



VOLUNTEER SUBSIDY POLICY

2019

The Edmonton Section recognizes that supporting a community of mountain enthusiasts relies on volunteers to organize trips and events, to share skills and provide mentorship, and to safely manage groups in mountain terrain. To this end, the Section supports ongoing training and use of safety equipment by offering financial assistance to current and aspiring volunteers, as follows:

- **“Core” Course Subsidy** for specific training related to risk management and emergency response;
- **Other Course Subsidy** for member-selected training to continue personal skill development and progression as a trip leader; and
- **Safety Gear Subsidy** for provision of group safety equipment on Section trips.

This document outlines the qualification requirements, amounts and eligible expenditures, and the application procedure.

How to Qualify

Current members of the Edmonton Section can qualify for financial assistance by demonstrating a commitment to the sustainability of the Section through volunteer contributions. Members can contribute to the Section in a variety of ways, both in and out of the mountains. Contributions are recognized with a point system as follows:

- **1 point** (to max of 20) - Assisting with in-town events or activities (belay checker, hosting an activity-based urban event such as training sessions or informal meetups).
- **2 points** (to max of 20) – In-town event in a central role that involves some degree of organization, coordination, instruction, etc (e.g. presenting at a monthly meeting, organizing a workshop or seminar, , assisting an instructional session).
- **5 points** – For (a) each intermediate or advanced rated trip on the trip schedule, and (b) coordinating a guided or volunteer-led course for Section members.
- **7 points** – For (a) each “novice” or “novice with prior experience” trip, (b) instructing on a volunteer-led Section course weekend, and (c) serving on the Board or a committee for a year.
- **10 points** - For organizing camps or trips greater than 5 days duration and where significant organization, coordination, or other leadership capacity is involved..

Points for trips apply to the the primary coordinator. Co-leaders may also qualify for points where their involvement in a trip is essential to supporting the activity (i.e. for large groups requiring multiple leaders). Points are accrued from Oct. 1 to Sept. 30 of each year, and do not carry forward to the next period. Courses can be taken at any time during the accrual period, and any time relative to when the points are accrued.



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Subsidy Amounts and Eligible Expenses

Table 1, below, outlines the types and amount of financial assistance offered by the Section, and defines the specific expenses that are eligible under the program.

TABLE 1: VOLUNTEER SUBSIDY AMOUNTS AND ELIGIBLE EXPENSES		
TYPE	AMOUNTS <i>(Note 1)</i>	ELIGIBLE COURSES/EXPENSES
“Core” Course	Initial: \$200, with first 5 points. Discretionary top up: \$100 for each additional increment of 5 points. Max: \$500/course.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Wilderness First Aid (Min 16 hr), Wilderness First Responder (or other 40+ hr equivalent), WFA re-certification. → Avalanche Skills Training (AST) 2 or higher → AST 1 (for active Ice Climbing Leaders only) → Rock/Ice Rescue Systems, Improvised High-Angle Rescue (any level) → Crevasse Rescue (Advanced)
Other Course	Initial: \$200, with first 10 points. Discretionary top up: \$100 for each additional increment of 10 points. Max: \$500/course.	Includes most other courses <i>(Note 2)</i> taught by ACMG Rock, Alpine, Ski, or Mountain Guide, or a guide certified by an IFMGA Member organization. Custom courses with an emphasis on instruction can be developed by members. Can also include courses in mountain weather or mountain navigation taught by qualified persons. Does not include expenses related to travel and accommodations.
Safety Gear	Initial: \$50 gift certificate for first 20 points. Discretionary top-up: \$50 gift certificate for next increment of 20 points. Max: \$100	Group gear that is used to preserve, maintain, or otherwise address the safety and well-being of participant(s) on a Section trip. Examples include: first aid supplies, equipment designed specifically for rescue, communication devices, tarps or shelters. Eligible gear is not dictated and is at the discretion of the applicant.
Notes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Points are like credits; they cannot be used more than once (i.e. “double-dipped”). Where an application includes various courses, points will be allocated first to “core” courses followed by other courses, and then safety gear. Notwithstanding the above, the total allocated for course subsidies shall not exceed the total course fee(s). 2. Courses are not limited to offerings from the ACC. Courses that are generally <u>not</u> eligible are introductory courses designed to teach “entry-level” skills for a given sport such as basic or introductory technique, or guided trips that do not include a significant instructional component, and courses instructed by volunteers. To pre-approve a course that you believe could benefit your development as a trip coordinator, please contact the Volunteer Coordinator. 		



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Claiming the Subsidy

To claim a subsidy, complete the attached form with supporting documentation and send to volunteering@accedmonton.ca **any time** before October 1st of each year. Subsidy for course fees requires successful completion by the applicant; where a certificate or qualification is granted, the applicant must submit a copy with their claim.

Limitations

All applications are reviewed by the Volunteer Coordinator and all subsidy amounts are allocated on a discretionary basis. The volunteer subsidy program is based on a fixed annual budget for leadership development. In the event that claims exceed available budget, the section reserves the right to distribute available funds based on the number of applicants and the total contributions to the Section. As such, payment may be delayed until after Oct. 1 in order to distribute discretionary increments equitably.

Other Subsidies and Grants Available to Members

The North Face (TNF) Leadership Course: The ACC offers summer and winter leadership courses for new and aspiring volunteers that have demonstrated a commitment to their affiliate Section. Up to 4 subsidies of \$550 each are available each year from the Edmonton Section for candidates accepted to the program. Enrollment in the course requires section endorsement for the candidate. Candidates are generally those who have coordinated or co-lead a few trips and have shown strong promise for continued contributions to the section. Please contact the Volunteer Coordinator for more information after reviewing the TNF Leadership Course description at www.alpineclubofcanada.ca.

National ACC Grants and Scholarships: Additional funding for a variety of initiatives is available to members through the National office of the ACC. Details can be found at alpineclubofcanada.ca under "Community/Financial Grants". Grants and scholarships include the following:

- *Jen Higgins Grant for Young Women:* for projects that provide an opportunity for the development of young women in the outdoors, either through experience or mentorship.
- *Jim Colpitts Memorial Scholarship:* for members aged 17 to 24 to dedicate toward an avalanche, wilderness first aid, mountain leadership, ACMG training or other mountain course.
- *Karl Nagy Memorial Scholarship:* biennial opportunity for experienced volunteer leaders to further develop their skills as an amateur leader during a week of the GMC and to gain invaluable experience guiding and leading under the supervision of the Camp staff.
- *John Lauchlan Memorial Award:* awarded annually to a lightweight Canadian team pursuing an innovative, bold, exploratory, environmentally sensitive, non-commercial objective.
- *ACC Environment Grant:* provides financial support for projects that contribute to the protection and preservation of mountain and climbing environments, including the preservation of alpine flora and fauna in their natural habitat.

