

Talent Academy Hardship Fund

England Hockey and the Area Hockey Associations in partnership with the Talent Academies have established a hardship fund to encourage and support the progression of young players from less advantaged backgrounds to be able to access Talent Academy provision with either partial or full fee subsidies.

Awards

Hardship Awards will be given out to players up to the value of £1500. The value of the award may change at the discretion of the Awards Panel. Players can request hardship funding once per season (1 September to 31 August).

Eligibility for Awards

Awards are intended to support players where finance is a barrier for them to access a Talent Academy. The following criteria is in place to better understand an applicant's context and is not to hinder potential applicants from applying or receiving awards.

Level of Financial Need	Eligibility Criteria
Full fees	Applicants relate to one or more of the following; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children are in receipt of free school meals • Are considered a young adult carer or are living in care • Other (E.g. loss of job/long term illness)
Partial fees	Applicants relate to one or more of the following; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children are in receipt of free school meals • Are considered a young adult carer or are living in care • Other (E.g. loss of job/long term illness)
Travel contribution	Applicants relate to one or more of the following; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Require support for geographical factors (E.g. travelling more than 90 minutes to a Talent Academy) • Require support with public transport costs (E.g. travelling by train) • Other

- Awards are accessible only to those players in **full time, state funded education** or are a recipient of a 100% scholarship from a fee-paying school.
- This fund is **not** accessible to individuals who are deemed to be financially capable of / or have the means to fund their involvement in hockey.

Provision of Awards

Players (or their guardians if U18) should apply for an award via their respective Talent Academy manager. *(We recommend that applicants speak with the Talent Academy Manager prior to applying).*

Applications will be considered by an Awards Panel consisting of:

- Talent Academy Manager
- A combination of Area, County and or England Hockey Representative

The Talent Academy Manager may request further information to support the application.

The decision of the panel will be final. *(Please note with partial or full fee awards the respective Talent Academy will deduct the amount from the overall cost rather than transfer funds to the applicant.)*

Sustainability of Hardship Awards

It is expected that the Talent Academy Hardship Fund will be available for the foreseeable future. However, England Hockey and the Area Associations reserve the right to withdraw the scheme at any time.

For further information please contact:

talentacademy@englandhockey.co.uk

Award Application

Name of Talent Academy	
Name of Applicant	
Contact details of Applicant (email/telephone)	
Date of Application	
Amount applied for	

Name of Player (if different to applicant)	Please provide information on why the award has been requested (in relation to the eligibility criteria)

For TA use only	
Panel Comments (TA, Area, County, EH)	
Application Approved	
Amount	
Date	