

**Question on Notice
No. 1079
Asked on Friday 9 June 2006**

MS MALE asked the Minister for Employment, Training and Industrial Relations and Minister for Sport (MR BARTON)-

QUESTION:

How will the Young Athlete Assistance Program operate and what benefits will it provide to the young people in the Glasshouse Electorate?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Glass House for her question.

The Young Athlete Assistance Program (YAAP) provides limited financial assistance towards the costs associated with travel and accommodation for junior athletes under the age of 18 years of age who have gained selection to compete at State, national or international events, or State school championships.

Individual athletes can apply for between \$500 and \$800, dependent on where the athlete lives in comparison to the event being held. This means a young athlete living at Conondale in your Electorate for example, travelling to compete in a State competition on the Gold Coast, may be eligible to apply for assistance of up to \$500.

While not every child selected to compete at a State, national or international level will receive assistance, the Program does provide a level of support not previously available.

To ensure YAAP benefits as many young athletes as possible, the Program will open twice a year to cater for both summer and winter sports, enabling a greater number of children to seek assistance.

Demand for assistance under YAAP has been unprecedented with over 3,500 applications for assistance received from across Queensland.

The winter round of the Program closed on 8 June 2006 and the assessment process has begun. Successful applicants will be announced by mid July 2006.

The summer round of the Program will open in November this year.