

# 2026-2027 ATHLETE PERFORMANCE FUNDING – POOL

## GENERAL CRITERIA

To be eligible for Athlete Performance Funding (pool), athletes must be:

- Named (including if they were subsequently added) to the 2026-2027 United States National Team found [here](#).
- Current USA Swimming members in good standing;
- Eligible to represent the United States in international competition;
- Actively training and competing.<sup>1</sup>

## September 1, 2026- August 31, 2027

- The top 60 athletes (30 men/30 women) will receive Athlete Performance Funding based on the following rankings:
  - Priority 1: Athletes who are ranked first in their respective Individual Olympic Event(s) that qualified them for the Team (“Event”).
    - To the extent that the above process exceeds 30 athletes, all athletes will be ranked by their Percentage of Medal Standard (defined below) and if there is a tie for the 30<sup>th</sup> position all athletes involved in the tie will receive funding.
  - Priority 2 (if the team is not full after completing Priority 1): Athletes who are ranked second, third, or fourth in the 100-and 200-meter Freestyle.
    - To the extent that the above process exceeds 30 athletes, all athletes will be ranked by their Percentage of Medal Standard (defined below) and if there is a tie for the 30<sup>th</sup> position all athletes involved in the tie will receive funding.
  - Priority 3 (if the team is not full after completing Priority 2): If all athletes listed above have qualified for funding and fewer than 30 athletes per competition category meet the above requirements, all remaining athletes who are on the 2026-2027 National Team and are ranked second in their respective Individual Olympic Event and have not yet qualified for funding will be ranked based on their Percentage of Medal Standard in their Individual Olympic Event.
    - This process will continue with all remaining athletes ranked third, then fourth, then fifth, and then sixth (but only to include the 100-meter and 200-meter Freestyle, and no other sixth place finishes in any other Individual Olympic Events), until 30 men and 30 women have qualified for Athlete Performance Funding. If there is a tie for the 30<sup>th</sup> position, all athletes involved in the tie will receive funding.
- If an athlete that initially qualified to receive funding becomes ineligible by not meeting the general criteria above during the period of September 1, 2026, to August 31, 2027, they will no longer receive funding from the time period they became ineligible onwards. The next eligible athlete will receive funding for the remainder of that time period.
- If an athlete later becomes eligible to receive funding during the September 1, 2026, to August 31, 2027 period that was not initially eligible and meets all of the above criteria, that athlete will start receiving funding from the point in which they became eligible throughout the remainder of the time period. No

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<sup>1</sup> “Actively training and competing” means that an athlete must:

- Athlete’s coach submits a quarterly training acknowledgement to USA Swimming and;
- Compete in a minimum of four USA Swimming or World Aquatics-sanctioned long-course-meter competitions from December 1, 2026, through August 31, 2027. Two of these competitions must be TYR Pro Swim Series competitions and one must be the Toyota U.S. National Championships. For competition at a TYR Pro Swim Series or the Toyota U.S. Nationals to count towards this four-competition requirement, an athlete must race in at least one event in a minimum of three different days of the competition.

other athletes will be removed from receiving funding due to this addition.

“Time” means the fastest long course meters time swum by that Athlete in each individual event that will be swum at the 2028 Olympic Games (“Individual Olympic Event”), from any USA Swimming sanctioned competition between December 1, 2025, and August 20, 2026, or any AQUA approved competition between December 1, 2025, and August 20, 2026.

“Medal Standard” or “MS” means the average of the bronze medal earning times from the 2023 World Championships, 2024 Olympic Games, and 2025 World Championships in any singular Event i.e., the MS for the 100-meter Freestyle for purposes of these Selection Procedures is the average of the bronze medal earning times in the 100-meter Freestyle at the 2023 World Championships, 2024 Olympic Games, and 2025 World Championships. All MSs can be found in Appendix 1. In the event of a tie for Silver such that no bronze medal was awarded, the silver medal winning time will be used.

Percentage of MS. “Percentage of MS” means the difference between a swimmer’s Time compared to the MS for the same Event. The resulting time difference will be converted to a percentage to demonstrate how much faster or slower the swimmer’s Time is compared to the MS in that same Event. This percentage will be calculated by subtracting the MS from the swimmer’s Time in that same Event then dividing the difference by the MS. Calculations will be carried to one-thousandth of a percent (i.e., x.xxx%). This means lower percentages will be ranked higher.

For example, the MS in the 100-meter Freestyle for Women is 52.64 seconds, and Swimmer #1’s Time in the 100-meter Freestyle is 54.00 seconds, then Swimmer #1 has swum 1.36 seconds slower than the MS in the 100-meter Freestyle. Using the formula described above (54.00 seconds minus 52.64 seconds, divided by 52.64 seconds) Swimmer #1’s Percentage of the MS would be 2.58%.

The MS in the 200-meter Freestyle is 1:54.29 minutes, and Swimmer #2’s time in the 200-meter Freestyle in the Finals is 1:58.00 minutes, then Swimmer #2 has swum 3.71 seconds slower than the MS. Using the formula above (118 seconds minus 114.29 seconds, divided by 114.29 seconds) that swimmer’s Percentage of MS would be 3.25%. Swimmer #1’s Percentage of MS (2.58%) would be considered faster than Swimmer #2’s Percentage of MS (3.25%) and thus, Swimmer #1 would be ranked higher.

If a swimmer’s time in an Event is faster than the MS for that Event, their percentage will be negative. For example, if Swimmer #3’s time in the 100-meter Freestyle is 52.00 seconds, their Percentage of MS would be negative 1.22% (52.00 seconds minus 52.64 seconds equals negative 0.64 seconds; negative 0.64 seconds divided by 52.64 seconds equals negative 1.22%). If Swimmer #4’s time in the 200-meter Freestyle is 1:51.00, their Percentage of MS would be negative 2.88% (111 seconds minus 114.29 seconds equals negative 3.29 seconds; negative 3.29 seconds divided by 114.29 seconds equals negative 2.88%). Swimmer #3’s MS (negative 1.22%) is slower than Swimmer #4’s MS (negative 2.88%), and thus Swimmer #4 would be ranked higher.

## 2026-2027 MONTHLY AMOUNTS – POOL

<b>Athlete Performance Funding</b>	
Qualified professional athletes who sign Athlete Partnership Agreement*	\$3,862.50
Qualified professional athletes who do not sign Athlete Partnership Agreement	\$1,800
Qualified NCAA Athletes	\$1,800
Qualified pre-enrollment NCAA eligible athletes	\$1,800

\*Athletes who have exhausted or relinquished their NCAA eligibility will be offered the opportunity to sign the Athlete Partnership Agreement.

## 2026-2027 ATHLETE PERFORMANCE FUNDING – OPEN WATER

### GENERAL CRITERIA

To be eligible for Athlete Performance Funding (open water), athletes must be:

- Named (including if they were subsequently added) to the 2026-2027 United States National Team;
- Current USA Swimming members in good standing;
- Eligible to represent the United States in international competition;
- Actively training and competing.<sup>2</sup>
- Not already qualified for Athlete Performance Funding as a pool athlete.

### September 1, 2026 - August 31, 2027

- The top 4 athletes (2 men/2 women) will receive Athlete Performance Funding based on the following rankings:
  - Priority 1: Highest place finisher in the 10K event at the 2026 Pan Pacific Championships.
  - Priority 2: Second highest place finisher in the 10K event at the 2026 Pan Pacific Championships.
- If there is a tie for either the highest place finisher or the second highest place finisher, all athletes involved in the tie will receive Athlete Performance Funding.
- If an athlete is removed from the course due to injury, illness, or safety concerns, the athlete will be considered as a “finisher.”

## 2026-2027 MONTHLY AMOUNTS – OPEN WATER

<b>Athlete Performance Funding</b>	
Qualified professional athletes who sign Athlete Partnership Agreement*	\$3,862.50
Qualified professional athletes who do not sign Athlete Partnership Agreement	\$1,800
Qualified NCAA Athletes	\$1,800
Qualified pre-enrollment NCAA eligible athletes	\$1,800

\*Athletes who have exhausted or relinquished their NCAA eligibility will be offered the opportunity to sign the Athlete Partnership Agreement.

<sup>2</sup> “Actively training and competing” means that an athlete must:

- Athlete’s primary coach submits a quarterly training acknowledgement to USA Swimming and;
- Athlete must compete in a minimum of four USA Swimming or World Aquatics-sanctioned competitions from September 1, 2026, through August 31, 2027. One of these competitions must be USA Swimming’s 2027 Open Water National Championships. Additionally, an athlete must compete in either one stop of the TYR Pro Swim Series or the Toyota U.S. Open. For competition at a TYR Pro Swim Series or the Toyota U.S. Open to count towards this four-competition requirement, an athlete must race the 1500-meter Freestyle at the competition and race in at least one event in a minimum of three different days of the competition.

## Appendix 1

Women	Event	Men
00:24.21	50 FR LCM	00:21.53
00:52.64	100 FR LCM	00:47.36
01:54.29	200 FR LCM	01:44.58
03:59.65	400 FR LCM	03:42.43
08:11.29	800 FR LCM	07:39.41
15:42.68	1500 FR LCM	14:37.84
00:27.25	50 BK LCM	00:24.34
00:58.13	100 BK LCM	00:52.30
02:06.12	200 BK LCM	01:54.94
00:30.09	50 BR LCM	00:26.73
01:05.72	100 BR LCM	00:58.88
02:22.07	200 BR LCM	02:07.79
00:25.44	50 FL LCM	00:22.75
00:56.38	100 FL LCM	00:50.33
02:05.93	200 FL LCM	01:53.54
02:08.66	200 IM LCM	01:55.80
04:33.50	400 IM LCM	04:09.08