



USA Climbing Policy – Athlete Support Funding (Direct & Targeted)

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 Athlete Support Funding Policy (“this Policy”) establishes the criteria and procedures for the allocation of financial support to National Team athletes.

This Policy includes two distinct forms of athlete support:

- Direct Athlete Support (DAS): Baseline funding provided to all National Team athletes
- Targeted Athlete Support (TAS): Additional funding provided to eligible athletes based on geographic criteria

This Policy applies to:

- Athletes officially named to the USA Climbing National Team in Boulder, Lead, or Speed disciplines

Policy Overview

USA Climbing is committed to supporting National Team athletes in achieving international performance success while ensuring equitable access to resources.

To achieve this, USA Climbing provides:

- Direct Athlete Support (DAS): A baseline level of financial support available to all National Team athletes
- Targeted Athlete Support (TAS): Supplemental funding for athletes who do not reside in proximity to USA Climbing’s centralized high-performance resources in Salt Lake City, Utah

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

1. Direct Athlete Support (DAS)

1.1 Purpose

Direct Athlete Support provides baseline financial assistance to all National Team athletes to reduce barriers to participation in training and competition.

1.2 Athlete Eligibility

- Be officially named to the USA Climbing National Team in Boulder, Lead, or Speed
- Be in good standing with USA Climbing and in compliance with all National Team athlete requirements
- Maintain active participation in National Team programming as determined by USA Climbing High Performance staff
- Commit to compete in the current season with the priority of earning a Top 40 CUWR quota for USA Climbing the following year.

All National Team athletes are eligible for DAS regardless of geographic location.

1.3 Use of Funds

- Travel to and from approved competitions
- Competition entry fees
- Coaching and training support
- Strength and conditioning services
- Nutrition and sport science services
- Equipment and apparel related to training and competition

1.4 Distribution Process

- Funding is distributed annually following National Team selection
- The total available budget is determined each year based on organizational resources
- Funding may be distributed as equal allocations or tiered allocations by team designation
- Distribution amounts and timelines will be communicated by the National Team Manager
- Athletes must submit a completed W-9 form to receive funding
- No funds will be distributed until documents (signed agreement and W-9) have been submitted and approved.

2. Targeted Athlete Support Funding (TAS)

2.1 Purpose

Targeted Athlete Support Funding provides additional financial support to National Team athletes who do not reside in proximity to USA Climbing's centralized high-performance resources in Salt Lake City, Utah.

2.2 Athlete Eligibility

- 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
- Maintain active participation in National Team programming as determined by USA Climbing High Performance staff
- 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

2.3 Use of Funds

- Personal coaching services
- Strength and conditioning programs
- Nutrition consultations
- Recovery services
- Travel to Salt Lake City for team training
- Other training-related services

2.4 Distribution Process

- Funding is distributed annually following National Team selection
- The total available budget will be equally divided among eligible athletes
- Athletes must submit W-9 and proof of residency
- No funds will be distributed until documents (signed agreement, proof of residency, and W-9) have been submitted and approved.

3. Relationship Between DAS and TAS

- All National Team athletes are eligible for DAS
- TAS is supplemental and based on geographic eligibility
- Athletes may receive both DAS and TAS
- DAS provides baseline funding; TAS addresses geographic disparities

4. Administration

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

Questions: highperformance@usacimbing.org

5. 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.

6. 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 _____