
	<p style="text-align: center;">Ontario Athlete Assistance Program (OAAP)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2025 SELECTION CRITERIA</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Ontario </p>
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1.0 The Ontario Athlete Assistance Program 2025 (formerly Q4G) is funded by the Government of Ontario, through the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI), and operated through the Sport, Recreation & Community Programs Division.

The overarching goal of the Ontario Athlete Assistance Program (OAAP) is directly related to the High-Performance Sport goal of the Canadian Sport Policy whereas Canadians are systematically achieving world-class results at the highest levels of international competition by improving the performance and number of Ontario athletes performing at the provincial, national and international level, thereby contributing to the improved performance of Canada at international competitions.

Specific objectives of the program are:

- a) To help athletes continue their pursuit of athletic excellence at the highest levels of national and international competition;
- b) To encourage athletes to stay in Ontario to live and train;
- c) To compensate athletes for earnings lost while training;
- d) To enable athletes to successfully pursue excellence in sport while fulfilling their educational goals;
- e) To increase athlete access to improved high-performance coaching; and
- f) To enhance training and competitive opportunities available to athletes.

The intent of the OAAP is to provide funding to individual athletes in the sport's **Train to Train** through **Train to Win** categories based on their demonstrated commitment to high performance sport, allowing them to continue to pursue athletic excellence at the highest levels of national and international competition. **Only those athletes that meet the required Selection Criteria will be considered for this program.** Ideally an athlete will first receive an "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". **ONLY athletes who are planning to train towards this level of competition should participate in this program.**

2.0 How does it work?

In accordance with the OAAP guidelines, **Archery Ontario (AO)** develops sport-specific selection criteria and forms a Selection Committee that will apply these criteria. The top-ranked athletes, who make known to Archery Ontario, through their Expression of Interest online application are available for consideration by The Selection Committee, and should they meet the criteria, they can be awarded Ontario Card status for the upcoming Outdoor Season. This Selection Criteria has been available and posted to AO (The Ontario Association of Archers) and aligns with the funding agreement sent to the PSO by the funder (MTCS).

Nominated athletes will be required to sign and comply with an **Athlete Agreement** between the athlete and AO (The ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF ARCHERS). Carding status will be for one year starting April 1, 2025, ending March 31, 2025, in alignment with the funding process.

Carded athletes will be required to compete exclusively on behalf of the Province of Ontario at provincial and national championship events and for Canada at international championship events, for a period of one year from the date carding is approved and acknowledge Ontario as their permanent place of residence on athlete profiles, Media Guides, PSO/NSO and personal websites, and in similar types of public communication, including social media.

2.1 For 2025, **ARCHERY ONTARIO** is investing funds from MTCS in both athletes and programs.

2.1.1 **ARCHERY ONTARIO** has also decided to exercise the option to offer both **FULL** Cards and **PARTIAL** Cards as it is looking to rebuild the program.

2.1.2 Historically, the agreement stated that a minimum of 70% of the Ontario Cards be allocated to what the MTCS defined as junior-aged athletes (11 to 22 years of age) and a maximum of 30% of the Ontario Cards be allocated to athletes no longer eligible for "junior athlete" status, (athletes 23 and over). *In 2022, under special circumstance arising from the COVID years, AO negotiated with the ministry so that Ontario Cards for 2 men and 2 women were be allocated to athletes 23 and over, thus carding 4 senior athletes. The good news is that these senior athletes have all been recruited by Archery Canada to be members of the Archery Canada National Compound Squad. We are proud of these athletes and their accomplishments, and we wish them well. However, this leaves Archery Ontario in a deficit position and needing to rebuild by recruiting next generation athletes.

2.1.3 Therefore, starting in 2023, the carding process was re-adjusted so that Archery Ontario could endeavor to rebuild the program and is actively looking for the following...

- o Balance of Male and Female
- o Balance of Recurve and Compound
- o Mix of ABA and AWAD/PARA Athletes/Actively recruiting AWAD Athletes
- o Revised Distribution of cards, with a focus on Next Generation Archers with succession planning of YR 1-Yr2-Yr3 Athletes in the program

2.2 There is a shift in the age groups/categories as follows: Emerging from COVID, Archery Ontario is looking to recruit archers in various age groups and offer opportunities to develop and train the next generation of athletes. Therefore, AO wishes to shine the light on 3 important areas for consideration with respect to the OAAP (formerly Q4G).

2.2.1 **Of note for this year – Since the** OAAP may extend over/ up to 3 years for athletes, we are looking to provide ongoing support to athletes already participating in the program, by providing Year 2 funding functioning at a high level, who are working at a highly competitive level with ongoing efforts toward obtaining a Canada Card and competing at the highperformance level.

A) **Age Groups.** Archery Ontario, is looking for athletes in age ranges from 15 to 21 thereby following same/similar practises as other PSOs, such as Badminton, Cycling, Soccer, etc. ALL age groups include AWA/PARA Athletes. For example...

Group 1 (U15-U18) / Group 2 (U19-U21) / Group 3 (21+/Senior)

B) **Distribution.** In the years following Covid, Archery Ontario is a deficit position and needing to rebuild by recruiting next generation athletes. Therefore, the carding process has being readjusted by seeking the following...

- Balance of Male and Female
- Balance of Recurve and Compound – *Barebow is a new consideration for this year and years ahead.
- Mix of ABA and AWAD/PARA Athletes
- Revised Distribution of cards, with a focus on Next Generation Archers (Yr1-Yr2-Yr3)

C) **Qualifying events.** All archers/athletes considered for a **Full Card** competed in 3 important events (i.e. ideally 2 Ontario events and 1 National level event including, but not limited to the Ontario Junior Challenge, the Ontario Target Championships, and the Canadian National Target

Championships. In some instances, recurve archers attended the Canada Cup East, or the Canada Cup West, or the World Youth Championships, following the advice of their coaches (who applied for a substitution) and so, their scores from the CCE/CCW/WJC were considered for carding, in lieu of the Ontario Target Championships. Ideally, Archers/Athletes needed to be within 100 points of top scores/based on Ontario records, in their age group. All archers/athletes considered for a **Partial Card** competed in 2 important Ontario events (i.e. ideally 2 Ontario events and/or 1 Ontario event + 1 National level event (amongst those listed prior in this paragraph for Full Card consideration). Applicants must successfully compete in Ontario Tournaments to apply for Ontario carding.

2.2.2 ARCHERY ONTARIO is not obligated to assign all Ontario Cards if there are an insufficient number of athletes who have demonstrated interest, through the online application process and/or demonstrated potential to be considered for future National Teams. Also, whereas Para

athletes are unavailable currently, The Selection Committee reserves the right to re-distribute the cards at its discretion and this includes the options to redistribute the funding to other athletes and/or re-invest the money into the program portion of the funding.

2.3 For the purpose of this work, **The Selection Committee**, is comprised of Mark D’Cunha, Jess Watson, Larry Reid, and Kevin Stroud (active boards members from Archery Ontario).

2.3.1 How much funding is available? Funding varies from one year to the next and is determined through an extensive application process on behalf of the PSO, to the province of Ontario.

2.3.2 How will **ARCHERY ONTARIO** Selection Committee decide who receives funding? **ARCHERY ONTARIO** Selection Committee will use the Eligibility Criteria, (some of which is in the funding agreement and some is the Sport Specific Selection Criteria detailed below) to determine which athletes can be nominated for Ontario Card status in 2025 Outdoor Season.

3.0 Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport Eligibility Criteria (MTCS):

3.1 All athletes must meet the MTCS minimum athlete eligibility criteria, including:

- Athlete **must be a Canadian citizen** or permanent resident (previously known as a Landed Immigrant).
- **Athlete must be a permanent resident of Ontario for one year prior** to his/her nomination for carding status, (and continue to be a permanent resident throughout the term of the agreement).
- Athletes who have achieved Canada Card status (carded by Sport Canada) are not eligible for Ontario Cards.
- Athletes must be living in and continuing to train in Ontario.
- Athlete must be a member in good standing with **Archery Ontario** and Archery Canada where applicable;
- Athlete must have entered a Provincial Sports Organization (PSO) - **Athlete Agreement** with **Archery Ontario** and must be in full compliance with the terms and conditions of that agreement;
- Athlete **must have met all terms and conditions of any previous** OAAP-Q4G Sports Organization – Athlete Agreements to the satisfaction of **Archery Ontario**
- To be deemed a potential next generation national team athlete, the athlete must be age-eligible to compete on the national team in the year following receipt of Ontario Card funding.
- All athletes under the age of 18 must have their parent or legal guardian sign their OAAP application form. However, **cheques will be processed in the name of the eligible athlete.**

- An athlete can only be nominated to receive OAAP-Q4G funding in one sport.
- Athlete must demonstrate a commitment and dedication to a proper training and competitive program, the goal of which is to continue to train towards a national team position and Sport Canada carding and recruitment;
- Athlete's coach should be minimum Level 2 NCCP certified or trained status Competition Stream or the sport's equivalent in the Instruction Stream, or be engaged in completing this training, as determined by **Archery Ontario**;
- Athlete must not be under a sanction that prohibits competition as per the Canadian AntiDoping Policy;
- Athlete must be attending an educational institution full-time (i.e., elementary and secondary schools): ► Exceptions will be made provided that the athlete can substantiate that his/her training will not allow for full-time attendance or if an athlete requires special needs that preclude full or part-time attendance (i.e., Athlete with a disability (AWAD) athlete);
- Athletes who have completed their area of study at the secondary level (i.e., high school) and who continue to train towards participation in major national or international competitions will also be considered;
- If eligible, the athlete must compete, and continue to compete solely for Ontario and/or Canada for one year from the date of the Minister's letter informing the athlete of acceptance into OAAP program, at Canada Games and other national competitions involving provincial team competitions;
- Athlete must not receive financial support from any other provincial/territorial athlete assistance program. This does not include academic scholarships, bursaries, student grants, student loans, social assistance, disability pensions, and other forms of financial assistance that have nothing to do with competitive sport.
- With a focus on rebuilding, AO will look to provide eligibility to athletes in age ranges from 15 to 21 (age categories based on RBC Training Ground data) thereby following same/similar practises as other PSOs (i.e., Badminton, Cycling, Soccer, etc.) with a balanced distribution of male/female and recurve/compound (and barebow is new in 2023) ratios (including a mix of ABA and AWA-Para-athletes when available). No AWAD athletes available at this time.

3.2 ARCHERY ONTARIO decided to exercise the option to mix FULL Cards and Partial Cards.

3.2.1 Group 1 (U15-U18) / Group 2 (U19-U21) / Group 3 (21+/Senior) 3.2.2 Equipment Categories: Barebow / Recurve / Compound

3.2.3 Rebuilding, so looking to fund some Yr 1 and Yr 2 (returning) athletes as well.

4.0 Athletes funded through the Sport Canada AAP are not eligible for Ontario Athlete Assistance. There are no exceptions.

5.0 Athletes receiving funding from the National College Athletic Association (NCAA) are not eligible for Ontario Athlete Assistance. There are no exceptions.

6.0 ARCHERY ONTARIO process used for athlete selection is as follows:

6.1 Qualifying events. All archers/athletes considered for a **Full Card** competed in 3 important events (i.e. ideally 2 Ontario events and 1 National level event including, but not limited to the Ontario Junior Challenge, the Ontario Target Championships, and the Canadian National Target Championships. In some instances, recurve archers attended the Canada Cup East, or the Canada Cup West, or the World Youth Championships, following the advice of their coaches (who applied for a substitution) and so, their scores from the CCE/CCW/WJC were considered for carding, in lieu of the Ontario Target Championships. Ideally, Archers/Athletes needed to be within 100 points of top scores/based on Ontario records, in their age group.

6.2 All archers/athletes considered for a **Partial Card** competed in 2 important Ontario events (i.e. ideally 2 Ontario events and/or 1 Ontario event + 1 National level event (amongst those listed prior in this paragraph for Full Card consideration). Applicants must successfully compete in Ontario Tournaments to apply for Ontario carding.

6.3 There were a limited number of athletes who successfully completed the online application process, entitle Expression of Interest and available on the AO website, under Athlete Funding.

6.4 A Total of 7 cards are available (9 with partial carding in place). Looking for a more balanced distribution (Male to Female and Recurve to Compound ratios – Barebow also considered this year, but there were no applicants). A renewed focus on Next Generation Athletes/ Archers. Whereas Para Athletes are unavailable, or if an athlete declines, the card can be reassigned to the next available candidate and/or reinvested in the program portion of the funding.

6.5 Archery Ontario has no criteria for ranking an athlete who is unable to meet the requirements, as detailed above, due to illness, injury, or pregnancy.

The sample charts below are based on a fictitious Championship Event. The scores used in these tables serve only for the purpose of demonstrating how these criteria work. The Samples in the tables use the total of two 720 rounds, like Ontario Outdoor Target Championships.

Women - Sample Rankings Using the Canadian Championship Results			
Women Recurve Top Score is 1268 Women Compound Top Score is 1363	Athlete's Score	Difference	Rank
Athlete E (recurve)	1268	0	1
Athlete D (compound)	1343	20	2
Athlete B (recurve)	1242	46	3
Athlete A (recurve)	1198	70	4
Athlete C (compound)	1291	72	5

Men - Sample Rankings Using the Canadian Championship Results			
Men Recurve Top Score is 1340 Men Compound Top Score is 1409	Athlete's Score	Difference	Rank
Athlete J (recurve)	1320	20	1
Athlete F (compound)	1382	27	2
Athlete G (recurve)	1298	42	3
Athlete I (compound)	1355	54	4
Athlete H (compound)	1310	99	5

ARCHERY ONTARIO is rebuilding (coming out of COVID where there was a limited no. of events available for competition and a limited no. of athletes available and faced with travel restrictions) and focusing on next generation archers/athletes.

THE ARCHERY CANADA RANKING LIST was NOT used in this process which remains the sole responsibility of Archery Ontario.

ARCHERY ONTARIO AWAD/ Para-Athlete Selection – None were available this year. We are looking to recruit.

7.0 Athlete Responsibilities (both Able Bodied and AWAD-Para)

All athletes accepting Ontario carding will be required to sign an Athlete Agreement with the PSO-AO. The Agreement states which tournaments the athletes must attend, and varies based on the FULL Card or the PARTIAL Card.

*****Please note: Three (3) tournaments are the minimum requirements for the athlete/archer with a Full Card therefore, if unable to attend an event, the athlete (and his parent/guardian) is responsible for returning/refunding 1/3rd of the monetary value of this agreement for each tournament unattended. Two (2) tournaments is the minimum requirement for the athlete/archer with a Partial Card therefore if unable to attend an event, the athlete (and his parent/guardian) is responsible for returning/refunding half of the monetary value of this agreement for each tournament unattended. Tournaments are listed in the Athlete Agreement and are updated every year by The Selection Committee.**

- Athletes must submit a training plan, by April 5th, 2025, that will show what the athlete will to improve their shooting and performance, so that they could become a member of the national team.
- Athletes must submit a tentative budget of expenses related to the use of the money, at the same time as the training plan, by April 5th, 2025. A Sample Budget Template is provided in the Athlete Agreement.
- Failure to submit any of the documents referenced above (i.e., The signed Athlete Agreement, The Training Plan, The Budget (tentative & final), and the Final Report – September 15th, 2025) will mean the athlete is in default of the agreement and will have to return the money

to AO and/or may not be eligible for funding in the following year and/or may be subject to a penalty(fine), to the discretion of the Selection Committee.

- Athletes must be members in good standing of AO/The Ontario Association of Archers
- Athletes must be members in good standing of Archery Canada
- Athletes must be available for AO promotional activity
- Athletes must abide by Canadian and WADA anti-doping rules.
- Athletes must compete for Ontario for the April 1st, 2025 – March 31st, 2026, carding year.
- Failure to abide by the Athlete agreement will cause the athlete to lose their Ontario card and the money will have to be returned/refunded to AO.
- The Archery Ontario Athlete Agreement will only come into effect when an athlete is selected and accepts carding status through the OAAP (formerly Q4G) program. Athletes less than 18 years of age will require the signature of a parent and/or guardian, as well as coach.

9.0 There are NO Alternates named in this year's process as none were available.

10.0 To Apply: For the 2025 funding year, athlete/archers will need to apply, and **the application process will be open on Jan. 1st 2025 until Feb. 29th, 2025.**

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

11 It is the responsibility of ARCHERY ONTARIO to publish or make known a list of athletes nominated for Ontario Card status no later than April 1st, 2025, and to share said list with colleagues at Archery Canada.

The decision of the Selection Committee is final, and ALL data provided by the applicants in the Expression of Interest Process, is considered in the allocation of Full and Partial Cards.

Any questions or request for additional information should be directed by email to vpadmin@archeryontario.ca