



## 2026 Targeted Athlete Support (TAS) Program Policies and Procedures

**Effective Date:** January 1, 2026

**In Effect Until:** December 31, 2026

### 1. Scope

The Targeted Athlete Support (TAS) Program is a USOPC program that provides resources to high medal expectancy athletes to fill gaps in their training and preparation not otherwise covered by other funding sources. The TAS Program is not meant to replace funding available from other sources or to cover TAS-eligible athlete expenses so that other athletes can receive funding. Specifically, the TAS Program is not meant to cover expenses normally covered by other USOPC Programs, USA Shooting, the Army Marksmanship Unit, the World Class Athlete Program, or other sponsors and donors. The TAS Program is meant to assist with critical training, preparation, equipment, and competitions once all other sources of funding have been exhausted.

### 2. Eligibility Criteria and Athlete Tiers

Athletes who meet the following criteria are eligible for the TAS Program. Criteria refer to performances in individual Olympic shooting events in which the ISSF maintains a World Ranking List. Those events are:

10m Air Pistol Men	10m Air Rifle Men	Skeet Men
10m Air Pistol Women	10m Air Rifle Women	Skeet Women
25m Rapid Fire Pistol Men	50m Rifle 3 Positions Men	Trap Men
25m Pistol Women	50m Rifle 3 Positions Women	Trap Women

Performances in Team events (including Mixed Team) and in non-Olympic events are not included for eligibility. Athletes competing in multiple events can only qualify for the TAS Program once and will be eligible for the highest Tier for which they qualify.



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### **Targeted Athlete Support (TAS) Criteria**

2026 Targeted Athlete Support will be based on the ISSF World Ranking as posted immediately after the results of the 2025 ISSF World Championships have been included in the ranking. For Shotgun this is the ISSF World Ranking on November 1, 2025; for Rifle and Pistol this is the ISSF World Ranking on December 1, 2025. Athletes who qualify for the 2026 TAS Program will remain in the program for the entire calendar year. There are no other new entry points into the TAS Program at any other time in 2026.

### **Targeted Athlete Support (TAS) Tiers**

Tier 1 Athletes: Ranked 1-10 in the ISSF World Ranking

Tier 2 Athletes: Ranked 11-20 in the ISSF World Ranking

### **3. Requirements for Requesting Targeted Athlete Support (TAS)**

1. An eligible athlete requesting TAS support must first meet with the USAS National Team Manager and the USAS High Performance Director to develop and submit a Training Plan that demonstrates how the requested TAS support will enhance their preparation for achieving medals at the 2026 ISSF World Championships and the 2028 LA Olympic Games. The athlete may request other people from within their support network to join in the discussion and development of the training plan.
2. Athletes will submit specific TAS supported activity requests to the USAS High Performance Director.
3. Specific TAS supported activity requests must be approved by the USAS High Performance Director and the USOPC.
4. Upon approval the TAS supported activity expenses will normally be reimbursed to the athlete from the TAS Program once the athlete has submitted a paid receipt. A bill or invoice is not sufficient; a receipt must be submitted showing that the expenses were paid by the athlete.
5. Athletes must provide a follow up evaluation report to the USAS High Performance Director after each TAS supported activity assessing the effectiveness of the activity in preparing the athlete for medal winning performances at the 2026 World Championships and 2028 LA Olympic Games.