



EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES

Focused on our mission to expand opportunities for personal transformation through excellence in learning, EWU is creating opportunity for student-athletes with physical disabilities through the development of the first competitive, collegiate adaptive athletics program in the western United States. The EWU Adaptive Athletics Program creates diversity, opportunity and distinction.

Eastern is already cementing its status as the premier inclusive and competitive program in the region. In 2019 we established the first sanctioned intercollegiate National Wheelchair Basketball Association team in the Northwest. These students bring strong athletic ability, a desire to learn both on and off the court, and a love of teamwork to the Eastern campus. In return, EWU provides a community support system and a quality education.

HELP US KEEP THE MOMENTUM GOING

Now is the time to build upon the excitement and momentum generated by the wheelchair basketball team. Future opportunities to grow EWU Adaptive Athletics include track and field, tennis, sled hockey, snow skiing, and other sports.

Investment in our student-athletes through the Adaptive Athletics Program and inaugural wheelchair basketball team provides a unique opportunity for you to support access to sports for all. The program receives university, community and grant support; however, grant funding for salaries and scholarships are not common. Ongoing community support is needed to contribute to the viability of the program and improve the likelihood of securing more grant funding to help take adaptive athletics to the next level.

ADAPTIVE ATHLETICS STUDENT-ATHLETE SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships enhance recruiting efforts as many recruits face higher out-of-state tuition rates, with the closest programs in Arizona and Minnesota.

ADAPTIVE ATHLETICS COACHES

In this self-sustaining program, grant funding for coach salaries or scholarships are extraordinarily limited.

COMPETITIVE TRAVEL

There are many ways to give, including a one-time gift or multi-year pledges. All gifts have a tremendous impact on our students' lives and we are appreciative of the support!



Only adaptive athletics program in the Northwest



A gift supports access to sports for all



Many student-athletes pay higher out-of-state tuition

GIVE TO EWU ADAPTIVE ATHLETICS

Kaarin Appel, Director of Philanthropy | kappel@ewu.edu | 509.220.4418
ewu.edu/adaptive



EASTERN
WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

PROGRAM TIMELINE

EWU ADAPTIVE ATHLETICS

2015-16 >>

2017 >>

2018 >>

2109 >>

2020 >>

2021 >>

2015-16

THE VISION

Eastern Washington University and ParaSport Spokane envision the first NWBA collegiate wheelchair basketball team on the West Coast.

2017

INITIAL FUNDING

EWU receives a \$50,000 Neilson Foundation grant to determine the feasibility and sustainability of a collegiate wheelchair basketball team.

2018

NEED, INTEREST AND DEMAND IDENTIFIED

Task force finds strong support for adaptive sports program at EWU.

2019

TRANSFORMATIVE GIFT

An inaugural gift of nearly \$300,000 from Premera Blue Cross of Eastern Washington and Alliant Insurance Services, as well as a second Neilson Foundation Grant, provide the critical funding needed to start a program.

A TEAM IS FORMED

EWU launches the Wheelchair Basketball Program.

A COACH IS HIRED

David Evjen is hired and joins EWU to coach the wheelchair basketball team.

2020

NATIONAL INTEREST TAKES OFF

Interest is generated from wheelchair athletes across the U.S. as EWU builds the framework for a nationally recognized Adapted Athletics Program.

TOP ATHLETES CHOOSE EWU

Five athletes choose Eastern as their school of choice, including a top national wheelchair basketball champion and an athlete who is competitive in both basketball and track and field.

LAUNCHED MATCHING CAMPAIGN

Goal set at \$100,000 to support coaching position and student scholarships.

2021 AND BEYOND

THE FUTURE OF EWU COLLEGIATE ADAPTIVE ATHLETICS

Eastern Washington University will be recognized as a leader committed to developing, training and educating para-athletes in North America in a variety of para-Olympic sport categories. By attracting able-bodied athletes and coaches from around the globe, EWU will create opportunity for transforming lives through education and collegiate sports.

GIVE TO EWU ADAPTIVE ATHLETICS

Kaarin Appel, Director of Philanthropy | kappel@ewu.edu | 509.220.4418

ewu.edu/adaptive

