



Athlete Stipends and Support Programs

Updated: December 2023

Eligibility Guidelines (Recurve)

To receive Athlete Stipends and/or Elite Athlete Health Insurance, recurve athletes must:

- Be a citizen of the United States and/or meet all eligibility requirements to compete for Team USA internationally and be able to, and actively working towards, meeting all eligibility requirements to compete for Team USA in the next Olympic Games;
- Be actively competing in the Senior Recurve division in domestic and international events (if eligible);
- Have a current valid USA Archery membership;
- Have a current USA Archery Background Screen (if 18 years of age or older);
- Have a current U.S. Center for SafeSport Training;
- Be compliant with current USADA and WADA whereabouts standards and practices;
- Have signed Athlete Agreement, Intent to Compete form and Athlete Pledge form on file with USA Archery for the current year;
- Commit to a program of preparation with the intent of qualifying for and competing in the next Olympic Games and attend all required domestic events, international events and or camps outlined in Appendix A. Please see the Policy for Missing a Required Event located at www.usarchery.org for exceptions;
- Athlete Agreement: Athlete Stipends and EAHl will only be provided to athletes who are currently training and competing in the same discipline they earned a national ranking the previous year. Each athlete recipient will be required to execute an agreement with the USOPC and will also be required to sign an Athlete Agreement with USAA, outlining the athlete's commitment with respect to a required training program, camps and events and compliance with USADA, USOPC and USAA policies and procedures. If an athlete fails to maintain a Senior national ranking and/or does not participate in required camps and events (see Appendix A) or violates their athlete agreement, the Elite Athlete Stipend and EAHl may be eliminated, reduced or given to the next highest ranked athlete who meets the eligibility criteria, on a case-by-case basis, pending approval by USAA and the USOPC. Please note that USOPC and/or USA Archery Athlete Stipends may increase or decrease from year to year, and the number of athletes supported may increase or decrease from year to year.
- Pregnancy: A recurve athlete who meets the eligibility criteria for EAHl and/or Athlete Stipends at the time of pregnancy will continue to receive EAHl and/or the same amount of qualified USOPC and/or USA Archery Athlete Stipends for the duration of the pregnancy plus an additional one-year period from the date of birth of the child or end of pregnancy, provided that the athlete remains eligible to receive the Athlete Stipend and agrees that it is her intent to return to competition at

an elite level. Receipt of these benefits shall not be conditioned upon any agreement that the athlete must continue to train during pregnancy or for the one-year period after the birth of the child or end of pregnancy. Upon the conclusion of the one-year period, the athlete will then have to re-qualify for EAH and/or Athlete Stipends.

- **Suspension:** When a provisional membership suspension has been imposed, USOPC and USAA shall suspend and accrue Elite Athlete Stipend payments prior to a final determination of any violation. If an Elite Athlete Stipend payment has been accrued and the athlete is subsequently found not to have committed a violation, the Elite Athlete Stipend payment accrued shall be paid to the athlete. For EAH, no consequences will occur until after a final determination of a rule violation has been found.

2024 Athlete Stipends provided by USOPC

Amount Available: \$168,000

Olympic Year

January-Nomination of the U.S. Olympic Team

The top four ranked archers, male and female, in the Olympic Trials process as of Jan 1st in the Senior Recurve Division will receive financial support from January until Nomination of the Olympic Team. To maintain eligibility, athletes ranked in the top 4 must commit to compete in all Olympic Games qualification/trials events and participate in any required Olympic Prep camps. If athletes are not actively competing and training, or they are eliminated from the Olympic trials process prior to the final nomination of the team, the Athlete Stipend award(s) may be given to the next highest ranked athlete who is still involved in the Olympic trials process and meets the eligibility requirements, on a case by case basis, pending approval by the USOPC.

Men's and Women Recurve	January - Nomination of the U.S. Olympic Team (Monthly Stipend)
Olympic Trials Rank #1	2,300.00
Olympic Trials Rank #2	2,200.00
Olympic Trials Rank #3	1,500.00
Olympic Trials Rank #4	1,000.00

Following the Nomination of the U.S. Olympic Team to December 31st

After the conclusion of the final U.S. Olympic Trials Event, the top three ranked male and female archers will receive the following financial support* beginning the month after being nominated to the Olympic Team through December 31st of that year. To maintain eligibility, archers must commit to training, participating in required international events, international quota events, High-Performance, International Team and Olympic Prep Camps and participate in the Olympic Games. If an athlete is not actively competing and training, the Athlete Stipend may be given to the next highest ranked athlete meeting the eligibility requirements, on a case by case basis, pending approval by the USOPC.

Eligible Men's and Women's Recurve athletes will qualify for the following Athlete Stipend amounts following nomination to the Olympic Team through December 31st of that year.

Men's and Women Recurve	Following the Nomination of the U.S. Olympic Team to December 31st (Monthly Stipend)
Final Olympic Trials Rank #1	2,500.00
Final Olympic Trials Rank #2	2,300.00
Final Olympic Trials Rank #3	2,200.00

***Continuation and/or allocation of stipend amounts, and schedule of payments may change if the U.S. Archery Team fails to obtain maximum quota slots for the Olympic Games, at the discretion of the USOPC.**

Men's and Women Recurve	Following the Nomination of the U.S. Olympic Team to December 31st if only One Quota Slot is Obtained (Monthly Stipend)
Final Olympic Trials Rank #1	2,500.00
Final Olympic Trials Rank #2	2,300.00
Final Olympic Trials Rank #3	2,200.00

Operation Gold (Recurve Athletes Only)

In an Olympic Games year, teams and individuals must finish in the top-three at the Olympic Games to qualify for Operation Gold Event award; multiple Operation Gold Event Awards can be received if an athlete has multiple top-three finishes at the Olympic Games.

In non-Olympic Games years, Operation Gold Awards are limited to one award per athlete in the Term; athletes who qualify for more than one award automatically receive the higher award. Individuals must finish in one of the top eight places, while teams must finish in one of the top-six places at the qualifying event in a discipline on the program of the Olympic Games to qualify for an Operation Gold Award in a non-Olympic Games year.

For purposes of Operation Gold, a team is defined as three or more athletes (pairs are awarded at the same rate as individual athletes).

For Team Sports

*In non-Games, non-World Championships years, Operation Gold payments will be determined after the slate of participating teams is known. Slate must contain at least World's top 10 countries for a payout up to 6th place in team events. If the top 7-9 ranked countries are present, payout will include up to 5th place. If the top 4-6 ranked countries in the world are present, payout will include up to 3rd place, per USOPC Athlete Support Guidelines.

For Individual Sports

*In non-Games, non-World Championships years, Operation Gold Payments will be determined after the slate of participating countries is known. Slate must contain at least the World 's top 10 countries for a payout up to 8th place. If the top 7-9 ranked countries are present, payout will include up to 5th place. If the top 4-6 ranked countries are present, payout will include up to 3rd place per USOPC Athlete Support Guidelines.

2024 Olympic Games Operation Gold Payment Schedule:

2024 Olympic Games	
PLACE	2024
1st	\$37,500
2nd	\$22,500
3rd	\$15,000

Elite Athlete Health Insurance (EAHI - Recurve Athletes Only)

Eligibility and Criteria Approved for EAHI in **Olympic Year**:

EAHI will be offered, on or before January 31 to the top four recurve males and females according to the USA Archery Olympic Trials process as of January 1. EAHI will be available to these same athletes until the nomination of the Olympic Team. Following the nomination of the Olympic Team, EAHI will only be available to the top four recurve males and females per the final Olympic Trials results through December 31st of that year.

Mental Health Assistance Fund (Recurve Athletes Only)

The USOPC will provide access to the Mental Health Assistance Fund (MHAF) per the eligibility criteria below:

- 1) All existing EAHI, National Medical Network (NMH), and USOPC mental health resources have been accessed and exhausted or deemed inappropriate.
- 2) Athletes who are training and have either been selected or are in contention to represent the U.S. at the next Olympic Games OR
- 3) Athletes who represented the U.S. in the past two years at an elite competition in an event or discipline included on the programs at the next Olympic Games, and/or have been selected to represent the U.S. at a similar event in the current or next calendar year.

Please review Appendix B for additional eligibility criteria and MHAF Program information or contact mentalhealth@usopc.org or call 719-866-2388.

Eligibility Guidelines (Compound)

To receive the Athlete Stipends from USA Archery, United States Archery Team (USAT) members must:

- Be a citizen of the United States and/or meet all eligibility requirements to compete for the Team USA internationally;
- Be actively competing in the Senior Compound division in required domestic and international events outlined in Appendix A (if eligible);
- Have a current valid USA Archery membership;
- Have a current USA Archery Background Screen (if 18 years of age or older);
- Have a current U.S. Center for SafeSport Training;
- Be compliant with current USADA and WADA whereabouts standards and practices (if applicable);
- Athletes will be required to sign an athlete agreement with USA Archery for the current year, outlining the athlete's commitment with respect to training and event requirements, the USA Archery Code of Conduct, Intent to Compete Form, Athlete Pledge, USADA/WADA anti-doping policies, and compliance with other USA Archery policies and procedures including but not limited to the SafeSport Code and Minor Athlete Abuse and Prevention Policy.
- Commit to a program of preparation with the intent of qualifying for and competing in the next Pan American Games, and/or World Championship Events, and other international events, international quota events, camps and training sessions outlined in Appendix A. Additionally, athletes must continue to work toward earning a Senior USA Archery national ranking.
- Athlete Stipends and other funding support will only be provided to athletes who are currently training and competing in the same discipline they received a national ranking in the previous year. Athletes must maintain a Senior compound national ranking and attend all required events (See Appendix A) to earn stipends.

Please note that USA Archery Athlete Stipends may increase or decrease from year to year, and the number of athletes supported by USA Archery may increase or decrease from year to year.

Senior Compound Athlete Stipends

The top ranked male and female archers in the [National Rankings System](#) in the Senior Compound Division will receive an athlete stipend of \$3,400 for participation in each funded required international events as outlined in Appendix A. If an athlete declines to participate in the funded required international event, the Athlete Stipends may be given to the next highest ranked athlete who meets the eligibility requirements up the 8th ranked archer in the Senior Compound National Rankings, on a case by case basis, pending approval by USA Archery and per the accept/decline process outlined in the Outdoor World Cup and other International Events selection procedures. If an athlete does not attend the international event no stipend will be provided.

Required Events

Required events and associated funding levels will be announced in January of each year and are subject to change each year based on the fluctuating event schedule, travel costs and yearly budgets (See Appendix A).

USA Archery Athlete Agreements for USAT and High Performance Programs

The USA Archery Athlete Agreement outlines additional obligations for athletes named to the United States Archery Team. Athletes in the Resident Athlete Program, National Elite Program or Regional Elite Program will be required to sign a separate High Performance Program Agreement, which outlines specific additional requirements of each program, respectively.

APPENDIX A

2024 Required “EVENTS” and Funding Allocations

“EVENTS”	Travel Funding	Travel Stipend for Funded Athletes \$500	Compound Stipend Per Athlete Per Event \$3,400
Annual USADA/WADA Training	FREE	N/A	N/A
2024 CQT Prep Camp, Chula Vista, CA	Recurve Athletes Funded	Yes	N/A
Pan American Championships - OLY CQT, Colombia	Recurve Athletes Funded	Yes	Self-Funded
World Cup #1 - China	Recurve and Compound Team Funded	Yes	Yes
World Cup #2 - Korea	Recurve and Compound Team Funded	Yes	Yes
2024 FQT Prep Camp #1 - Turkey	Recurve Athletes Funded	Yes	N/A
World Cup #3 and OLY FQT - Turkey	Recurve and Compound Team Funded	Yes	Yes
World Cup Final	Recurve and Compound Athletes Airfare Funded	No	No
2024 Olympic Games Prep Camp #2 - France	Olympic Team Funded	Yes	N/A
2024 Olympic Games - France	Olympic Team Funded	Yes	N/A

***USA Archery and/or World Archery may postpone or cancel international events due to COVID-19 related gov't restrictions. In the case of event cancelation, the event will not be required, and athletes will not receive a stipend.**



United States Olympic & Paralympic (USOPC) Mental Health Assistance Fund (MHAF)

Overview

The USOPC is committed to protecting the mental health of elite athletes training for the Olympic and Paralympic Games. Despite the mental health resources being developed at the USOPC, there are situations in which gaps in mental health coverage result in a financial burden. The USOPC Mental Health Assistance Fund (MHAF) will be used to direct financial gifts from our mental health ambassadors to close these gaps by financially supporting the mental health of our athletes.

Background

The USOPC supports the mental health of elite athletes training for the Olympic and Paralympic Games in multiple ways: Elite Athlete Health Insurance (EAHI), the National Medical Network (NMN), USOPC Mental Health Services (MHS), and other mental health resources. These programs are designed to support the mental health of our elite athletes and reduce the financial burdens related to mental health costs. Despite this investment in mental health, there are gaps necessitating athletes to manage expenses related to mental health that often result in elite athletes postponing or forgoing support for mental health to avoid encountering financial burden.

Proposal

The USOPC Athlete Services and Development Divisions have secured mental health ambassadors and hope to direct some of the donations from these mental health ambassadors to a Mental Health Assistance Fund (MHAF). This fund will be managed by the USOPC Sports Medicine's Director, MHS.

The initial budget for MHAF is \$250,000 annually. If demand exceeds \$250,000, the amount will be re-evaluated for the following year. These funds will be used to pay for mental health costs incurred by elite athletes training for Team USA.

Mental Health Reimbursement Program

Athlete mental health expenses eligible to be covered by the MHAF include:

- 1) Payment for mental health treatment
- 2) Deductibles and copayments for mental health services
- 3) Psychiatric prescription medication costs
- 4) Mental health related travel and accommodations



Criteria for eligibility of the MHAF are:

- 1) All existing EAH, NMN, and USOPC mental health resources have been accessed and exhausted or deemed inappropriate.
- 2) Athletes who are training and have either been selected or are in contention to represent the US at the next Olympic or Paralympic Summer or Winter Games OR
- 3) Athletes who represented the US in the past 2 years at an elite competition in an event or discipline included on the programs at the next Olympic or Paralympic Summer or Winter Games, and/or have been selected to represent the US at a similar event in the current or next calendar year.

Please consult appendix for eligibility.

The USOPC reserves the right to make exceptions to these eligibility requirements in its sole discretion.

Athletes with qualifying mental health expenses will submit their claim to USOPC MHS. MHS staff will collect all information regarding the case (e.g., receipts, medical records) necessary to determine eligibility. The MHS staff will coordinate with stakeholders to confirm all existing assets have been explored. Once the case has been compiled, it will be routed to the Director, MHS to initiate the approval process. Eligible cases will be approved by the Director, MHS for reimbursement. If there are questions regarding eligibility, a committee of the Director, MHS, Vice President of Sports Medicine, Chief Medical Officer, and Chief of Athlete Services will make the final determination as to whether the case is eligible for funding, and if so, the amount of funding.

The MHAF, as with all USOPC services and benefits, is subject to the USOPC benefits eligibility matrix. Individual suspensions and sanctions will be reviewed during the application process.

Reimbursement Process

Each claim is eligible for approval for a maximum of \$25,000 per year for eligible mental health expenses. Payment through the MHAF can only reimbursement expenses that have already been paid by the athlete. During the fourth quarter of each year, a review of the MHAF budget and any outstanding claims will be performed. Athletes with claims that were not fully paid by the MHAF may receive additional reimbursement if resources are available.

Conclusion

The USOPC can help athletes improve mental health and ease the financial burden of unmet mental health expenses by creating and funding a MHAF. The MHAF provides a solution for the athletes who are not fully supported by USOPC mental health resources.



USOPC

MENTAL HEALTH ASSISTANCE FUND

Alleviating obstacles to mental health care for Team USA athletes

The USOPC is committed to protecting the mental health of elite athletes training for the Olympic and Paralympic Games. Despite the mental health resources being developed at the USOPC, there are situations in which gaps in mental health coverage result in a financial burden. The USOPC Mental Health Assistance Fund (MHAf) will be used to direct financial gifts from our mental health ambassadors to close these gaps by financially supporting the mental health of our athletes.

ELIGIBLE EXPENSES



**Mental Health
Treatment**



**Copays &
Deductibles**



**Prescription
Medication Costs**



**Travel &
Accommodations**

1) All existing EAHI, National Medical Network, and USOPC mental health resources have been accessed and exhausted or deemed inappropriate.

2) Athletes who are training and have either been selected or are in contention to represent the U.S. at the next Olympic or Paralympic Games. **OR**

3) Athletes who represented the U.S. in the past 2 years at an elite competition in an event or discipline included on the programs at the next Olympic or Paralympic Games, and/or have been selected to represent the U.S. at a similar event in the current or next calendar year.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Apply



go.teamusa.org/MHAF

Contact Us



(719) 866-2388



mentalhealth@usopc.org