



## USA Climbing Policy – Targeted Athlete Support Funding

USA Climbing does not tolerate discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, or national origin.

USA Climbing believes that every athlete should be allowed to compete in a respectful, safe, and harassment-free environment. USA Climbing also believes that every athlete should be allowed to participate in fair competition in accordance with USA Climbing’s rules, policies, and mission.

### Purpose & Scope

The USA Climbing Targeted Athlete Support Funding Policy (“this Policy”) establishes the criteria and procedures for the allocation of performance-based support funding to National Team athletes who do not reside in proximity to USA Climbing’s centralized high-performance resources in Salt Lake City, Utah.

This Policy applies to:

- Athletes officially named to the USA Climbing National Team in Boulder, Lead, or Speed disciplines.
- Athletes who reside outside a 60-mile radius of Salt Lake City, Utah for nine (9) or more months per calendar year.

### Policy

USA Climbing acknowledges that National Team athletes residing outside the Salt Lake City metro area may not have regular access to the training and support services offered locally. To promote performance equity across all National Team athletes, USA Climbing offers targeted support funding to eligible athletes based on their geographic status.

Eligible athletes will receive equal distributions of available funding. Annual funding amounts will be determined based on the total budget available for this program in the given year and will be communicated following the official National Team selection.

This funding is intended to support athlete training and performance development in their local environment. Examples of appropriate use include coaching services, physical training, nutrition, recovery, or travel to centralized team programming.

All funding decisions under this Policy are made by the Chief of Sport, in collaboration with the National Team Manager.

Any questions regarding this Policy may be directed to USA Climbing at [highperformance@usacimbing.org](mailto:highperformance@usacimbing.org).

## **1. Athlete Eligibility**

1.1 To be eligible for Targeted Athlete Support Funding, an athlete must:

- Be officially named to the USA Climbing National Team in Boulder, Lead, or Speed.
- Reside outside a 60-mile radius of Salt Lake City, Utah for at least nine (9) months annually.
- Be in good standing with USA Climbing and in compliance with all National Team athlete requirements.
- Commit to compete in the current season with the priority of earning a Top 40 CUWR quota for USA Climbing the following year.
- Submit documentation verifying their residence status. Acceptable forms of documentation may include:
  - Lease agreement or utility bills showing a residential address
  - School enrollment or class schedule
  - Notarized statement of residency
  - Other supporting materials as approved by the Chief of Sport

1.2 Athletes residing within the 60-mile radius of Salt Lake City for more than three (3) months per year are not eligible for this funding.

1.3 Eligibility will be confirmed by the Chief of Sport in collaboration with the National Team Manager.

## **2. Use of Funds**

2.1 Funding is provided to support athlete training and development outside of Salt Lake City and may be used at the athlete's discretion.

2.2 Examples of uses include, but are not limited to:

- Personal coaching services
- Strength and conditioning programs
- Nutrition consultations
- Sports massage or recovery treatments
- Travel to Salt Lake City for team training camps or high-performance check-ins
- Other training-related services as deemed appropriate by the athlete

2.3 Athletes may be required to submit documentation or receipts upon request. Oversight will be managed by the Chief of Sport, in collaboration with the National Team Manager.

### **3. Distribution Process**

3.1 Funding is distributed annually, following the selection of the National Team at National Team Trials.

3.2 The total available budget for this program will be equally divided among all eligible athletes.

3.3 Distribution amounts will be communicated directly to athletes by the National Team Manager.

3.4 To receive funding, eligible athletes must submit a funding request via email to [highperformance@usaclimbing.org](mailto:highperformance@usaclimbing.org), and include a completed W-9 form and proof of residency.

3.5 No funds will be distributed until a valid W-9 and proof of residency has been received.

3.6 All decisions regarding distribution are made by the Chief of Sport, in collaboration with the National Team Manager.

### **4. Review and Amendments**

This Policy is reviewed annually by the Chief of Sport in collaboration with the National Team Manager and may be amended to reflect evolving athlete support needs, program resources, or strategic direction.

### **5. Acknowledgment**

This policy must be reviewed and signed annually by the athlete and their parent/guardian if applicable.

Participant Name \_\_\_\_\_ Participant Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Participant Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_