

Mission

This fund mainly serves to financially help parents living in the Haut-Saint-François (HSF), so that their children can have access more easily to sports, artistic or cultural activities.

By submitting an application, it may be possible for the MRC to cover part of the registration fees.

A selection committee comprised of elected representatives or municipal leaders, are mandated to accept to grant or not a certain amount of money according to a predetermined criteria grid.

Additional elements were added when these criteria were revisited in 2023, their descriptions are on the following pages.

FOUR WAYS TO ACCESS IT

Individual requests

Any parent in the HSF can submit a financial aid request for their children aged 18 and under if they qualify according to the admissibility criteria. Simply fill out the registration form and email the required supporting documents. Requests will be analysed by the committee within a week following the deposit deadline for each session and responses will be given within 2 weeks.

Requests coming from HSF organisations

Requests for financial aid may also come from an educational, municipal, or community organization. These types of organisations know their clientèle very well and can discern which families are experiencing financial difficulties whether permanent or temporary and could benefit from these funds. All that needs to be done is to fill out the form reserved for organisations. It is to be noted that the supporting documents to be provided are mainly for qualitative purposes. A response will also be given within 2 weeks following the deposit limit deadline. HSF early childhood centres can also submit a request in their name for a leisure activity considering that most parents would need support to pay for the costs attached.

Sports organisation requests

It is also possible for sports or leisure HSF organisations to submit a request for the reimbursement of equipment used by youths when practicing said sport or for tournament registration costs. These requests must be made by the organisation themselves and the amount must not be used for the players'/coaches' personal expenses. To submit an application, simply send an email explaining how the requested funds will help improve the range of activities offered to young people.

Development of new leisure services

Each year, the committee sets aside 20% of the proceeds raised during the most recent edition of the “Marche/cours pour le Haut” event to go towards the development of new leisure activities within the territory or to promote activity providers who are starting or that are lesser known by HSF citizens. These organizations may contact the MRC's leisure coordinator to explain their project, whether it is in development or in its early stages. The project will then be submitted to the selection committee, which will determine the best course of action and the amount of funding to be awarded.

Where does this fund come from ?

The Marche/cours pour le Haut fund is comprised of profits gathered from the first 8 editions of the same name events. This annual benefit event moves from one municipality to another and is organised by the MRC leisure team in collaboration with the host municipality and precious support from leisure professionals working in the HSF region

Senior's aspect

During the 8th edition, the event organisation committee for the Haut decided to add a 3km circuit for seniors. To be fair, we have also added a senior's section to the fund. Requests will have to be provided by HSF senior community organisations which will be able to ask the MRC leisure team for help buying leisure material or to offer seats paid by the MRC so a greater number of members can participate in their activities. To submit an application, simply send an email explaining the project.

Admissibility criteria

- The child must be aged 18 or under at the time the request is made, and seniors must be aged 60 and over.
- The child or senior for which the request is being submitted must live in the MRC Haut- Saint-François territory
- Organisations that will submit requests for a child or senior must have their main office in the HSF
- The on-line form must be filled out by an organisation or a parent and submitted electronically.

Important

- 3 submission periods per year with deadlines
- Only one application per child or senior per period
- Submission deadlines :
 - #1 : January to April activities: January 31
 - #2 : May to August activities: May 15
 - #3 : September to December activities: September 1

Composition of selection committee

- Two municipal councillors
- Two leisure activity agents
- Two municipal leaders
- A representative of a community organization
- MRC HSF leisure coordinator

Prioritisation criteria

The number of applications often exceeds the amount available in the fund for each session.

Here is the order of priority established by the selection committee:

- Applications with the lowest gross annual income (less than \$20,000 per year)
- Applications from families with three or more children
- Applications from single-parent families
- Activities taking place within the HSF's territory

PLEASE NOTE : Applications from families with an income of \$100,000 or more will be automatically rejected.

Reimbursement percentage established according to the total registration costs and equipment admissible

Total cost	Percentage paid by the fund
150 \$ or less	100%
Between \$151 and \$350	80%
Between \$351 and \$600	75%
Between \$601 and \$700	70%
More than \$701	60%

Important

Requests of \$150 or less will be automatically reimbursed.
Requests of \$151 or more must be submitted and approved
by the selection committee.

For any questions or information request

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This project is spearheaded by

