



SAC Safety and Instructor development Grant

The renamed SAC Safety Improvement Grant program is back to life for another three year period, with a new goal of promoting safety through instructor development. Stress on instructor training is the investment we wish to promote in this iteration of the grant. Safety is one of SAC's highest priorities and the SAC Safety Improvement Grant was introduced in 2015 to assist clubs with safety-related expenditures, with the ultimate goal of improving the safety culture at SAC clubs across Canada. The SAC board of directors has committed to a 3 year term for 2020-2022 for the program with grants of \$40,000 for each of the 3 years. The program will be providing a total of \$120,000 to clubs to support safety improvement initiatives. Each SAC member club will be receiving a minimum of \$1 000 per year if they have a minimum of 5 members. No safety expenditure made prior 2020 will be taken in consideration.

The goal of the 2020-2022 Safety and Instructor Development Grant is to improve the safety culture at clubs across Canada by first encouraging instructor initial training, refresher and upgrading, and secondly by encouraging clubs to think about how they can improve safety in their operations and also encourage compliance with SAC's National Safety Program. More information on the Club Annual Safety Report, Safety Audit and SAC National Safety Program can be found at: <https://www.sac.ca/index.php/en/documents-en/safety-and-training/accident-prevention>

The phased approach used to determine whether a club is eligible for the disbursements will reward clubs for compliance with SAC's National Safety Program with the goal of full compliance by every club every season. In addition, new requirements at the end of 2020 to receive the 2021 grant and another new requirement for the end of 2021 to receive the 2022 grant have been created focusing on Instructors.

Disbursements for the grant program will be dependent on the club complying each year with requirements of SAC's National Safety Program which include:

- The submittal to the SAC National Safety Officer (NSO) (david.donaldson@greatlakesgliding.com) before December 1st of a Club Annual Accident & Incident Safety Report of the previous season;
- The submittal to the NSO before July 1st of a SAC Club Safety self Audit performed within the last 3 years;
- And to have a Club Safety Manual in place based on the SAC National Safety Program and reviewed on an annual basis. (this is not an operations manual) Club Safety Manual content updated and mitigation actions for risk factors submitted to National Safety Officer before July 1st of the actual season.

In addition to the above, each club will have to accomplish:

- For July 2020, an annual safety seminar and recurrent training in place for all SAC clubs members. The safety seminar and recurrent training could be available at club level, regionally or nationally;
- For July 2021, to receive the 2021 and 2022 allocation, all pilots need to pass an annual flight review;
- For July 2022, to receive the 2022 allocation, SAC clubs Instructors need to complete an instructor recurrency review within the last 3 years.

The safety grants will be allocated to each club based on the total number of paid SAC members on July 31th of each year of the program. The estimated club's grant allocation would represent about \$45 per paid SAC member. Please note that this is an estimate and actual clubs allocations will be dependent on membership numbers registered at the SAC office on July 31th of each year. Clubs will receive a letter outlining their allotment in August of each year of this three year program.

To apply for the SAC Safety Improvement Grant, SAC clubs should contact their Zone Director outlining their plans for the grant. If the expenditure is not one of the approved items below, the Zone Director will consult with the SAC Board and the Flight Training & Safety Committee to review the proposed expenditure.

Following approval from the SAC Board, clubs can then proceed with the expense and will receive reimbursement by mailing receipts for the expense to the SAC Office and copies via e-mail to sacoffice@sac.ca

SAC is willing to consider any instructor initial training, refresher and upgrading and also any safety related equipment or initiatives that will enhance safety. If your club has other suggestions for the SAC Safety Improvement Grant, do not hesitate to contact your Zone Director to verify if it would be eligible.

Maintenance of equipment is not considered an enhancement to safety in this program.

List of recommendations items for safety improvement:

- Instructor training, refresher & upgrades
- Attendance at Safety or Instructor Clinics
- Pilot training & safety meeting expenses
- PowerFLARM units
- Aviation Radios
- Transponders
- Energy absorbing foam cushions
- Sailplane tracking devices (Spot, Spider Tracks, etc)
- Parachutes
- Ballistic recovery systems
- Stall warning systems
- Landing gear warning systems
- Replacement of Schweizer hooks with Tost on tow planes
- Pulse oximeters
- First aid training
- Airfield safety improvements
 - Weather station
 - Obstacle removal
 - Runway improvements
 - Safety signage
 - Movement control (fencing, security camera, gate locks, etc)
 - Tie downs
 - Fuel, battery, oil storage improvements
 - Pool noodles (protect trailing edges or runway traffic control)
- Additional fire extinguishers and First Aid Kits

If clubs are interested in making a large safety-related expenditure where the cost will exceed the grant amount for the club for a given year, clubs can apply for the grant to cover the remaining amount of a larger expenditure made in the first or second year of the program. For example, if a club elects to equip its entire fleet of aircraft with FLARMS in 2020 with a total cost of \$10,000, the club can apply for the grant in 2021 and 2022 and use the grant to offset the \$10,000 expenditure.

The SAC Board of Directors hopes that all clubs will take advantage of this significant grant and find ways to maximize the benefit of the grant to improve the safety culture within SAC clubs.