

<i>Policy Name</i> Athlete Assistance Program Carding Criteria Olympic Program 2025-2026 Cycle		
<i>Date of Approval</i> May 8th 2025	<i>Activation Date</i> April 1st 2025	<i>Updated:</i> June 4th 2025
<i>Review Cycle</i> Written by: High Performance Manager Reviewed by: National Team Advisor, National Team Performance Lead, Recurve Technical Advisory Group, Recurve Athlete Representatives Approved by: Archery Canada Board of Directors and Sport Canada		<i>Linking to</i> • Sport Canada AAP Policies • Appeal Policy • Dispute Resolution Policy

1.0 General Information

The goal of the Sport Canada Athlete Assistance program (AAP) is to contribute towards improved Canadian performances at major international sporting events such as the Olympic Games and World Championships. More information on the AAP policy supporting the Archery Canada (AC) carding policy and process can be found at the following link:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/funding/athlete-assistance.html>

The AAP has three levels of cards, which provide a monthly living and training allowance to carded athletes as follows:

Card Type	Monthly Allowance	Annual Value
Senior International Card (SR1/SR2)	\$2,175	\$26,100
Senior National Card (SR)	\$2,175	\$26,100
Development Card	\$1,305	\$15,660

Chart 1: AAP carding allowances

In addition to the monthly allowance, carded athletes can take advantage of further support, related to tuition or dependents. Details of eligibility can also be found under the above AAP link.

For the 2025-2026 cycle, Sport Canada has allocated the equivalent of five (5) Senior Cards to Archery Canada (AC) for the Olympic program able-bodied athletes. This totals \$130,500 in carding support available.

Under the guidance of the AAP policy, AC has the ability to apply the total carding funding envelope in the context of its high performance strategic objectives and may allocate a varying number of Senior (SR International or National) or Development (D) cards. AC does not have to allocate 5 SR Cards for a given year. As such, the distribution of SR and D Cards may vary depending on the strategic direction of the program or where the carding cycle lies in an Olympic quadrennial.

Athlete nominations to Sport Canada for carding will be made each year. The High Performance Manager (HPM), in collaboration with the Technical Leadership (comprised of a group of experts, with in-depth knowledge of the athletes being evaluated, which could include the HPM, National Coach Advisor (NC), National Coach designate and/or any required sport science staff) is responsible for nominating Olympic program, able-bodied athletes for Sport Canada's AAP.

2.0 Performance Objective

AC's high performance objective is to create sustainable podium potential at the Olympic Games and World Championship level. Program selections and investments will be made in accordance with these stated performance objectives.

3.0 Eligibility

To be considered for carding, an athlete must meet all the requirements listed by Sport Canada's AAP found under the link provided in section 1.0 above, including:

- Compete in an event in the Olympic games that is recognized by Sport Canada for AAP support
- Be eligible to represent Canada under the rules of the International Federation (World Archery)
- Hold a valid Archery Canada membership at the time of nomination and throughout the carding term.
- The athlete must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada at the beginning of the carding cycle for which the athlete is being nominated.
 - Permanent residents must live in Canada for the full year preceding the carding cycle for which the athlete is being considered for AAP support
 - For athletes who have been permanent residents of Canada for three years or more, continued eligibility to receive AAP support is contingent on the athlete becoming eligible to represent Canada at the Olympic Games;
- The athlete must be available to represent Canada in major international competitions, including World Championships, Olympic Games, World Cups, and other events as identified.
- Sign and adhere to AC's athlete agreement, which includes the terms pursuant to athletes with carding.
- Achieve results meeting any stated carding criteria between Apr. 1st 2025 to Sept. 30th 2025
- Meet any further stated eligibility requirements for specific card levels, as outlined in section 8.
- Agree to follow the Strength & Conditioning and general fitness programs as defined by the NCA or NC designate and provide periodic compliance reporting as requested

4.0 CARDING CYCLE

Runs from December 1st 2025 to November 30th 2026

5.0 QUALIFICATION PERIOD

To be eligible for nomination for Sport Canada's Athlete Assistance Program (AAP), the athletes must meet the required performance standards as set out in section 6.0 (carding criteria) by Sept. 30 2025

6.0 OVERVIEW OF THE CARDING SYSTEM

6.1 SENIOR INTERNATIONAL CARDS

An athlete at the Senior International level is expected to demonstrate performance progression towards outstanding performances at World Championships or Olympic Games. Athletes may be nominated for a Sr. International Card for two consecutive years, referred to as SR1 and SR2. Athletes carded as a SR1 should demonstrate consistency in their results to be re-nominated for SR2 Card status. For the 2025-2026 cycle, athletes can earn nomination for a Senior International card based on their performance at the 2025 World Championships in Gwangju, Korea from Sept. 5-12th 2025

6.2 SENIOR NATIONAL CARDS

An athlete at the Senior National level is expected to demonstrate performance progression towards Senior International status, through performances at World Cups, World Ranking Events, National Championships and any other identified event, please refer to section 8.

Once an athlete has been carded for 6 full carding cycles or more at the Senior card levels (SR1, SR2, SR) to be recommended for additional years of carding support the athlete must either:

- a. Meet the International Senior Card criteria, as outlined in section 8, below; or
- b. Clearly demonstrate evidence and progress toward placing in the Top 8 at the World Championships and the Olympic Games.

A full carding cycle is defined as receiving AAP support for the total number of months identified for each cycle (please see section 4 of this document). If Archery Canada, through the approval of Sport Canada, sees an adjustment in their carding cycle that may shorten or extend the number of months in which an athlete receives AAP support in that cycle, that cycle will still be counted as a full carding cycle, regardless of the number of months within that cycle.

6.3 DEVELOPMENT (D) CARDS

Development cards are intended to support the developmental needs of younger athletes (U21) or athletes newer to the sport, which includes but is not limited to archers who have begun to compete locally/provincially within the last 2 years and who demonstrate potential to achieve Senior Card criteria in the next 5 to 8 years. Athletes who are 21+ but also demonstrate potential to achieve Senior Card criteria in the next 5 to 8 years are also eligible for nomination for a D card.

Any D Card athlete is expected to progress in their results toward achieving either SR International or National Card eligibility.

AC has established the maximum number of months an athlete can be nominated for a Development card at 5 full carding cycles. An athlete at the development card level is expected to obtain the criteria to be nominated for either a Senior National or International card within this time frame.

A full carding cycle is defined as receiving AAP support for the total number of months identified for each cycle (please see section 4 of this document). If Archery Canada, through the approval of Sport Canada, sees an adjustment in their carding cycle that may shorten or extend the number of months in which an athlete receives AAP support in that cycle, that cycle will still be counted as a full carding cycle, regardless of the number of months within that cycle.

7.0 CARDING PRIORITIZATION

Athletes eligible for nomination in the 2025-2026 carding cycle will be recommended to Sport Canada for AAP support as identified in Chart 2 below, carding prioritization.

Card Level	Priority Order	Eligibility and/or Performance Criteria
SR1	1	Team or Mixed Team Performance Criteria
	2	Individual Performance Criteria
SR2	N/A	No athletes eligible for nomination for a Sr2 card for the 2025-2026 cycle
SR	3	Individual Athletes - Senior Event Results, then Youth Event Results
	4	Individual Athletes - ASL Criteria
D	5	Individual U21 Athletes Event Criteria
	6	Individual - 2025 National Team Event Criteria
	7	Individual Results - Canadian Nationals Event Criteria
	8	Individual Athletes - ASL Criteria
SRI or DI	9	Maximum (1) Athlete who is eligible for a Sr Card and meets health clause criteria. Only (1) Injury card, at either SR or D levels will be distributed where eligible
		If no SRI Cards, maximum (1) athlete who is eligible for a Development Card and meets health Clause criteria. Only (1) Injury card, at either Sr or D levels will be distributed where eligible

Chart 2: 2025-2026 Carding Prioritization

8.0 CARDING CRITERIA

8.1 SENIOR INTERNATIONAL CARD (SR1) ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible for nomination for a Senior International Card the athlete must meet the following eligibility criteria and one (1) of two (2) performance criteria as follows, in either the Individual or Team Criteria:

8.1.1 Sr International Eligibility Criteria: Be named as an athlete or an alternate athlete* for the 2025 Senior World Championships

8.1.2 Performance Criteria:

8.1.2.1 Team (Men's or Women's) and/or Mixed Team athletes who place in the Top 8 following match play or Top half in qualification of the respective team competition at the 2025 World Championships

- Team is defined as the 3 competing athletes as well as 1 alternate, per gender.
- The Mixed team is determined by the highest qualifying men's and women's score in the Qualification round, or the team nominated by Technical Leadership at the 2025 World Championships, as per World Archery rules.
- Alternate athletes can only be nominated for a Senior International card if the athlete is called up to compete with the team and they have directly contributed to the teams final performance at the World Championships. To be eligible for nomination the athletes nominated for a Senior International Card will have had to compete in a semi-final or final round match.

8.1.2.2 Individual Athletes who place in the Top 8 and Top half at the 2025 World Championships

Athletes who meet the above eligibility criteria, and at least (1) of the stated performance criteria, will be nominated for a Senior International Card (SR1)

8.1.3 Eligible Athlete Nomination Ranking:

Athletes who meet the above eligibility criteria will be nominated for a Senior International Card as follows:

1. Following carding prioritization order (Section 7), athletes will be ranked, Top-Down, based on their final placement (Team and Mixed Team first, then Individual results, as per prioritization) at the 2025 World Championships
2. If funding remains following the conclusion of the SRI nomination, then Archery Canada will move to nomination of the SR National Cards.

8.2 Senior International Card (SR2) Maintenance Criteria

Athletes who were nominated for a SR1 Card in the 2024-2025 Carding Cycle must demonstrate that they are, at minimum, following the agreed upon Archery Canada Training Program and schedule, including participation in all identified events in their Individual Performance Plan (IPP).

For the 2025-2026 Carding Cycle, there are no SR1 athletes eligible for nomination for a SR2 card.

8.3 SENIOR NATIONAL CARD (SR) – ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible for nomination for a Senior National Card athlete must meet (1) of the following eligibility criteria as well as the stated event specific performance criteria, for their eligibility category, for automatic nomination, where funding is available (8.3.2).

If there are athletes who meet the eligibility criteria, but do not meet the automatic nomination as per the performance criteria, athletes will then be ranked based on their performance in the 2025 competitive season (8.3.3)

8.3.1 Eligibility Criteria:

- Be named as an athlete at the following eligible events:
 - 2025 Madrid World Cup
 - 2025 World Championships
 - 2025 Youth Worlds - U21 Category only
 - Jr. Pan American Games - U21 Event Only, or;
- Compete in the 21+ or U21 category at the 2025 Canadian National Championships

8.3.2 Eligibility Event Specific Performance Criteria:

1. **2025 Madrid World Cup:** Individual Athletes who place in the Top 64 following elimination matches and/or place in the top half of the qualification field
2. **2025 Senior Worlds:** Individual Athletes who place in the Top 32 following eliminations matches at the 2025 Senior World Championships
3. **2025 Youth World Championships (U21 Only):** Place in the Top 3 (Podium) in their U21 Individual Category at the 2025 Youth World Championships
4. **2025 Junior Pan Am Games:** Place top of the podium and earn a direct athlete quota to the 2027 Pan American Games
5. **2025 Canadian Championships:** Place on the Podium - Top 3 in their gender and age category
 - a. U21 and 21+ categories only.

8.3.3 Performance Criteria:

If there are athletes who meet the above eligibility, but have not earned any of the Event Specific Performance Criteria, athletes may be nominated for a Senior Card, based on their end of season Archer Skill Level (ASL). The end of season ASL data will include the average of (5) Qualification (720) scores at the end of the eligibility period. The (5) Qualification scores must be obtained from an Archery Canada registered event, World Archery America's and World Archery international events, and other World Archery Member associated registered events.

All 5 scores cannot be shot at the same event, and at least (2) of the (5) scores must come from an event with individual match play.

Athletes will only be nominated for a Senior Card based on ASL, if following evaluation they meet one (1) of the following criteria:

- Their end of season ASL meets or exceeds the stated International Medal Potential Line
- Their end of season ASL demonstrates consistent competitive results
 - Evaluation of the athletes Performance Progression and ASL data of the last 5 years
 - Final end of Season ASL is +/- five points from the stated IMP.
- Their performance progression in the 2025 season, in evaluation with up to the athletes last 4 seasons. The athletes performance progression should clearly demonstrate the athlete's ability to reach their category's IMP within the next 1-2 seasons.

Athlete's ASL data can be found at:

- Recurve Men:
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/e/2PACX-1vT1Drpmj69eUklgwyYCA9HdIvl-iby7R-aiS3z_xCZro2xuZnBlkDUY_Akm6EjrdJSPW_MqWZ24s3al/pubchart?oid=2024189634&format=interactive
- Recurve Women:
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/e/2PACX-1vQYhIkzv2Y2ztgc71pcbLrwXHSuYFfZImJbzy-a4jrvdoSSikcByLuVTUIUKOjJ4ZjhUnbHlpZ5DxIC/pubchart?oid=2024189634&format=interactive>

Note: This graph is updated manually by Archery Canada Technical Leadership. We are committed to updating the graph on a weekly basis with updated athlete scores. In the case of unexpected events or circumstances, the chart will be updated as soon as possible.

Athletes who meet the above eligibility criteria, and at least (1) of the stated performance criteria, will be nominated for a Senior NationalCard as follows:

Athletes who meet the above eligibility criteria will be nominated for a National Card as follows:

1. Following carding prioritization order (Section 7), athletes will be ranked, Top-Down, based on their final placement at the respective events.
2. If funding remains following the conclusion of the SR nomination, then Archery Canada will move to nomination of the D Card nominations.

8.4 DEVELOPMENT CARD (D) - Nomination Process

Where funding remains, Archery Canada will nominate athletes for a Development card in the 2025-2026 cycle This could result in a combination of cards and/or amount of funding equivalent to up to Archery Canada's maximum funding allocation. A minimum of 4 months of carding support must be available for an athlete to be nominated for the AAP.

If funding or carding quota remains available, the Development cards will be distributed to athletes who meet at least one of the following eligibility criteria and the event specific performance criteria:

8.4.1 Eligibility Criteria

- Be a member of an Archery Canada Youth National Team (U21 and or U18 athletes) - Youth World Championships or Jr. Pan Am Games, **or**;
- Be nominated and represent Canada at a 2025 key event
 - Madrid World Cup
 - 2025 Senior World Championships
- Compete in the 21+, U21 and/or U18 category at the 2025 Canadian National Championships
- Compete in the 21+ or U21 and/or U18 Category at the 2025 Canada Cup West and/or East
- Compete in an Open Registration World Ranking Event:
 - The Open Registration events are published by World Archery, and vary each season. Athletes can register for these events at: <https://extranet.worldarchery.sport/wareos/>. A list of events will be posted on the Archery Canada website, when information for each event is made available.
- Have competed at a National Level for at least 2 outdoor seasons

- Competed at National Level means competing at a Canada Cup (West or East) and/or National Championships
- The 2025 Archery Canada events (Canada Cups and Nationals) will be considered one of the last 2 seasons. Therefore athletes should have results from 2024 or earlier

8.4.2 Event Specific Performance Criteria

- **2025 Jr. Pan Am Games and/or Youth World Championships:** Athletes who place in the Top 8 following elimination matches at either the 2025 Youth World Championships or Jr. Pan Am Games.
- **2025 National Team Event:** Athletes who qualify for elimination matches at a 2025 National Team Event, and win at least one match in elimination match play
- **2025 World Ranking Event - Open Registration:** Athletes who register, through the Open registration portal, for a World Ranking event, must shoot the World Archery MQS score in the 720 Qualification Round, as well as qualify for elimination matches and earn at least one (1) match play win in the elimination rounds.
 - For both Archery Canada team nominated and Open registration athletes, an athlete who earns a BYE to the 1/8th round, will have the BYE count as a match win, regardless of the result of their first "official" match.
- **2025 Canadian Championships:** Place in the Top Half of their gender and age category
 - U21 and 21+ categories only.
- **2025 Canada Cup West and/or East:** Place in the Top 3 of their gender and age category
 - U21 and 21+ age categories only
 - Competitive field must have at least 6 athletes in their competitive field.

8.4.3 Performance Criteria:

If there are athletes who meet the above eligibility, but have not earned any of the Event Specific Performance Criteria and there is funding available, Archery Canada may nominate athletes for a Development Card, based on their end of season Archer Skill Level (ASL).

If there are athletes who meet the above eligibility, but have not earned any of the Event Specific Performance Criteria and funding remains, Archery Canada may nominate athletes for a Development Card, based on their end of season Archer Skill Level (ASL). The end of season ASL data will include the average of (5) Qualification (720) scores at the end of the eligibility period.

The (5) Qualification scores must be obtained from an Archery Canada registered event, a World Archery America's and/or World Archery international event, and at World Archery Member associated registered events.

All 5 scores cannot be shot at the same event, with at least (2) of the (5) scores coming from an event with individual match play.

Athletes will only be nominated for a Development Card based on ASL, if following evaluation they meet one (1) of the following criteria:

- Their end of season ASL meets or exceeds the stated International Medal Potential Line
- Their end of season ASL demonstrates consistent competitive results

- Evaluation of the athletes Performance Progression and ASL data of previous season(s) to end of 2025
- Final end of Season ASL is +/- five points from the stated IMP.
- Their performance progression, reviewing up to a maximum of the last five seasons, as demonstrated in the ASL charting, can be utilized to predict the athletes ability to reach the IMP within the next 3-4 seasons.

Athlete's ASL data can be found at:

- Recurve Men:
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/e/2PACX-1vT1Drpmj69eUklgwyYCA9Hdlvl-iby7R-aiS3zx CZro2xuZnBlkDUY_Akm6EjrdJSPW_MqWZ24s3al/pubchart?oid=2024189634&format=interactive
- Recurve Women:
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/e/2PACX-1vQYhIkzv2Y2ztgc71pcbLrwXHSuYFfZlmJbzy-a4jrVdoSSikcByLuVTUIUKOjJ4ZjhUnbHlpZ5DxIC/pubchart?oid=2024189634&format=interactive>

Note: This graph is updated manually by Archery Canada Technical Leadership. We are committed to updating the graph on a weekly basis with updated athlete scores. In the case of unexpected events or circumstances, the chart will be updated as soon as possible.

8.4.4 Nomination Ranking:

If more athletes than funding available, meet the above eligibility criteria athletes will be ranked for nomination as follows:

1. Following carding prioritization order (Section 7), athletes will be ranked, Top-Down, based on the event specific criteria and the athlete's placement.
2. If funding remains following the conclusion of the D card nominations, then Archery Canada will move to nomination of the final cards based on ASL criteria, or move to nomination of injury cards.

Note that a Development Card, normally, cannot be allocated to an athlete that has been previously carded at the Senior Card level (C1, SR, SR1 or SR2) for more than two (2) years. An exception may be made, at Sport Canada's sole discretion, under exceptional circumstances. For example, an athlete that has been carded at the senior level for more than 2 years, while still competing at the Junior International level.

9.0 HEALTH CLAUSE (INJURY, ILLNESS, PREGNANCY)

Athletes who are carded in 2024/25 at the SR1, SR2, SR, or D levels, and are unable to meet the carding criteria strictly due to health-related reasons may be considered for re-nomination by the Archery Canada Technical Leadership for the 2025/26 carding cycle. To apply for a health-clause card, athletes will need to meet the following criteria, as per Sport Canada policy 9.1.3 Failure to Meet Renewal Criteria for Health-Related Reasons:

- The carded athlete has fulfilled all reasonable training and/or rehabilitation requirements aimed at a speedy return to full high-performance training and competition during the period of their

injury, illness, pregnancy or other health-related circumstance, or is continuing a rehabilitation program approved by Archery Canada;

- In the view of Archery Canada, the carded athlete's failure to attain the applicable carding standards is strictly related to the injury, illness, pregnancy or other health-related circumstance;
- Archery Canada, based on its technical judgment and that of an identified physician or equivalent, indicates in writing the expectation that the carded athlete will achieve at least the minimum standards required for carding during the upcoming carding period;
- The carded athlete has demonstrated and continues to demonstrate their long-term commitment to high-performance training and competition goals, as well as their intention to pursue full high-performance training and competition throughout the carding period for which they wish to be renewed despite not having met the carding criteria;
- Archery Canada must provide evidence that the above requirements are being met in order to nominate athletes for carding based on the above provisions.

Applications may be required to include a medical certificate outlining the health concern, the anticipated timelines, and their anticipated training and competitive schedule (national and international) upon return to training and competition. Archery Canada may request a physician of AC's choosing to review and qualify the documentation with the athlete's physician.

If more athletes apply for a health clause criterion, than there are available cards for nomination, athletes will be nominated based on the following parameters:

1. Performance Progression: Athletes scores and performance progression from, at maximum, 2 years prior to and up to the injury will be reviewed and assessed to determine an appropriate ASL Score ranking for the athlete.
2. Gold Medal Profile – Team Dynamics Assessment: Athletes will be evaluated through the Team Dynamics section of the Gold Medal profile.

A total score will be compiled and used to determine the ranking in which athletes would be nominated under the health clause.

10.0 MAINTAINING CARDING STATUS

Carding selection and the continuation of carding is dependent upon the athlete's acceptance and adherence to the obligations as outlined in AC's athlete agreement and this carding policy. The athlete must agree to adhere to the training, competitive and administrative/governance policies and codes of Archery Canada. The athlete must also adhere to pursuing specific performance goals, fitness targets, or technical adjustments as identified by the NC or the HPD's designate.

All athletes must follow an HPD and NC approved yearly training plan (YTP) and Individual Performance Plan (IPP) during the carding cycle. Athletes are required to provide regular progress reporting, including specific formats and frequencies, as defined by the HPD or NC (also see 11.0, Performance Monitoring).

Carded athletes must take part in all competitions, testing, medical examinations and national training camps to which they are selected. Should extenuating circumstances arise that prevent participation in any of these events, carded athletes must submit a written request for exemption to the HPD or NC, who may grant an exemption depending on individual circumstances.

Should an athlete fail to participate in a scheduled event as required, or fail to meet their YTP and IPP objectives, or fail to adhere to the athlete agreement or any other policies and codes related to maintaining carding status, Archery Canada's Technical Leadership, may apply a sanction or fine according to Archery Canada discipline procedures. Any sanctions may include the application of a progressive discipline process and could include a withdrawal of carding.

11.0 PERFORMANCE MONITORING

Athletes, and their personal coach as applicable, are responsible for proactively communicating with the appointed technical leadership throughout the carding cycle as outlined in the agreed upon plan. Athletes are required to report their training data through the provided reporting structure and team builder apps throughout the season.

Athletes are expected to demonstrate progress upon the objectives set by the National Team Advisor (NTA) or High Performance Manager (HPM) or NC at the beginning of the carding cycle. Examples of potential objectives include:

- Technical proficiency and progression
- Fitness or physiological goals
- Minimum benchmark scoring and competition performances.
- Training volumes
- Operational goals

Any expectations from the HPM or National Coach Designate will be provided to the athlete and their personal coach as applicable in writing, along with an explanation of what measures will be used to evaluate athlete progression toward meeting any objectives. Objectives may be adjusted throughout the carding cycle at the NC's discretion.

12.0 CHALLENGES OR APPEALS

Appeals of Archery Canada AAP nomination/re-nomination decision or of an Archery Canada's recommendation to withdraw carding may be pursued only through the Archery Canada's review process, which includes an application to the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SDRCC). Appeals of AAP Decision made under Section 6 (Application for and Approval of Cards) or Section 11 (Withdrawal of Carding Status) may be pursued through Section 13 of the AAP Policies, Procedures and Guidelines.