



2016 Junior/U23 Financial Need-Based Travel Grants

The Bicycle Racing Association of Colorado (BRAC) has established a program whereby junior and U23 athletes may receive travel assistance to specific events based on financial need. At present no fixed level of income is being used to establish financial need, rather a basic definition that the financial need is based on the difference between the cost of travel and the expected ability of the athlete's family to provide full funding for the trip. The following outlines the details and principles of the process.

Basic Philosophy

BRAC does not want to see a talented athlete miss out on an important and enriching opportunity to travel due solely to lack of funds. BRAC also believes that such an endeavor should be a shared responsibility of four parties:

- The rider
- The rider's family
- BRAC
- The rider's club or team

Contribution of the parties

The parties will all work together to help get the athlete to the event in the following manner:

- BRAC will provide travel funds based on criteria listed later in this document
- The family will contribute to the expenses of the trip to their level of ability to do so
- The rider will contribute by providing services to BRAC directly or to the cycling community through approved means (coaching at clinics, volunteering at events, etc.)
- The club or team will provide matching funds to the rider in one of the following ways, whichever is less:
 - Dollar for dollar match of what BRAC provides
 - Matching what BRAC provides up to the amount of dues the family pays to the club or team

Range of Support

Support is contingent on availability of funds, number of applications received, and amount of the requests. For the 2016 season, \$2500 has been set aside for this program and is separate from the merit-based grant program. Grants are considered for travel to national and international events.



Awardees must also be able to document that their cost of travel at least equaled the support received.

Eligibility

To be eligible for the grant, the athlete must:

- Be an annual BRAC member in good standing
- Be an annual USA Cycling member in good standing
- Be able to document financial need for the trip for which support is requested.
- Document the importance of the event for which support is requested.
- Submit the application within 30 days of the travel to the event or by December 15th, whichever is earlier
- Document how he or she has or plans to give back to the Colorado cycling community in exchange for such travel support.
- Document how his or her family and club plan to support the initiative as well

Selection Criteria

BRAC will use any or all of the following to prioritize expenditure of funds in the case that there are more applicants than there are funds available:

- Importance of event athlete is selected for/traveling to
- Past history of service to the community
- Number of travel grants already received or applied for
- Number of travel grants received by the rider's club or team
- Total cost of the travel
- Total impact on the overall Colorado cycling community of travel awards.

Notification and Disbursement of Awards

Awardees will be promptly notified once an award is granted. Depending on the time of the year, award decisions may be delayed until all applications are received in order to avoid disbursing too many awards early in the season before the total travel needs for the season are known.

Once award decisions are made, awards will be disbursed when all requirements have been completed.



Award Refund Policy

If an athlete has applied for and accepted a travel grant and for some reason must decline the travel, BRAC must be informed as soon as possible. If funds have already been disbursed, then arrangements will be made for repayment.

Travel Expense Form

Applicants must submit the associated BRAC Travel Award Expense Form to document their expenses of the trip. This can be done either before or after the event depending on when the funds are disbursed. For example, if an athlete is requesting \$500 for travel to World Championships in Europe, and the athlete has to buy an airline ticket for \$1000, once the ticket is purchased, the expense form could be submitted so that disbursement can be expedited. In that case, however, a complete expense report after the event must still be submitted. If disbursement is not being requested prior to the event, then only the final post-event expense form need be submitted.

Application

To apply for a travel grant, the athlete must fill out the application on the next page and submit to BRAC. Hard copies or scans are acceptable.



BRAC Junior/U23 Financial need-based Travel Grant Application

Applicant Name	
Address	
Preferred Phone	
Email	
Club/Team	
Racing Age	
Award Amount Requested	
Travel Event	
Travel Location	
Estimated Expense Total	
Other Grants Received	

In the space below, please describe how you have and/or will give back to the Colorado racing community in exchange for the requested financial support.



In the space below, please describe how your club/team is financially supporting your travel

In the space below, please describe you and your family's financial need for the travel assistance.

Signature _____

Signature of Parent of minor _____