



2026 ARCTIC WINTER GAMES

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS



**ARCTIC
WINTER
GAMES**
WHITEHORSE 2026

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Athlete or Cultural Participant

Citizenship: Must be a Canadian citizen, a permanent resident of Canada, or an individual whose family are in Canada on work visas.

Residency: Principal residence must be in Yukon. Must also be a continuous resident of Yukon for six (6) consecutive months prior to the opening day of the Games. The effective date is **September 5, 2025**.

Students: Students attending an institution outside of the Yukon must also comply with all eligibility requirements prior to the start of the school year and must maintain their principal residence in Yukon.

A resident of a participating Contingent, who is attending school outside the Contingent is deemed to be a continuous resident of her/his Contingent and is eligible to compete for her/his residence Contingent, or the Contingent in which s/he is attending school (if a participating Contingent) but not both.

An individual who is a resident of a jurisdiction not eligible to compete at the Games; but who lives in a participating jurisdiction as a student, or who is there on a temporary work visa, or who is otherwise temporarily living in a participating jurisdiction; is not considered a resident of the participating jurisdiction and is therefore ineligible to compete in the Arctic Winter Games (AWG).

Age: Must be at least **twelve (12) years of age** as of December 31, 2025. Exceptional circumstances may be considered upon review and approval by the Yukon Government - Sport and Recreation Branch.

Athlete: Must be a developing athlete. A developing athlete is one who has not represented one's nation in international competition (outside of an AWG) in the sport they are competing in. An athlete who has competed for one's club in international competitions (not representing one's nation) is considered a developing athlete. An athlete who is a member of one's national team but has not represented one's nation in international competition is considered a developing athlete.

Event/Rules: Must compete in one sport only and comply with all other rules and regulations as outlined in the sport technical package and the AWG staging manual.

Must meet individual sport requirements as per the technical package.

Must be member and in good standing with their respective Yukon Sport Governing Body (YSGB).

Must adhere to the terms of the Team Yukon Code of Conduct.

Trials: **Athlete attendance at trials is mandatory.** Exemptions may be granted for the following reasons: injury; significant illness that can be documented with a physician's note; Yukon school program commitments; and special family circumstances (i.e., death

in family, same sport competition/opportunity). **A holiday is not a special family circumstance.**

Exceptions to this rule will be permitted only upon review and approval by the Government of Yukon - Sport and Recreation Branch. In order for an exemption to be considered, the attached request form must be submitted to the Chef de Mission either in person at 4061 - 4th Avenue or by email to trevor.twardochleb@yukon.ca forty eight (48) hours prior to the start of the specific trial along with supporting documentation.

All trial participants will be required to fill out a trial registration / waiver form prior to their specific sport trial.

If a participant is interested in trying out for two different sports, and those sports are having their specific sport trials at the same time, the participant must choose between the two sports. Conflicting trial dates and times are not grounds for trials exemption.

Participants will receive a T-shirt for their participation at trials and are also eligible to apply for a travel subsidy through the In-Territory Travel Fund at a rate of .15 per km/per individual.

All YSGB will be given the flexibility to add up to three athletes (if they choose) who are outside the territory training and competing in the same sport without having them come back to Yukon to attend trials in person. The names of the potential candidates with rational is to be provided prior to the trials.

YSGB are required to provide a final roster eight (8) weeks from the date of your first trial. Trials can be held anytime between **Friday - October 3rd, 2025 to Sunday - January 18th, 2026**. The last day to submit final rosters for your sport is **January 26, 2026**.

Sport final rosters do not become official until they are submitted and approved by the Chef de Mission. Each YSGB will be provided with a final roster form prior to their sport trial(s). All YSGB are responsible for obtaining the signatures of all participants, coach(es), and parents/guardians so everyone is aware of their commitment to their team.

Once a participant is notified that they are on the final roster, they are not eligible to be selected to any other final roster.

Please also note that vacant spots on any team cannot be filled after the trials unless the vacancy jeopardizes team competition within the sport, such as in relays or team sports.

Post Trials: Following selection to Team Yukon, an athlete must commit to and follow a training program acceptable to their coach and the YSGB.

All athletes 18 years or older are required to submit an RCMP vulnerable sector check. Results of checks completed one year prior to the start of the Games are considered valid. The effective date is March 8, 2025.

Coach/Cultural Manager

- Must be a Certified Competition Introduction Coach or Competition Development Trained Coach within the National Coaching Certification Program in the sport in which they will coach. Coaches of Arctic Sports, Dene Games, and Snowshoeing are the exceptions to the above rule.
This does not apply to the Cultural Manager.
- Must have completed the online Respect Group - Coach/Activity Leader Program.
- Must be a member and in good standing with the Yukon Sport Governing Body that they represent.
- Must not be under any form of suspension by any territorial, provincial or national sport governing body.
- Must adhere to the terms of the Team Yukon Code of Conduct and accept the duties that accompany the position of a coach at the AWG.
- Must be 18 years or older as of December 31, 2025. Exceptional circumstances may be considered upon review and approval of the Government of Yukon - Sport and Recreation Branch.
- Must provide an RCMP vulnerable sector check. Results of checks completed one year prior to the start of the Games are considered valid. The effective date is March 8, 2025.

Government of Yukon - Sport & Recreation Branch
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