWABA reserves the right to adjust award amounts or recommend a team application when multiple requests are submitted for the same opportunity.

Is This Fund Right for Me?

The Fund is designed to expand opportunities that are not otherwise available through NWABA's regularly offered Programs & Services.

This Fund may be a good fit if you:

- Live in a community where NWABA does not currently offer ongoing Programs & Services.
- Live in a rural or underserved area.
- Are pursuing an opportunity outside NWABA's regularly offered Programs & Services.
- Need financial assistance to participate in a meaningful sports or physical activity opportunity.

Applications requesting funding for activities substantially similar to Programs & Services already available within an applicant's local community are generally not approved.

Who Can Apply

Applicants must:

- NWABA athletes are individuals who are blind or have low vision that affects daily activities, education, mobility, or participation in sports and recreation. Total blindness is not required. Athletes may be legally blind, receive vision-related services through a school, agency, or blindness professional, or otherwise have a qualifying visual impairment. Vision that is fully corrected with standard glasses or contact lenses does not qualify on its own.
- Reside in Idaho, Montana, Oregon, or Washington.
- Be a registered NWABA athlete before reimbursement.
- Request funding for a sports or physical activity opportunity outside NWABA's direct programming.
- Submit a complete application before participating.
- Agree to provide follow-up documentation.

Eligible Expenses

Funding is typically available for participation-related expenses that align with NWABA's mission, including:

- Registration fees
- Program participation fees
- Tournament or competition entry fees
- Sports camps or clinics
- Instructional programs or coaching
- Class or lesson fees (such as martial arts, swimming, climbing, or similar programs)
- Other approved participation expenses that align with NWABA's mission

Expenses Not Typically Covered

Funding is not typically available for expenses including, but not limited to:

- Food or meals
- General living expenses
- Medical or healthcare expenses
- Expenses reimbursed through another funding source
- Purchases made before grant approval
- Expenses unrelated to sports or physical activity

How Applications Are Reviewed

Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis and considered according to:

- Eligibility
- Alignment with NWABA's mission
- Funding priorities
- Available quarterly funding
- Eligible expenses
- Completeness of the application

Application Process

1. Submit the online application at least 30 days before the activity whenever possible.
2. NWABA reviews eligibility, funding priorities, available funding, and the completed application.
3. Applicants receive written notification of the funding decision.

Reimbursement Process

The Fund operates as a reimbursement-only program.

1. Receive funding approval.
2. Participate in the approved activity.
3. Pay eligible expenses.
4. Submit itemized receipts and proof of payment.
5. NWABA reviews documentation and issues reimbursement.

After Your Activity

Within 30 days of participation recipients must submit:

- Brief impact story
- Photos (when available)
- Itemized receipts
- Proof of payment

Failure to submit required documentation may affect future eligibility.

Stewardship

The Fund exists because of the extraordinary generosity of Linn Dee Stein in memory of Craig Stein. By sharing your experience, you help NWABA demonstrate the impact of donor support while inspiring future athletes to pursue their own opportunities. Your story helps celebrate this lasting legacy and the transformative power of sports and physical activity.

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I apply more than once?

Yes. Previous awards do not guarantee future funding.

Can I apply after my event?

No. Applications must be approved before participation.

Our team is attending the same event. Should everyone apply separately?

No. When multiple athletes are participating in the same event or activity as a team or organized group, NWABA may require a single team application. This helps maximize the impact of the Fund and ensures limited funding is distributed as fairly as possible.

What if quarterly funding has been exhausted?

Eligible applications may be considered during the next quarterly funding cycle.

How long does reimbursement take?

Reimbursements are processed after all required documentation has been received and approved. Typically, within 2 weeks of being processed.

Who do I contact with questions?

Please contact Stacey Gibbins for more questions.

Contact Us

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