



# Athlete Stipends, Support Programs and Benefits

UPDATED: December 2024

## 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 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 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 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 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 athlete who meets the eligibility criteria for EAH and/or Elite Athlete Stipends at the time of pregnancy will continue to receive EAH 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 EAH 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 EAH, no consequences will occur until after a final determination of a rule violation has been found.

## **2024 Elite Athlete Stipends and Support Programs provided by the USOPC (Recurve Only)**

**Total: \$184,800**

### **World Championship Year**

#### **January to May**

The top four ranked archers, male and female, as of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, in the USAA Senior National Rankings will receive an Elite Athlete Stipend from January to May (See Table 1.). Ties for the 4<sup>th</sup> place in the Senior National Rankings will be broken by the athlete's placement at the most recent USAA Target Nationals (Total Double 72 Arrow Round Score), followed by 10's and then X's at the same event. To maintain eligibility, athletes ranked in the top four (4) must participate in the World Archery Championships U.S. Team trials events and other required events (see Appendix A). If athletes are not actively competing and training, or they are eliminated from the 2025 World Archery Championship U.S. Team Trials process prior to the final nomination of the team, the athletes' Elite Athlete Stipend may be given to the next highest ranked athlete as follows: a. Before April 1 the stipend may be issued to the next highest ranked athlete based on the Senior national rankings as of 12/31/24 who meet the eligibility requirements, or b. After April 1 the stipend may be issued to the highest ranked athlete in the 2025 World Archery Championship U.S. Team Trials process who meet the eligibility requirements, on a case by case basis, pending approval by the USOPC.

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

<b>Men's and Women's Recurve Senior National Ranking as of 12/31/24</b>	<b>Monthly Stipend Amount</b>
<b>Rank #1</b>	2,300.00
<b>Rank #2</b>	2,200.00
<b>Rank #3</b>	1,500.00
<b>Rank #4</b>	1,000.00

**Following the nomination of the 2025 World Archery Championship team June to December.**

Following the conclusion of the final 2025 World Archery Championship U.S. Team Trials, the top three male and female recurve finalists nominated to the team will receive Elite Athlete Stipends June through December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025 (See Table 2.). To maintain eligibility, archers must commit to training and participate in required events (see Appendix A). If an athlete is not actively training or attending required events, their Elite Athlete Stipend may be given to the next highest ranked athlete in the U.S. Team Trials final rankings who meets the eligibility requirements, on a case by case basis, pending approval by the USOPC.

**Table 2. Elite Athlete Stipends to be Paid Monthly June to December**

<b>2025 Hyundai World Archery Championship U.S. Team Trials Final Ranking</b>	<b>Monthly Stipend Amount</b>
Rank #1	3,000.00
Rank #2	2,800.00
Rank #3	2,400.00

**Operation Gold (Recurve Only)**

**The Operation Gold qualifying event for USA Archery is the 2025 World Archery Championships, September 5 – September 12, 2025, in Gwangju, Korea.**

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).

In addition to Elite Athlete Gold, the USOPC may athletes the following change based on USOPC limitations):

<b>2025 Operation Gold - Payment Schedule</b>	
<b>Place</b>	<b>2025 (1st 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

Stipends and Operation provide eligible recurve benefits (subject to funding and/or other

## Elite Athlete Health Insurance (Recurve Only)

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 Eligibility Criteria

EAHI will be offered, on or before January 31<sup>st</sup> to the top four eligible Senior recurve male and female athletes according to the Senior National Ranking System as of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024. EAHI will be available to these same athletes until May. Following the nomination of the 2025 World Archery Championship Team, EAHI will be offered to the top four recurve males and females per the final 2025 World Archery Championship U.S. Team Trials results June through December 2025.

## Mental Health Assistance Fund (Recurve 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 selected to represent the U.S. in the past two years at an elite competition in an event (i.e. Outdoor World Cups, World Archery Championships, Pan American Championships, Pan American Games or Olympic Games) in a discipline included on the program 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.

For MHAF Program information contact [mentalhealth@usopc.org](mailto:mentalhealth@usopc.org) or call 719-866-2388.

## Eligibility Guidelines (Compound)

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 Recurve 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 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 national ranking the previous year. Each athlete recipient will be required to execute 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 national 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 top 3 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 events as outlined in Appendix A, plus a \$500 travel stipend (the 4<sup>th</sup> compound athlete named to each World Cup Team will receive a \$500 travel stipend only). 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 to the 8<sup>th</sup> 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).

## **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 (Recurve Only)**

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.

### **Funded International Events and Camps**

USA Archery will fund eligible athlete travel to international events and camps (hereafter, required events) as outlined in **Appendix A**. Funding may be provided for event registration, travel expenses (per the USA Archery travel policy), travel insurance and event uniforms.

**Easton Foundations International Preseason Camp (Not Required)**: The top 3 Senior Recurve athletes and the top 3 Senior Compound athletes in the Senior national rankings as of 12/31/24 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 8th place Senior recurve or compound athlete in the Senior national rankings as of 12/31/24 who meet the MQS (a max of three 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 ranking round score) within the past 12 months at a national level sanctioned event.

- Male Recurve: 650
- Female Recurve: 625
- Male Compound: 695
- Female Compound: 680

### **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

### 2025 Required “EVENTS” and Funding Allocations

2025 Required International Events and Prep-Camps	Athlete Travel Funding	Travel Stipend for Funded Athletes (**Includes #4 Compound Athlete)	Compound Stipend Top 3 Athletes ONLY
NOT REQUIRED: Easton Foundations International Preseason Camp, Chula Vista, CA, March 10 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup>	Up to the Top 3 Recurve and the Top 3 Compound Athletes in the Senior NRS as of 12/31/24 will be Partially Funded	Room and Board Paid for by USAA (Airfare and ground transport excluded)	N/A
World Cup #1 – Haines, City FL, USA, April 6-13	Recurve and Compound Team Funded	\$500 Per Athlete	\$3,000
World Cup #3 – Antalya, Turkey, June 1-8	Recurve and Compound Team Funded	\$500 Per Athlete	\$3,000
World Cup #4 – Madrid, Spain, July 6-13	Recurve and Compound Team Funded	\$500 Per Athlete	\$3,000
Junior Pan American Games – Asunción, Paraguay August 6-12	Athletes named to the team will be partially funded.	N/A	N/A
2025 World Championships, Korea, Sept 2-12	Recurve and Compound Team Funded	\$500 Per Athlete	\$3,000
World Cup Final – Location and Date TBD	Recurve and Compound Airfare Funded	Airfare Reimbursement Only	N/A

**\*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.**

**\*\*The 4<sup>th</sup> compound athlete named to a World Cup Team will be funded to the event and receive the \$500 travel stipend only.**