



Questions and Answers Document Ontario Athlete Assistance Program / OAAP - 2024

Q 1 What data was used to select athletes being carded this year?

The data set used by the Selection Committee to identify athletes this year included the Junior Challenge, the Ontario Outdoor Target Archery Championship Results and the Canadian Outdoor Target Championships. In some instances, the data from the Canada Cup East/CCW and World youth Championships was also used, since some athletes competed in one of the events, following the recommendation of their coaches (in lieu of the Ontario Target Championship). Archers/Athletes needed to be within 100 points of top score/the Ontario Record in their age group/category.

Q 2 What is the difference between a FULL Card and a Partial Card?

The Recipient of a **FULL Card** has successfully competed in 3 tournaments in the past year. (i.e. 2 Ontario tournaments such as the Junior Challenge and the Ontario Outdoor Target Championships and 1 National level tournament (to be chosen from the CCE/CCW OR The AC Outdoor National Target Championship. OR 1 Ontario tournament (previously listed) and 2 National level tournaments-previously mentioned).

The Recipient of a **PARTIAL Card** has successfully competed in 2 tournaments in the past year. (i.e. 2 Ontario tournaments such as the Junior Challenge and the Ontario Outdoor Target Championships OR 1 Ontario tournament and 1 National level tournament (to be chosen from the CCE/CCW OR The AC Outdoor National Target Championship).

*The funding comes from the province of Ontario, therefore, in order to apply for OAAP Funding, athletes **MUST** be Canadian citizens, be Ontario residents and compete in Ontario events.

Q 3 Archery Ontario is looking to rebuild, with a focus on next generation archers and in doing so, aligning age categories with other PSOs, using data from the RBC Training Ground Program. What is RBC Training Ground?

RBC Training Ground is a talent identification and athlete funding program designed to find young athletes with Olympic potential and provide them with the resources they need to achieve their podium dreams. With the belief that high performance sports should be accessible to all athletes that are talented, qualified and have the will to compete, this program travels the country searching for athletes between the ages of U15 to U21 that will fuel the Canadian Olympic pipeline. **In Archery** this may also

apply to athletes competing in World Archery and other international events like Pan Am Games. More information is available here: <https://www.rbctrainingground.ca/>

Q 4 Why is Archery Ontario shifting it's focus for age categories?

The age categories of U15 -U18-U21 years aligns with long-term athlete development stages and the [Canadian Sport for Life program](#). This age range allows to capture those with early and late-stage Olympic potential. **In Archery** this may also apply to athletes competing in World Archery and other international events like Pan Am Games. The probability of identifying an athlete below or above these age ranges is very small. RBC Training Ground has been gathering data since 2016 and there are 12 National Sports Organizations identifying and recruiting talent, in partnership with RBC (i.e., boxing, cycling, rowing, speed skating, triathlon, etc.). More information is available at <https://www.rbctrainingground.ca/>

Q 4.1 What other factors are taken into consideration for funding?

Since athletes can benefit from this funding for up to 3 years, and Ontario is in the process of rebuilding the program, additional consideration was given to athletes applying for a second consecutive year. As well, athletes applying for the first time, having competed in 2 Ontario events or 1 Ontario event + 1 national event, who were showing promise due to good performance outcomes (i.e. scores) were considered for Partial cards.

Q 4.2 How can athletes/archers best prepare if they want to apply and be eligible for Full Card next year in the 2025 Outdoor Season?

Plan to attend and successfully compete in min. 1 tournament / Ontario Event (preferably 2) like the Junior Challenge + Ontario Target championship, as this is Ontario funding. Also, Athlete must choose (plan to attend and successfully compete in) 1 AC Event such as CCE/CCW/AC National Outdoor Target Championship. The goal is to train athletes to train, and train to win, thereby develop skills so they will adopt a competitive mindset and actively participate in situations allowing them to win at higher level events, like National level Championships.

Q 5 What equipment categories will be considered for funding in the future?

Equipment categories include Recurve, Compound and Barebow.

Q 6.1 What is **NEW** for the OAAP- for 2025?

NEW - In the 2025 season, **Individual Match Play Scores** will be considered as part of data analysis and calculations for funding. These will have to be added to the Results Tracking Form and accompany the EOI Application for 2025. Thank you!

*Ontario is actively recruiting AWAD-Para Athletes.

Q 6.2 What was **NEW** about the process in 2024?

The most significant change to the OAAP (formerly Q4G) program process was the online application, available on the AO Website, requiring athletes complete an **Expression of Interest** document/form, as well as a **Tracking Results Form and complete the submission**, to be considered for funding. This new direction is based on a paragraph from the funding agreement (per below) and allows for a first round of triage so that carding is directed at athletes planning to train toward the goal of a national team position and High-Performance Programs with Archery Canada. The paragraph reads:

Ideally an athlete will first receive a Quest for Gold “Ontario Card” for 1 to 3 years, which will allow them to train towards the goal of a national team position in subsequent years. Once an Ontario athlete reaches the national level and becomes a recipient of Sport Canada’s carding program, they become eligible for the Quest for Gold “Canada Card”. Athletes who are not planning to train towards this level of competition should not participate in this program.

The Expression of Interest (EOI) document and Tracking Results (TR) form are both available on the Archery Ontario Website and must be submitted together. Applications for the 2025 Outdoor Season will be available between Jan. 1st, 2025 and Feb. 28th, 2025.

BY implementing an application process, Archery Ontario is following along parallel initiatives of other PSOs. This allows for AO to better plan for tomorrow’s archery by recruiting and investing in next generation athlete/archers.

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