

Criteria for Grant Awards

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Funding is provided from the grant awarded by the University to the AUC (€938,000). Grants awarded are based on the submission received from each club and the availability of funding. Funding is awarded to clubs in three ways

1. Annual Grants (approx. €650,000 will be available for grants to all affiliated clubs)

Annual Club Grants are for day to day expenditure and each club must complete a grant application Form. Forms are available from the AUC and completed forms must be uploaded to the Clubs Grant Document Management System before midnight on 10th October 2025.

Clubs should note that when considering applications for funding the AUC reviews the club income (i.e. membership income from subscriptions, fundraising, sponsorship, member contribution to travel and other income) when deciding upon a grant award. The total income for a club excluding any grant award should be at least 50% of the cost of running the club (excluding items that the AUC does not fund).

Items that will be considered for funding include:

- a. Intervarsities (Home)
Entry Fee up to 50% - see special grant for support of other costs.
- b. Intervarsities (Away):-
Teams/groups will be funded as follows:
 - i. **Entry Fee up to 50%**
 - ii. **Travel Rate (up to 50% of the cost of the bus hire or train/bus ticket).**
Where private cars are used no contribution is made.
 - iii. **Night Rates (per person) – Republic of Ireland**
Max rate of €30 per night, AUC to cover 50%.
 - iv. **Night Rates (per person) – Northern Ireland**
Max rate of €40 per night, AUC to cover 50%.

Number of nights will be based on what is necessary to start and finish the sports competition. No funding will be provided to cover the accommodation cost due to social activities.

Team/Panel size:	
Gaelic Football, Hurling, Rugby, Camogie	30 + 2
Soccer	20 + 2
Hockey	18 + 2
Basketball	12 + 1 per team
Volleyball	10 + 1 per team
Squash, Tennis	7 + 1 per team
Martial Arts and non-defined team events	25-30 depending on submission

- c. League Match
Funding is available to clubs who participate in officially organised University league matches & National Leagues. Usually up to a maximum of 50% of the travel cost and entry cost is paid. No overnight funding is provided and no food costs are covered.
- d. Facility Hire
Some funding is available to Clubs who due to non-availability of College facilities are forced to hire facilities. Planning must be put in place so that prior notice of such hire can be given to the AUC. 100% funding is not available – 50% may be possible depending on the requirement.
- e. Travel Subsidy
 - i. To cater for ('outdoor pursuit' type clubs). No contribution is made towards travel and accommodation costs of such trips. However, a contribution of up to 50% is made towards the costs of formal lessons in approved training centres.
 - ii. To cater for clubs engaged in domestic competitions (see league match and intervarsity details).
 - iii. No funding is provided for international travel in annual grants. Where clubs or club members gain third level representative selection which requires international travel, they can make a special grant application.
- f. Intensive Training/ Training Camps
No funding is provided towards the cost of training camps.
- g. Personal Equipment
No funding will be provided.
- h. Club Equipment
Expenditure for small items of everyday items of equipment such as balls, cones, bibs, jerseys

etc. these will be considered as part of the annual grant application. Usually a club will receive up to 50% of this funding where the item is deemed necessary for the operation of the club. In the case of major capital items i.e. boats, mats, machines etc. the club will be required to make a separate special grant application.

A contribution will be made towards equipment maintenance and repairs based on the submission of quotations.

i. **Affiliation Fees**

Affiliation fee of the club to a recognised National Governing Body of that sport will receive 50% funding. Individual affiliation fees of members will not receive any funding.

j. **Insurance**

As the AUC provides public liability insurance, employers liability insurance and personal accident insurance no funding will be provided to any club for the purchase of similar insurance. The AUC will consider making a contribution towards the cost of funding equipment insurance on a case by case basis subject to a minimum equipment value of €10,000.

k. **First aid equipment**

The AUC will cover the full cost of first aid equipment. However, no contribution will be made towards the cost of physiotherapy provisions such as tape. Where a doctor or ambulance is required to be in attendance at matches up to 50 % of the cost may be covered.

l. **Coaching Costs**

Given financial constraints the AUC is not in a position to cover the coaching costs of club. Consequently, a contribution is made towards the coaching in a club. This is determined on a case by case basis in reference to the level of competition a club is competing in, the number of members/teams, the number of training sessions, and the contribution members are making towards the overall running costs of their club.

m. **Other Costs**

Other costs are examined on a case by case basis. Costs considered include hire of an external facility for training or competition (up to 50% depending on the requirement and prior notice), formal lessons in an approved training centre (up to 50% per lesson), bank fees (other than account maintenance charges), the cost of referees / officials / judges (on a case by case basis) and catering (where it is a requirement of the NGB). The AUC will make no contribution to any other costs e.g. social costs.

2. **Special Grants**

Special grant applications are accepted throughout the year, however, they are subject to the availability of funds at the time of application. Approximate budget annually €60,000 unless used to cover annual grants.

Intervarsities (Home)

Expenditure other than for meals will be considered eg. hire of facilities, fees for referees/umpires, medals, trophies, first aid etc on production of quotations and a budget for the event showing all entry fees and other income.

a. **National Cup Competitions**

In the case of national cup competitions and other similar events where teams qualify for finals normal Intervarsity rates will apply.

b. **Capital Equipment**

In the case of a capital equipment, the AUC will adjudicate on each application based on its merits and the availability of funding. However, at all times the club will be expected to raise at least 33% of the cost of such items.

c. **Representation**

Individual International Colleges Representation

The AUC endeavours to support the overseas travel of students selected to represent their country as a consequence of their UCD club representation. Selection to University/College representative sides only applies. Students must be selected by the Governing Body of the sport and a letter must accompany all applications confirming selection and associated costs. The AUC will award a maximum of 33% of the cost of such travel to the club member subject to the availability of funds at the time of selection.

Club International Colleges Representation

Where a UCD club has qualified for an international competition as a consequence of their success in the domestic equivalent, the club should submit a budget for their participation in the event. The AUC will adjudicate on each application based on its merits and the availability of funding. However, at all times the club will be expected to raise at least 50% of the cost of such participation.

3. **Training & Development Fund**

A fund of €10,000 has been set aside for the training and development costs of volunteer coaches and managers. Officially recognised courses will be part funded up to a maximum of 50% or €200 (whichever is the lesser).

Reminder for 2025/26

In terms of the 2025/26 academic year, the AUC is implementing the following:

The club's grant upload system will close on October 24th when documents will be reviewed by the office staff. Any issues with the club documents will be flagged to clubs on the document upload system and on the clubs Progress Log..

Clubs will have until November 1st to resolve any outstanding issues. Any outstanding paperwork is to be emailed in bulk from the club to the Executive Secretary (suzanne.bailey@ucd.ie) by October 31st.

Where documentation is still incomplete on November 1st access to facilities will be immediately withdrawn. Insurance of activities will be suspended and the club will not be permitted to operate on or off campus in any capacity. The club will also be subject to a 10% reduction in their grant should they be reinstated at a

later date.

A meeting of the AUC Executive will take place on November 10th or 11th to review any additional paperwork submitted by clubs and reinstate clubs where they have subsequently completed grant requirements. Any club reinstated at that time will be subject to a 10% reduction in their grant.

Any club found to have a coach working who is not vetted or does not have safeguarding will be immediately stopped from operating and the club referred to the AUC Disciplinary process.

Where clubs have engaged paid coaches who they propose to pay at the end of Semester 1, the AUC will only process such payments where the grant process has been completed in full by that club. Ultimately it is you, the club, which recruits and manages your coaches. Therefore, you have a responsibility to resolve any outstanding paperwork so that your grant and coaching payments can be made.