



Background

The John Arcand Fiddle Foundation (JAFF) exists because of the generous donation made after the dissolution of the John Arcand Fiddle Fest. The John Arcand Fiddle Fest was an annual event with the purpose and mandate to see that Métis and old time fiddle music is shared, supported, encouraged, and enjoyed, particularly by the youth who would become the future generations of fiddle players and instructors. The JAFF Board of Directors retired JAFF in December 2021 and created the endowment for this fund through a partnership with the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI).

Focus

The JAFF aims to remain true to the Festival's mandate by offering financial support to individuals who seek to learn, or further their education in, Métis and old time fiddle, music, and dance. This may be accomplished by, but is not limited to, the following activities:

- Fiddle lessons, guitar lessons, Métis dance, old time dance
- Fiddle and/or guitar instruction camps and gatherings
- Fiddle and/or guitar player or instructor mentorship and development
- Travel assistance for the above

Who is eligible?

- All applicants must live in Saskatchewan and possess a Saskatchewan Health Card.
- Applicants who are Métis, First Nations, or Inuit are invited to voluntarily self-identify
- Applicants with demonstrated need will be given priority
- Applicants under 18 will need a person over 18 to apply as the lead applicant, or have a community organization apply on their behalf

What is eligible?

*Note: Funding up to a maximum of \$1,200 (at the discretion of the selection committee)

- The cost of lessons
- Instrument rental
- Attendance at workshops, camps, and gatherings where instruction is a component
- Intensive master/apprentice mentorship arrangements
- Travel assistance as required to attend the above

Who is NOT eligible?

- Lead applicants under the age of 18 (clarified above, under "Who is eligible?")
- Applicants living outside of Saskatchewan

What is NOT eligible?

- Instrument purchases
- Technology and electronic devices
- Administrative costs, office rental
- Food and beverages

JAFF Application Process

Applications may be submitted twice annually, April 30th and/or October 1st. Application forms are available at www.gdins.org/JAFF. Completed application packages must be received electronically by 11:59 p.m. on the deadline date for each of the two intake periods. Completed applications must be submitted electronically to jaff@gdins.org. The onus is on the applicant to ensure application delivery.

NOTE: Starting in September 2026 applications and reports will be made online only.

Reviewing Process

A review committee will be comprised of the following members:

- A minimum of three representatives from the John Arcand Fiddle Fest Board of Directors
- Two representative from the Gabriel Dumont Institute

Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Is the applicant eligible?
- To what degree does the application align with the JAFF focus and objectives?
- Is the activity, budget, timeline, and anticipated outcome realistic?
- Has the applicant shared the reasons for their application?
- What funds are available from the JAFF?

*Priority will be given to Métis and youth applicants, and first time applicants.

*Exceptions may occur at the discretion of the JAFF Review Committee.

*Successful applicants must sign an agreement in order to receive funds.

Please note that meeting all eligibility requirements does not guarantee funding. Successful applicants may only be offered a portion of their requested funding.

Reporting and Recognition of the Funding

Funding must be used specifically for the eligible activities for which they were awarded.

All community organizations and individual recipients must submit proof of the activities through receipts, photographs, social media posts and a brief report form that includes dates and associated costs.

All successful applicants must agree to recognize the financial contribution received from the JAFF and to demonstrate when and where this took place.

Key Dates for each intake: Grant applications for each intake must be made before each deadline.

	April 30 th Intake	October 1 st Intake
Deadline to apply	April 30 th , 11:59 p.m.	October 1 st , 11:59 p.m.
Selection finalized	May 30 th	November 1 st
Report required <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A brief report including a self- assessment of your progress. This can be done as a video or in written format.• Receipts are required.	Your activity report is due 26 weeks after the completion of the activity funded and before making another application. An interim report will suffice if the activity is not finished within this period. A final report upon completion of the activity is required. Email reports to jaff@gdins.org .	