

*This policy sets Athlete Stipends for the July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 period. Tier criteria and Stipend levels will be reset each year through mutual agreement by USABS and the USOPC.*

## **2022/2023 USABS Stipend Policy**

Athlete Stipends are granted to athletes with proven success in Olympic Games, World Championships, or who have potential to medal in these events. Athlete Stipends will only be provided to athletes with the intention to help offset training and competition expenses as they train for the upcoming Olympic Games. The policy outlined below looks to meet that intention with a basis on both past performance (Olympic Games/World Championship and World Cup results) as well as current status on the National Team.

Athletes may be eligible to receive EAH, a base stipend, and/or a Supplemental Stipend if they:

1. Are USABS member in good standing.
2. Have signed and are abiding by the USABS Code of Conduct.

### **EAH**

EAH qualification is dependent on the USOPC for the number of insurance policies offered. The USABS will strive to work with the USOPC to offer the maximum number of policies possible to closely align the EAH disbursement with stipend allocation.

### **Base Stipend**

Athletes who qualify for Tier 1 or Tier 2 (described below) based on the results of World Cup or Olympic Games/World Championships competitions will receive the corresponding funding listed from July 2022 to June 2023.

All Athletes who qualify for Tier 3 (described below) will receive the corresponding funding listed below from July 2022 through October 2022. Tier 3 status will then be reviewed at the naming of the National Team. Athletes who then qualify for Tier 3 will receive their stipend from November 2022 to June 2023. Additional National Team push athletes who compete with pilots on stipend at least twice will be added to the Tier 3 stipend beginning the following month.

<b>Stipend Level</b>	<b>Distribution Period</b>	<b>Criteria</b>
Tier 1: \$2,250/month	<i>July 2022 – June 2023</i>	Olympic Games medalist (top 3) at the 2022 Olympic Games
Tier 2: \$ 1,200/month	<i>July 2022 – June 2023</i>	2021/2022 World Cup Results <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Achieved a top 6 finish at 2022 Olympic Games</li> <li>• Achieved 4 x top 6 World Cup finishes in one discipline from the previous (2021/2022) season</li> </ul>
Tier 3: \$ 700/month	<i>July 2022 – October 2022</i>	Olympian at the 2022 Olympic Games
	<i>November 2022 – June 2023</i>	2022/2023 Funded National Team member <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4-Man Bobsled – USA 1</li> <li>• 2-Man Bobsled – USA 1</li> <li>• 2-Woman Bobsled – USA 1 &amp; 2</li> <li>• Men's Skeleton – USA 1 &amp; 2</li> <li>• Women's Skeleton – USA 1, 2, &amp; 3</li> </ul>

**Additional Stipend**

1. Athletes who were receiving a Tier 1 or Tier 2 stipend during the most recent period but have dropped to a lower tier will receive an additional \$250/month. (i.e., Tier 2 will be \$1450/month and Tier 3 will be \$950/month).
2. Athletes that raced in at least one World Cup race in each of the previous four years will be eligible to receive an additional \$250/month.

\*Note that, of the two possible Additional Stipend opportunities, an athlete can only receive one Additional Stipend.

### **Supplemental Stipend**

If any stipend resources remain after the planned allocation following the 2023 World Championship team announcement, the remaining funds will be distributed evenly to all the athletes currently receiving a stipend from March 2023 through June 2023. (This stipend may allow an athlete to go over the \$2500 /month limit.)

### **Withheld Stipend Until Push Championships**

Stipend payments, starting with July 2022 through the end of the 2022 Push Championships or 2022 National Team Trials, will be retroactively paid if the qualified athlete competes in the 2022 Push Championships or 2022 National Team Trials (or is granted a medical waiver).

### **Maternity Leave**

An athlete that becomes pregnant while receiving a stipend and/or EAH that intends to return to compete is able to receive support through the USOPC Athlete Pregnancy Support and Resources policy.

### **Medical Hardship**

An athlete receiving a Tier 1 or Tier 2 stipend who must forego a team selection competition (Team Trials or Push Championships) due to an injury sustained while training or competing may continue to receive 100% of their current stipend up 9 months until the end of the stipend fiscal year (June 2023). The athlete must complete a Medical Waiver form signed by the USABS Chief Medical Officer indicating that the injury and subsequent rehabilitation prohibits the athlete from competing. The athlete must provide updates with anticipated timeline for return to the Director of Sport Performance, Chief Medical Officer, and/or head coach when requested.