



# Athlete Stipends, Support Programs and Benefits

UPDATED: MAY 2026

## Eligibility Guidelines (Recurve and Compound)

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

- Be a citizen of the United States and/or meet all World Archery 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 or Senior Compound division in domestic and international events (if eligible);
- Have a current USA Archery (USAA) 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 a signed Athlete Agreement 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 international prep-camps outlined in Appendix A;

Athlete Agreement: Elite Athlete Stipends and EAHI 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 USOPC and USAA policies and procedures. If an athlete fails to maintain a Senior Recurve or Senior Compound national ranking and/or does not participate in required events or camps (**see Appendix A**) or violates their Athlete Agreement, the Elite Athlete Stipend and EAHI 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 Elite Athlete Stipends may increase or decrease from year to year, and the number of athletes supported may increase or decrease from year to year.

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 the specific additional requirements, rules and expectations of each program, respectively.

- **Pregnancy Clause:** A recurve or compound athlete who meets the eligibility criteria for EAHI and/or Elite Athlete Stipends at the time of pregnancy will continue to receive EAHI and/or the same amount Elite Athlete Stipend amount for the duration of the pregnancy, plus for 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 Elite Athlete Stipend and agrees that it is their 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 EAHI and/or the Elite Athlete Stipend.
- **USADA Training:** Athletes are required to attend one FREE USADA online training annually. USA Archery will provide the online training schedule and athletes are required to self-register.
- **Suspension:** When a provisional USAA membership suspension has been imposed, the USOPC 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 EAHI, no consequences will occur until after a final determination of a rule violation has been found.

For more information on Team USA resources, visit <https://www.usopc.org/TeamUSA-Eligibility>

## **2026 Elite Athlete Stipends and Support Programs provided by the USOPC (Recurve and Compound)**

**Total: \$285,600**

### **Non-World Championship Year**

**January 1 to June 30, 2026**

#### **RECURVE ARCHERY:**

The top four ranked recurve archers, male and female, as of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025, in the USAA Senior USAT Rankings will receive an Elite Athlete Stipend from January to June (See Table 1.). Athletes must also have met the Minimum Qualifying Score (MQS) requirements set forth in Table 2. as of December 31, 2025 (See NOTE). Ties for 4<sup>th</sup> place in the Senior USAT Rankings will be broken by the athlete's placement at the most recent USAA Target Nationals (Total Double 72 Arrow Round Score), followed by X's and then 10's at the same event. To maintain eligibility, athletes ranked in the top four (4) must participate in the required events (see Appendix A).

#### **COMPOUND ARCHERY:**

The top two (2) ranked compound archers, male and female, as of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025, in the USAA Senior USAT Rankings will receive an Elite Athlete Stipend from January to June (See Table 1.). Athletes must also have met the Minimum Qualifying Score (MQS) requirements set forth in Table 2. as of December 31, 2025 (See NOTE). Ties for 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Senior USAT Rankings will be broken by the athlete's placement at the most recent USAA Target Nationals (Total Double 72 Arrow Round Score),

followed by X's and then 10's at the same event. To maintain eligibility, athletes ranked in the top two (2) must participate in the required events (see Appendix A).

**Table 1. Elite Athlete Stipends to be Paid Monthly January to June**

<b>Men's and Women's Recurve and Compound Senior Ranking as of 12/31/25</b>	<b>Monthly Stipend Amount</b>
<b>Rank #1</b>	\$2,500.00
<b>Rank #2</b>	\$2,200.00
<b>Rank #3 (Recurve Only)</b>	\$1,500.00
<b>Rank #4 (Recurve Only)</b>	\$1,000.00

**Table 2. The Recurve and Compound 72 Arrow Round MQS must be achieved at a USA Archery sanctioned national level event or World Ranking Event.**

<b>Gender &amp; Discipline</b>	<b>72 Arrow Round MQS</b>	<b>Distance</b>
<b>Recurve Men</b>	660	70M
<b>Recurve Women</b>	640	70M
<b>Compound Men</b>	695	50M
<b>Compound Women</b>	680	50M

NOTE: If an athlete is eligible via USAT ranking but does not meet the MQS set forth in Table 2., their stipend will not be paid, nor transferred to the next highest ranked athlete. Should the athlete achieve the required MQS after January 1, 2026, the athlete will begin receiving their Elite Stipend following the month of MQS achievement. Stipends will not be paid in arrears.

**July 1 to December 31, 2026:**

**RECURVE ARCHERY:**

The top four (4) ranked recurve archers, male and female, as of July 1, 2026, in the USAA Senior USAT Rankings will receive an Elite Athlete Stipend from July to December (See Table 3.). Athletes must also have met the MQS requirements set forth in Table 2. as of July 1, 2026 (see NOTE). Ties for the 4<sup>th</sup> place in the Senior USAT Rankings will be broken by the athlete's placement at the most recent USAA Target Nationals (Total Double 72 Arrow Round Score), followed by X's and then 10's at the same event. To maintain eligibility, athletes ranked in the top four must participate in the required events (see Appendix A).

**COMPOUND ARCHERY:**

The top two (2) ranked compound archers, male and female, as of July 1, 2026, in the USAA Senior

USAT Rankings will receive an Elite Athlete Stipend from July to December (See Table 3.). Athletes must also have met the MQS requirements set forth in Table 2. as of July 1, 2026 (see NOTE). Ties for 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Senior USAT Rankings will be broken by the athlete's placement at the most recent USAA Target Nationals (Total Double 72 Arrow Round Score), followed by X's and then 10's at the same event. To maintain eligibility, athletes ranked in the top two (2) must participate in the required events (see Appendix A).

**Table 3. Elite Athlete Stipends to be Paid Monthly July to December**

<b>Men's and Women's Recurve and Compound Senior USAT Ranking as of 7/1/2026</b>	<b>Monthly Stipend Amount</b>
<b>Rank #1</b>	\$2,500.00
<b>Rank #2</b>	\$2,200.00
<b>Rank #3 (Recurve Only)</b>	\$1,500.00
<b>Rank #4 (Recurve Only)</b>	\$1,000.00

NOTE: If an athlete is eligible via ranking but does not meet the MQS set forth in Table 2., their stipend will not be paid, nor transferred to the next highest ranked athlete. Should the athlete achieve the required MQS after July 1, 2026, the athlete will begin receiving their Elite Stipend following the month of MQS achievement. Stipends will not be paid in arrears.

### **Operation Gold (Recurve and Compound)**

**The Operation Gold event is the 2026 World Cup Final, Q4, 2026**

In non-Olympic Games years, Operation Gold is 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 the purposes of Operation Gold, a team is defined as three or more athletes (pairs are awarded at the same rate as individual athletes).

<b>2026 Operation Gold - Payment Schedule</b>	
<b>Place</b>	<b>2026 (2nd Year of Quad)</b>
1st	\$6,250
2nd	\$5,000
3rd	\$4,375
4th	\$3,750
5th	\$3,125
6th	\$3,125
7th	\$2,500
8th	\$2,500

In addition to Elite Athlete Stipends and Operation Gold, the USOPC may provide eligible athletes the following benefits (subject to change based on USOPC funding and/or other limitations):

### **Elite Athlete Health Insurance (Recurve and Compound)**

Designated Team USA athletes are eligible to receive health insurance through the USOPC's Elite Athlete Health Insurance Program (EAHI). EAHI is a preferred provider organization (PPO) plan. For EAHI program information contact [eahi@usopc.org](mailto:eahi@usopc.org).

#### **EAHI Minimum Eligibility Criteria and Additional Information**

- EAHI minimal eligibility will be based on the USOPC Team USA Eligible Athlete Definition. For more information, visit <https://www.usopc.org/TeamUSA-Eligibility>
- USA Archery was awarded six (6) EAHI slots for Recurve archery, to be equally divided between men and women.
- USA Archery was awarded two (2) EAHI slots for Compound archery, to be equally divided between men and women.
- If an EAHI recipient declines the slot, the slot may not be transferred to the next eligible athlete.
- USOPC Medical Assistance Fund, Psychological Services, and access to the USOPC's Olympic and Paralympic Training Center Sports Medicine Clinic is only available to athletes enrolled in EAHI.

#### **Recurve:**

July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026:

Members of the 2025 World Championship Team were eligible for EAHI as of July 1, 2025. Those athletes who enrolled in EAHI will remain enrolled through June 30, 2026, barring self-removal or not meeting minimum eligibility standards. This is holdover criteria from 2025.

July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027

The top three (3) Senior Recurve ranked male and female archers as of April 20, 2026, in the USAA Senior Recurve USAT Rankings who are also named to the Senior Pan American Championships Team or ranked in the Top 20 in the World Archery World Cup World Rankings (ranking from December 31, 2025), will be offered EAHI.

#### **Compound:**

January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026:

The top (1) ranked male and female archers in the Senior Compound USAT Rankings as of December 31, 2025, in who were also named to the 2025 World Championships Team or ranked in the Top 20 of the World Archery World Cup World Rankings (as of December 31, 2025), will be offered EAHI.

Once an EAHI slot is offered to a qualified Team USA athlete, they will have 30 days to activate their coverage. Athletes who do not activate their coverage within 30 days of notification will forfeit their slot at that time.

Athletes who no longer meet the criteria will be removed from EAHI according to the Team USA Athlete Benefits criteria and procedures.

From the first EAHI offering, EAHI term of service is at least 12 months.

### **Mental Performance Services (Recurve and Compound)**

Mental Performance Services: If available, mental performance services (individual or group) provided by the USOPC will be prioritized for Team USA athletes and athletes ranked in the Top 4 of the USA Archery Senior USAT rankings upon request. Please direct inquiries to [highperformance@usarchery.org](mailto:highperformance@usarchery.org).

**Mental Health Assistance Fund:** The USOPC will provide access to the Mental Health Assistance Fund (MHAF) to those athletes who meet the USOPC Team USA Eligible Athlete Definition. For MHAF Program information contact [mentalhealth@usopc.org](mailto:mentalhealth@usopc.org) or call 719-866-2388.

### **Compound Travel Stipend Eligibility Guidelines (#3 and #4 ranked Compound Archers Only)**

To receive Athlete Stipends, compound athletes must:

- Be a citizen of the United States and/or meet all World Archery 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 Compound division in domestic and international events (if eligible);
- Have a current USA Archery (USAA) 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 a signed Athlete Agreement 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 World Championships and attend all required domestic events, international events and or international prep-camps outlined in Appendix A;

**Athlete Agreement:** Athlete Stipends will only be provided to athletes who are currently training and competing in the same discipline they earned a Senior Compound USAT ranking the previous year. Each athlete recipient will be required to execute an Athlete Agreement with USAA, outlining the athlete's commitment with respect to a required training program, camps and events and compliance with USAA policies and procedures. If an athlete fails to maintain a Senior compound USAT ranking and/or does not participate in required events or prep camps (see Appendix A) or violates their Athlete Agreement, the Athlete Stipend will not be provided and will be given to the next highest ranked athlete who meets the eligibility criteria, on a case-by-case basis, pending approval by USAA. Please note that Athlete Stipends may increase or decrease from year to year, and the number of athletes supported may increase or decrease from year to year.

### **Senior Compound Athlete Stipends**

The third (3<sup>rd</sup>) ranked male and female archers in the [National Rankings System](#) in the Senior Compound division will receive a \$3,000 athlete stipend for participation in each funded required international event as outlined in Appendix A, plus a \$500 travel stipend. If an athlete declines to participate in the funded required international event, the Athlete Stipend may be given to the next highest ranked athlete who meets the eligibility requirements up to the 8<sup>th</sup> ranked archer in the Senior Compound USAT 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 or fails to compete at the international event, no stipend will be provided (see Athlete Agreement).

NOTE: The 4<sup>th</sup> ranked male and female compound archer named to each World Cup Team will receive a \$500 travel stipend only, however the following conditions will apply for additional stipend funding:

- a. If the 4<sup>th</sup> ranked compound archer places in the individual semi-final they will receive an additional \$3,000 athlete stipend after the conclusion of the event.
- b. If the 4<sup>th</sup> ranked compound archer medals in the team or mixed team event they will receive an additional \$1,500 athlete stipend after the conclusion of the event.
- c. The maximum total compound athlete stipend will not exceed \$3,000.

#### **Required Events (Recurve and Compound)**

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).

#### **BENEFITS PROVIDED BY USA ARCHERY**

##### **United States Archery Team (USAT) Jerseys**

USA Archery provides all athletes named to USAT two free jerseys annually.

##### **USAT Retail Discounts and Benefits**

Athletes named to USAT, may be offered retailer discounts and other equipment at a free or reduced cost. These benefits are subject to change annually, are not guaranteed and vary by team.

##### **Short-Term Training Program**

The Short-Term Training Program provides coaching and training access to athletes who desire to represent the U.S. at World Cup, World Championships, Pan American Games and/or Olympic Games and for whom USAA coaches believe are capable of achieving international podium success. Training sites are available in Charlotte, NC and Chula Vista, CA. Funding and program services vary by location. Please review the [Short-Term Training Program Guide](#) to learn more about the program and eligibility criteria.

##### **International Team Camp (Not Required)**

The top 3 Senior Recurve and Compound athletes in the Senior USAT Rankings following the final USAT event of the year who meet the Camp Minimum Qualifying Score (MQS) will be invited to attend the camp with partial funding provided as outlined in Appendix A. If an athlete declines, this offer will be extended up to the 8<sup>th</sup> place Senior recurve or compound athlete in the Senior USAT Rankings following the final USAT event of the year who meet the MQS (a max of three (3) athletes will receive partial funding per gender and division). All other athletes who meet the MQS requirements may apply to self-fund to the camp, so long as space is available.

##### **Camp Minimum Qualifying Score (MQS)**

To attend the camp the athlete must have achieved the Camp MQS (72 arrow round score) within the past 12 months at a national level sanctioned event.

- Male Recurve: 650 (70M Distance)
- Female Recurve: 625 (70M Distance)
- Male Compound: 695 (50M Distance)
- Female Compound: 680 (50M Distance)

##### **High Performance Program Benefits**

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 and related benefits, respectively.

**APPENDIX A**

**2026 Required "EVENTS" and Funding Allocations**

International events schedule is subject to change per World Archery and/or Local Organizing Committees. In the case of event cancelation, the event will not be required, and athletes will not receive travel funding or a travel stipend. MQS requirements are outlined in the [World Cup and Other International Events Athlete Selection Procedures](#). Athletes must meet MQS to be eligible for international event funding.

<b>2026 Required International Events and Prep-Camps</b>	<b>Athlete Travel Funding</b>	<b>Travel Stipend for Funded Athletes (Includes #4 Compound Athlete)</b>	<b>Compound Stipend 3<sup>rd</sup> Ranked Athlete ONLY</b>
World Cup #1 – Pueblo, Mexico, April 5-13	Recurve and Compound Team Funded	\$500 Per Athlete	\$3,000
World Cup #2 – Shanghai, China, May 2-11	Recurve and Compound Team Funded	\$500 Per Athlete	\$3,000
*World Cup #3 – Antalya, Turkey, June 9-14	SELF FUNDED EVENT	N/A	N/A
Pan American Championships (PAG CQT) – Tlaxcala, Mexico, June 23-28	Recurve and Compound Team Funded	\$500 Per Athlete	\$3,000
World Cup #4 – Madrid, Spain, July 7-12	Recurve and Compound Team Funded	\$500 Per Athlete	\$3,000
NOT REQUIRED: International Team Camp, Date - TBD	Recurve and Compound Team Funded	\$500 Per Athlete	N/A
World Archery Field Championships and World Archery 3D Championships, Yankton, SD, September 24 <sup>th</sup> – October 4 <sup>th</sup>	SELF FUNDED EVENT	World Field Championships Athletes will receive a \$500 Travel Grant from LAS.	N/A
Youth Olympic Games – Dakar, Senegal October 31 <sup>st</sup> - November 15 <sup>th</sup>	USOPC PARTIAL OR FULLY FUNDED EVENT	N/A	N/A
World Cup Final – Location and Date TBD	WORD ARCHERY FUNDED EVENT	USAA provides Athlete Airfare Reimbursement Only (Max \$1,500)	N/A