



2026-2027 Ontario Hubs Program

Introduction

The Ontario Hubs Program is guided by Speed Skating Ontario's 2021-2028 High Performance Plan and intends to support the development of Train to Train and Learn to Compete speed skaters in Ontario by complementing Club Programming and elevating their Daily Training Environment.

After three successful seasons in the Canadian Sport Institute Ontario's (CSIO) Ontario High Performance Sport Initiative (OHPSI) program, Speed Skating Ontario (SSO) has successfully renewed its agreement with the OHPSI program for the 2026-2027 season. The funding available to SSO will continue to support our High Performance programs and initiatives, focusing on athlete development.

To ensure that our involvement in the OHPSI program benefits as many athletes as possible, SSO will identify and include Ontario Hubs Program athletes in some aspects of OHPSI service delivery.

Through the Ontario Hubs Program, SSO aims to support the development of speed skaters in Ontario who show potential for qualification at Canadian Junior National Competitions in 2-4 years, or potential for qualification for Canadian Youth Championships in the 2026-2027 season.

SSO will name athletes to both the Ontario Hubs Short Track Program and Ontario Hubs Long Track Program.

Ontario Hubs Program – Short Track and Long Track

Guided by Speed Skating Ontario's 2021-2028 High Performance Plan and supported by CSIO's OHPSI program, the 2026-2027 Ontario Hubs Program will offer:

- Integrated Support Team (IST) services delivered virtually in a group setting throughout the 2026-2027 season, including Nutrition and Mental Performance Consultation.
- Speed Skating-specific Dryland Training Programs and home workouts from May to August.
- In-season Hubs Ice sessions with the Provincial Short Track or Long Track Coach.
- Coaching at National Competitions from Ontario Coaches for Ontario based athletes.
- Ontario Short Track Camp in Ottawa on June 26-28, 2026.
- Ontario Short Track Camp in Barrie on September 12, 2026.
- Ontario Long Track Camp details will be confirmed for Long Track program athletes.
- Summit Performance Camp in Calgary – August 3-8, 2026. Skaters who meet the camp age and time standards are strongly encouraged to attend. The cost of the camp is not included in the Hubs Program fee.
- Nagano Skate Summer Camp in Waterloo – August 19-23, 2026. Ontario Hubs skaters are strongly encouraged to attend. The cost of the camp is not included in the Hubs Program fee.

Eligibility

To be eligible for the Ontario Hubs Program all athletes must:

- be a current member in good standing with Speed Skating Ontario.
- Intend to compete in the 2026-2027 season in the Ontario Provincial or Elite Circuit meets, or represent Ontario at identified Long Track competitions or National Competitions.

Athlete Selection Criteria

Skaters will be invited to the Ontario Hub Program based on the criteria below:

Age in 2025 - 2026 Season	Short Track	Long Track
10 years old	The skater's 400m time is in the top six (6) 10-year-old skaters in their gender category on the 2025-2026 SSO Year-End Short Track Ranking List Database.	As a later maturing sport, 10 year old Long Track skaters will not be selected for the Hubs Program.
11-13 years old	<p>The skater's 400m time on the 2025-2026 SSO Short Track Ranking List Database as of March 31, 2026 is equal to or faster than:</p> <p>Female: 0:47.500 Male: 0:44.00</p> <p>If a skater is already captured in the High Performance Program selection, they are not eligible for the Ontario Hubs Program.</p>	<p>The skater attended the 2026 Canadian Youth Long Track Championships.</p> <p>Or</p> <p>The skater's 500m Long Track time in the 2025-2026 season recorded on speedskatingresults.com as of March 31, 2026 is in the top 4 Ontario skaters in their age class (each of YA, YB).</p>
14-18 years old	<p>The skater's 500m + (1500m/3) combined time on the 2025-2026 SSO Short Track Ranking List Database as of March 31, 2026 is equal to or faster than:</p> <p>Female: 1:53.00 Male: 1:41.00</p> <p>If a skater is already captured in the High Performance Program selection, they are not eligible for the Ontario Hubs Program.</p>	<p>The skater has demonstrated commitment to Long Track in the 2025-2026 season by participating in one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Summit Performance Camp Long Track racing - Long Track Coupe Quebec racing <p>If a skater is already captured in the High Performance Program selection, they are not eligible for the Ontario Hubs Program.</p>

Discretionary Considerations

The above criteria will ordinarily determine who is selected for the Ontario Hubs Program however, the SSO Technical Director and Provincial Team Coach may invite athletes who are not captured by the Athlete Selection Criteria.

Athlete Obligations

As part of the Ontario Hubs Program, athletes will be required to meet the following expectations and obligations:

- a. Accept their invitation to the program through completion of the SSO Hubs Program Registration Form within 1 week of notification of selection to the Program.
- b. Pay Program Fees as outlined in the athlete invitation.
- c. Always wear an Ontario skin suit at national competitions, including for podium appearances.
- d. Adhere to the SSO Code of Conduct and True Sport Principles.
- e. Intend to compete in the 2026-2027 season for Ontario in the Ontario Provincial or Elite Circuit meets or National Competitions when selected.

Hubs Program Fee

The 2026-2027 Ontario Hubs Program fee is \$350.00 + HST (\$395.50).

Athlete Invitations

Identified athletes will be invited to the 2026-2027 Ontario Hubs Program via email by **April 10, 2026**.

Registration

We kindly ask that all invited athletes, regardless of whether they accept or decline their invitation to the Ontario Hubs Program, inform SSO of their decision by **Friday April 17, 2026**.

Appeals

Appeals to Speed Skating Ontario's Hubs Program Selections may be made by any member in good standing of Speed Skating Ontario who is materially affected by the selection. Appeals must be made under SSO's Appeal Policy which can be found on the SSO website <https://www.ontariospeedskating.ca/ossa-policies>. A nonrefundable appeal fee of \$50 shall apply.

Questions about the Ontario Hubs Program can be directed to:

Julie Byers, Technical Director at techdirector@ontariospeedskating.ca