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CANADA



Canada

CYCLING CARDING CRITERIA

FOR NOMINATING ATHLETES
TO THE SPORT CANADA ATHLETE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
FOR THE 2023 CARDING CYCLE

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*Reviewed by Sport Canada,
the Cycling Canada Athletes Council
and the Cycling Canada High Performance Committee*



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Note: In case of any wording discrepancies between the English and French versions of these criteria, the English wording takes precedence.



NOTES ON CYCLING CANADA'S CARDING CRITERIA

The carding criteria in this document are the result of collaboration between Cycling Canada coaches and staff, the members of Cycling Canada's Athletes Council, Sport Canada and the members of Cycling Canada's High Performance Committee (HPC).

Any questions regarding these criteria can be addressed to High Performance Director (HPD) Kris Westwood at kris.westwood@cyclingcanada.ca.

NOTES ON THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Cycling Canada (CC) is carefully following the evolution of the coronavirus on the global and domestic level and how it may impact programs and policies. Unless otherwise required by exceptional and unforeseen circumstances related to the impact of the coronavirus, CC will respect published programs and policies as written.

However, situations related to the coronavirus pandemic may arise that require programs or policies to be modified. Any modifications will be made promptly and as often as required following developments that directly affect the program or policy. In such circumstances, any modifications will be communicated to all affected individuals as soon as possible.

Further, situations may arise that do not allow a program or policy to be modified or applied as written due to time constraints or other exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. In such situations, any decision, including selection decisions, will be made by the individual(s) with decision-making authority, as stated in the relevant policy, in consultation with the relevant individual(s) or committee(s) (as applicable), and in accordance with the stated performance objectives and selection philosophy and approach as stated herein. Should it be necessary to make any decision in this manner, CC will communicate with all affected individuals as soon as possible.

SCHEDULE A: GENERAL CARDING CRITERIA

1. Introduction

Purpose of carding

The Athlete Assistance Program (AAP), also known as carding, is a Sport Canada funding program that contributes to the pursuit of excellence. AAP support seeks to relieve some of the financial pressures associated with preparing for and participating in international sport and assists high-performance Canadian athletes to combine their sport and academic or working careers while training intensively in pursuit of world-class performances.

Cycling Canada uses the process described in this document to nominate athletes for carding. Once these nominations are approved by Sport Canada, the funding flows directly from Sport Canada to the athletes.

Cycling Canada intends to use carding to identify and support Canadian athletes with the greatest potential to win medals at the Olympic and Paralympic Games and the elite World Championships.

Carding is also intended to:

- help Canada's international-calibre athletes excel at the highest level of competition while assisting them to prepare for a future career or engage in full- or part-time career activities; and
- allow athletes to maintain a long-term commitment to training and competition to further their high performance athletic goals.



While carding is based primarily on performances achieved in the preceding 12 months, it is important to note that carding is not intended as a reward for past results; it is a resource to help athletes achieve results in the future.

2. Eligibility

To be eligible for carding an athlete must:

- Be a Canadian citizen;
- Hold a valid UCI cycling licence listing his or her nationality as Canadian;
- Be eligible to represent Canada at major international competitions, including World Championships, Olympic and Paralympic Games, as per the eligibility requirements of the UCI;
- Meet the carding prerequisites, minimum performance standards and criteria outlined in Schedule B of this document;
- Sign the Cycling Canada Athlete Agreement, including committing to the 2023 Individual Performance Plan (IPP) developed in collaboration with the relevant National Program Coach.

The following athletes are not eligible for carding:

- Athletes who do not meet the published NSO approved and AAP compliant carding criteria;
- Athletes who have made a false application and have been declared ineligible for AAP benefits by Sport Canada;
- Athletes who do not meet the eligibility requirements set out above;
- Athletes who have been ruled ineligible to participate in sport for two years or more as a result of an anti-doping rule violation and who have not, in the case of pre-2004 violations, subsequently been reinstated;
- Athletes who are serving an anti-doping rule violation sanction of less than two years of sport ineligibility at the start of the carding cycle; and
- Athletes who meet the carding criteria as members of the national team of another nation.

Athletes will only be nominated if they commit to an Individual Performance Plan developed in collaboration with the relevant National Program Coach. Each athlete's IPP will be included in the Athlete Agreement they must sign before carding can begin.

3. Income Testing (Olympic disciplines only – does not apply to para-cyclists)

Athletes nominated for carding must submit their Canada Revenue Agency's Notice of Assessment for the most recent taxation year. Please note that due to the unique circumstances of para-cycling athletes, they are not subject to income testing.

Athletes with an annual taxable income up to \$60,000 CAD will be entitled to the full amount of carding. Athletes with a greater income will receive reduced AAP support, as follows:

Income testing for SR cards

Lower income	Upper income	Carding months	Carding amount
\$0	\$60,000	12	\$21,180
\$60,001	\$63,000	11	\$19,415
\$63,001	\$66,000	10	\$17,650
\$66,001	\$69,000	9	\$15,885



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\$69,001	\$72,000	8	\$14,120
\$72,001	\$75,000	7	\$12,355
\$75,001	\$78,000	6	\$10,590
\$78,001	\$81,000	5	\$8,825
\$81,001	\$90,000	4	\$7,060
\$90,001	Unlimited	0	\$0

Income testing for D cards

Lower income	Upper income	Carding months	Carding amount
\$0	\$60,000	12	\$12,720
\$60,001	\$63,000	11	\$11,660
\$63,001	\$66,000	10	\$10,600
\$66,001	\$69,000	9	\$9,540
\$69,001	\$72,000	8	\$8,480
\$72,001	\$75,000	7	\$7,420
\$75,001	\$78,000	6	\$6,360
\$78,001	\$81,000	5	\$5,300
\$81,001	\$90,000	4	\$4,240
\$90,001	Unlimited	0	\$0

Note that per Sport Canada policy an athlete may not be nominated for less than four months of carding.

This policy is intended to ensure that carding goes to athletes who need it to pursue international performances. Many professional cyclists earn significant income and receive equipment and logistical support from their teams or sponsors; as a result, they may not depend on carding to compete.

Cycling Canada is aware that each athlete has unique circumstances. Athletes may request an exemption to the income limits above in exceptional circumstances, including but not limited to the following:

- All or some of their income is from activities unrelated to cycling;
- They have had a drastic change of income since the most recent CRA assessment (eg. losing a professional contract).

An exemption request with supporting documentation must be made in writing to the HPD at the time of submitting the CRA assessment. Cycling Canada reserves the right to refuse the request if, in its view, there is insufficient justification for the exemption.

Athletes who do not wish to submit their Notice of Assessment may simply decline the living and training allowance. They will still be included in the AAP list, and remain eligible for enhanced funding, CSI access and any other benefits available to carded athletes. Declining carding allows the living and training allowance to be allocated to other athletes.

4. Carding levels

Athletes approved by Sport Canada for the AAP may be eligible for a living and training allowance, tuition support (in a Sport Canada approved University or College program), deferred tuition support, and supplementary AAP support. Please refer to Sport Canada AAP Policy for further information. Athletes funded by AAP receive a monthly financial stipend as follows:

Card type	Monthly stipend	Annual value
Senior International Card (SR1/SR2)	\$1,765	\$21,180



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Senior National Card (SR)	\$1,765	\$21,180
First-year SR Card (C1)	\$1,060	\$12,720
Development Card (D)	\$1,060	\$12,720

These amounts may change at the discretion of Sport Canada. Further information on the AAP can be obtained through the Sport Canada web site at: <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/funding/athlete-assistance.html>

The different carding levels are as follows:

a. International (SR1/SR2)

Per section 5.2.1 of the Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program Policies and Procedures:

International Criteria are based on outstanding performances at World Championships or the Olympic/Paralympic Games. In Olympic and Paralympic sports, only results from events that are on the program of the upcoming Olympic/Paralympic Games will be considered for carding under the International Criteria.

Athletes who meet the International Criteria are eligible to be nominated for two consecutive years; the first-year card is referred to as SR1; the second, SR2. Eligibility for an SR2 card is contingent on the athlete maintaining a training and competitive program approved by CC, on being re-nominated by CC on signing the CC Athlete Agreement, and on completing an AAP Application form for that year.

Sport Canada establishes the performance standards for International Criteria used to determine eligibility to be nominated for Senior Cards. The following are the current standards for international criteria:

- Finish in the top 8 counting a maximum of 3 entries per country; and
- Finish in the top half of the field

In Olympic/Paralympic years, new Senior Cards based on the International Criteria will be awarded in Olympic/Paralympic sports only based on results achieved in the Olympic/Paralympic Games. Results achieved at World Championships in Olympic/Paralympic Games years will not be used for awarding SR1 cards, or for awarding Supplementary Excellence Assistance.

CC may adjust a criterion or include sport-specific requirements to the Senior International Criteria to strengthen the criteria. Any such additional requirements imposed by CC must be consistent with Sport Canada policies and approved by Sport Canada.

In cases where the Olympic or Paralympic Games, or the World Championship field is restricted by the UCI or the International Olympic or Paralympic Committee (IOC/IPC) as a result of qualification processes or other types of entry restrictions, the number of entries and countries in the qualification process may be taken into consideration.

In team events, athletes who competed in the event may be awarded a Senior International Cards if they directly contributed to the result.

b. National (SR/C1)

National Criteria identify athletes who have the potential to achieve International Criteria. Senior cards based on National Criteria are normally awarded for one year and are referred to as SR Cards. Cards for athletes who meet the National Criteria for the first time are referred to as C1 Cards.

National Criteria for Senior Cards are established by CC and reviewed every year by Sport Canada to ensure they meet AAP policy requirements. The results, should, where possible, be based on objective results achieved in designated competitions. The criteria may include elements of CC's Podium Pathway and/or Gold Medal Profiles or equivalent, where appropriate and applicable.



An athlete is normally expected to improve each year to maintain a Senior Card based on the National Criteria. Therefore, CC's Senior Card National Criteria must either include incremental performance criteria, or stipulate a maximum number of years an athlete will be supported at this card level.

C1 carded athletes are funded at the Development Card level in the first year they meet the National Criteria for a Senior Card, even if they have been previously carded at the Development (D) level. If, however, the athlete has been previously carded at the SR1 or SR2 level, has been named to the national senior team, has competed in Elite World Championships, before meeting the National Criteria for the Senior Card for the first time, the athlete will be funded at the Senior Card (SR) level rather than at the Development Card level.

c. **Development (D)**

Development cards are intended to support the development needs of younger athletes who clearly demonstrate the potential to achieve the Senior Card International Criteria but are not yet able to meet the Senior Card criteria. Development Cards are normally awarded for one year and are referred to as D Cards.

The allocation of Development Cards is intended to ensure that financial support is provided to the athletes with the greatest potential.

As program funding may not always be available to cover the cost of athletes holding Development Cards, athletes may be asked to contribute to program costs from their Development Card funding.

Criteria for Development Cards are established by CC and are reviewed each year by Sport Canada for compliance with the AAP.

5. How to become a carded athlete

Athletes who achieve all the following may be recommended for AAP support, subject to the limitations on the number of cards and the total AAP funds available:

1. Meet the eligibility requirements outlined in Clause 2;
2. Meet the performance criteria outlined in Schedule B, including the prerequisites for carding and the minimum performance standards;
3. **IMPORTANT: Complete the online application form by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on Oct. 31, 2022; this form can be found on the Cycling Canada website: <https://cyclingcanada.ca/resources/athlete-resources/athlete-assistance-program/>**
4. Be nominated by the National Coach Panel to a Cycling Canada National Performance Pool (see Clause 7), and be among the athletes in that Pool recommended for carding. These recommendations must be approved by the Cycling Canada Head Coach, HPD, Coach Panel, HPC and Sport Canada;
5. Collaborate with a National Coach in developing an Individualized Performance Plan (IPP);
6. **IMPORTANT: Submit the following by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on Jan. 31, 2023:**
 - The signed National Team Athlete Agreement, including the IPP;
 - The completed Sport Canada AAP Application;
 - The Canada Revenue Agency Notice of Assessment for the most recent taxation year (this does not apply to Para-cycling athletes);
 - Complete the AAP module of the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport's online anti-doping education.



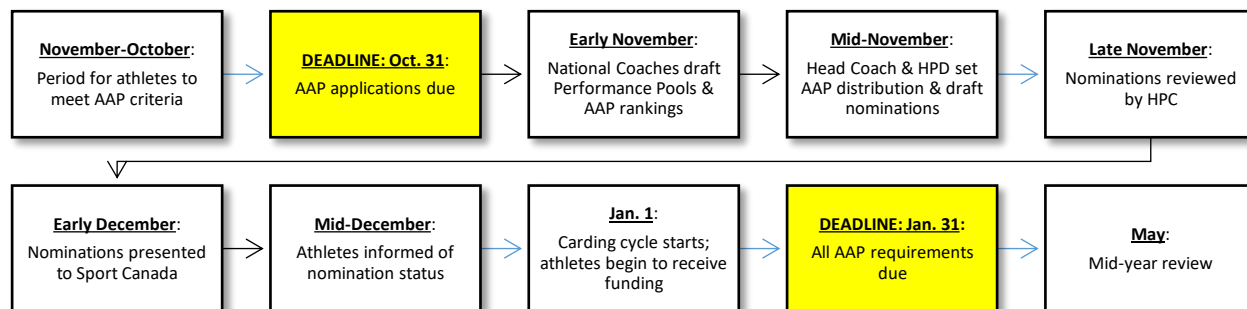
7. All carded athletes are also subject to a mid-year review against the performance targets set out in their IPP. This will be conducted by the National Coach in May and submitted to the Head Coach and HPD as laid out in Clause 17.

It is the athlete's responsibility to understand this policy and to submit all relevant information prior to the deadlines. Cycling Canada is not obliged to remind athletes of any deadlines. Any documentation filed after the deadlines may be rejected. Athletes are encouraged to create calendar reminders for the deadlines, and to speak to their national coach or to contact Cycling Canada if they have any questions regarding the carding nomination process.

6. Carding nomination process

1. Nov. 1, 2021 to Oct. 31, 2022: Athletes achieve performances to become eligible for carding.
2. **IMPORTANT:** Oct. 31, 2022: Deadline for athletes to apply for carding.
3. Early November: National Coaches name athletes to Performance Pools and rank athletes for AAP nominations; nominations and rankings peer-reviewed by Coach Panel.
4. Mid-November: Head Coach and HPD determine AAP distribution by discipline and draft carding nomination recommendations based on coach rankings.
5. Late November: HPC reviews AAP nomination recommendations.
6. Early December: Nominations submitted to Sport Canada for review and final approval.
7. Mid-December: Eligible athletes informed of AAP nomination status; athletes who wish to appeal have one week to notify CC.
8. Late December: List of carded athletes made public.
9. Jan. 1, 2023: Carding cycle starts and carded athletes begin to receive funding once they have completed all requirements.
10. **IMPORTANT:** Jan 31, 2023: Deadline for athletes to complete all AAP requirements.
11. May: Mid-year reviews (see Clause 17)

Carding nomination process:



7. Cycling Canada Performance Pools

Cycling Canada's Performance Pools are aligned with the AAP on the principle that athletes targeted for podium performances at the upcoming Olympic and Paralympic Games (within 1-4 years) are eligible for nomination to SR1/2 or SR cards, and athletes targeted for podium performances at the following Olympic and Paralympic Games (within 5-8 years) are eligible for nomination for SR or D cards. However, given the limited amount of AAP funds available, being named to an Athlete Pool is not a guarantee of nomination for carding.



Each year, the National Coach Panel will recommend athletes to be nominated to the Athlete Pools based on their performance potential. This is assessed on results achieved at international events; projections using the Cycling Canada podium pathway; physiological data; and other appropriate factors as outlined in the Gold Medal Profile.

Cycling Canada's Performance Pools are as follows:

- Podium Pool:
 - Athletes with the demonstrated potential to win medals at the 2024 Paris Games.
- Core National Team Pool:
 - Athletes coached by a Cycling Canada coach who are on the long list for selection to the 2024 Paris Games or targeted for the 2028 Los Angeles Games.
- Affiliate Pool:
 - Athletes working independently of the National Team who are on the long list for selection to the 2024 Paris Games or targeted for the 2028 Los Angeles Games.

8. Priority of Nominations

AAP nominations are made in the following order of priority:

1. Athletes meeting SR1 criteria
2. Athletes meeting SR2 criteria
3. Athletes meeting Injury Card criteria
4. Athletes meeting SR criteria, ranked by the Coach Panel
5. Athletes meeting D criteria, ranked by the Coach Panel
6. Athletes nominated for SR cards using the Exceptional Circumstances or Past Olympian/Paralympian clause, ranked by the Coach Panel
7. Athletes nominated for D cards using the Exceptional Circumstances clause, ranked by the Coach Panel

9. AAP funding allocation across disciplines

For the 2023 Carding Cycle, Sport Canada has allocated the equivalent of 46 SR cards for Olympic athletes (\$974,280), and 16 SR cards for Paralympic athletes (\$338,880). Note that this allocation may change at the discretion of Sport Canada.

These funds will be allocated among the cycling disciplines based on the following considerations, in no particular order:

- The number of athletes who are internationally competitive within each discipline;
- The number of athletes required to qualify and enter a team capable of a top-8 performance at the World Championships and/or Olympic and Paralympic Games;
- Cycling Canada's strategic priorities;
- External support available to athletes in each discipline;
- Canada's international performances in each discipline; and
- Canada's international performance potential in each discipline.

The decision on card distribution will be made by the Head Coach and HPD based on the following principles:

- There will be a greater emphasis on D cards early in the quadrennial, with a shift to more SR cards later in the quadrennial;



- Senior (SR) cards may be converted to Development cards at the discretion of Cycling Canada as long as the final amount is within the carding quota;
- SR1 and SR2 carded athletes will be nominated first;
- The number of SR and D cards will be based on the amount of funding remaining;
- Due to the limited funds available, meeting carding criteria does NOT automatically result in AAP nomination;
- The overall allocation and accompanying rationale will be part of Cycling Canada's carding submission that must be reviewed by the HPC, then reviewed and approved by Sport Canada.

10. Athletes moving from SR carding to D carding

An athlete who has been carded at the SR1, SR2, SR or C1 level for two carding cycles or less may be nominated for a D card.

In exceptional circumstances (eg. a significant change in the carding criteria), Cycling Canada may ask Sport Canada for an exemption to nominate an athlete for a D card who has been carded at the SR level for more than two carding cycles. In this case the respective National Coach must present evidence that the athlete is continuing to progress and has the potential to meet the SR1 criteria within 4 years. The nomination must be approved by the Coach Panel, Head Coach, HPD, HPC and Sport Canada.

11. Maximum number of years of carding

Carding is intended to support athletes who are progressing towards the SR1 level. As such, there is a maximum number of carding cycles athletes may be carded at the D or SR level.

The maximum number of carding cycles at each carding level is as follows:

- **SR1/2:** no maximum.
- **SR/C1:** A maximum of 4 non-consecutive carding cycles. An athlete may be nominated for additional years of SR carding on a year-by-year basis on the recommendation of a National Coach accompanied by evidence the athlete is progressing to the SR1 level. The nomination must be approved by the Coach Panel, Head Coach, HPD, HPC and Sport Canada and may require specific performance benchmarks for that athlete.
- **D:** A maximum of 6 non-consecutive carding cycles. An athlete may be nominated for additional carding cycles at the D level on a year-by-year basis on the recommendation of a National Coach accompanied by evidence the athlete is progressing to the SR1 level. The nomination must be approved by the Coach Panel, Head Coach, HPD, HPC and Sport Canada and may require specific performance benchmarks for that athlete.

12. Past Olympians and Paralympians

An athlete who has represented Canada at the Olympic or Paralympic Games in the past, whether in cycling or in another sport, may be nominated for SR carding based on the recommendation of a National Coach providing:

- There is rationale, based on data from training and/or competitions, that the athlete can be a podium contender in cycling at the upcoming Olympic or Paralympic Games (ie within 1-5 years);
- The athlete has committed to the IPP designed in collaboration with a National Coach;



- The athlete has been named to a Cycling Canada Performance Pool.

Any nomination of past Olympians and Paralympians and accompanying rationale must be evaluated by the Coach Panel and approved by the Head Coach, HPD, HPC and Sport Canada.

13. Exceptional Circumstances

In exceptional circumstances, an athlete who is tracking towards performances that would make them eligible for an SR1 card may fall short of the criteria outlined in this document.

In this case, a National Coach may recommend the athlete for AAP nomination based on evidence that the athlete is progressing towards the SR1 card level within the next four years. Such evidence may include:

- Significant improvement and progression in training performance and results
- Significant improvement and progression in racing performance and results
- Commitment to the National Team program

This evidence will be evaluated by the Head Coach, HPD and Coach Panel. If the athlete is recommended for nomination, the accompanying rationale must be submitted to and approved by the HPC and Sport Canada.

An athlete who has not met carding criteria may not appeal their non-nomination for carding under this clause.

14. Tandem (Para-cycling only)

A tandem approved for nomination will normally result in two cards – one for the visually impaired athlete (stoker) and the other for the pilot. Throughout the carding nomination process, both members of a tandem pair will be assessed as a whole, and their ranking will be based on evaluation of the stoker, with the pilot ranked immediately after.

A pilot-stoker pairing may only be carded based on performances achieved by that pairing.

If there are insufficient AAP funds to award both athletes a full card, the card will be divided equally between the two athletes, as long as at least four months of carding is available for both athletes. If there is less than four months available for both athletes, all the funding will go to the stoker.

If two pilots meet the criteria with the same stoker, only the pilot who will race with the stoker for the following season will receive carding. Carding eligibility will be based on performances with the chosen pilot only.

Change of pilot

A carded stoker may change pilots for the following reasons:

- their pilot retires;
- their pilot is removed from the National Performance Pool;
- there is a significant decline in performance.

This change must be recommended by the National Coach and approved by the Head Coach and the HPD.

If this change occurs during the carding cycle, the former pilot will be removed from the AAP and the new pilot may be recommended for carding as follows:



- If the new pilot is currently carded, he or she will maintain the carding level (SR1/SR2, SR, C1 or D) he or she was nominated for;
- If the new pilot is not currently carded but has achieved the performance standard to be nominated, he or she will be nominated at the same level as the stoker providing there are sufficient AAP funds available;
- If the new pilot is not currently carded and has not achieved the performance standard to be nominated, he or she will not be nominated for carding.

In all cases, the pilot must meet all eligibility requirements to represent Canada in international Para-cycling competition.

If this change occurs between seasons and prior to the beginning of the carding cycle, the new pilot may be recommended for carding at the same level as the stoker if it can be demonstrated through performance analysis that the new pairing has equal or higher performance potential than the previous pairing. Any such nomination must be supported by written rationale, evaluated by the Coach Panel, and approved by the HPD and HPC.

15. Injury, Illness or Pregnancy Cards

Injury cards may be available to athletes carded at the SR2 level the previous year who have been unable to meet the performance requirements for a subsequent nomination due to injury, illness or pregnancy. Athletes may be nominated for an SR-injury card under the following conditions:

- The athlete has fulfilled all reasonable training and rehabilitation requirements aimed at a speedy return to training and competition during the period of his or her injury, illness or pregnancy and, despite making every reasonable effort to attain the applicable carding standards, has failed to do so, in the view of the Cycling Canada for reasons strictly related to the injury, illness or pregnancy.
- The athlete is expected to meet criteria in the upcoming carding period, based on CC's expert opinion and that of a team physician or approved equivalent. This must be indicated in writing to Sport Canada.
- The athlete has demonstrated and continues to demonstrate his or her long-term commitment to high-performance training and competition goals, as well as his or her intention to pursue full high-performance training and competition throughout the carding period for which he or she wishes to be renewed despite not having met the carding criteria.

The injury card policy is explained in Section 9 of the Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program Policies and Procedures.

All documentation pertaining to any injury, illness or pregnancy must be submitted to CC no later than Oct. 31, 2022. Submitting documentation is not a guarantee the injury card will be awarded. Any injury cards must be approved by the Head Coach, HPD, Coach Panel, HPC and Sport Canada.

16. Appeals

Decisions by Cycling Canada on nominations for carding or de-carding may be appealed under Cycling Canada's appeals policy. Only athletes who have met the carding criteria set out in this document may appeal.

Decisions made by Sport Canada may be appealed under the relevant provisions of the Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program Policy.

17. Carding review



Athletes are responsible for communicating with their National Coach throughout the carding cycle with updates on fitness, health, progress towards objectives and any injuries.

The frequency and detail of the communication will vary depending on the program and coach, but each athlete's IPP will outline those expectations and what metrics will be used to evaluate the athlete's progress.

Each athlete nominated for carding will be subject to a mid-year review by his or her National Coach, which will be normally done in May. This review will examine the athlete's progress against his or her IPP and the National Coach's ongoing Athlete Assessments. A significant decline in performance may result in collaborative adjustments to the IPP and any new objectives will be clearly communicated to the athlete. A continued decline in performance may result in removal from the National Performance Pool and from the AAP.

An athlete who retires or resigns from the National Team program will be removed from the AAP (see Clause 18 below).

Any anti-doping rule violation that leads to a sanction of any kind will result in immediate removal from the AAP.

An athlete may also be removed from the AAP in cases that could include, but are not limited to, the athlete:

- Refusing to communicate with their National Coach;
- Misrepresenting his or her fitness, health or training to their National Coach;
- Failing to follow the training and competition requirements outlined in the IPP, except in case of illness, injury or pregnancy, without consulting their National Coach;
- Failing to comply with the Cycling Canada Athlete Agreement or Code of Conduct.

In the case of an athlete whose status in the program is in jeopardy for reasons other than athletic performance, the following steps will be taken:

- The athlete will be informed of his or her breach in writing;
- A remedy or remedies will be proposed in writing, and the athlete will be given a reasonable period of time to comply;
- If the athlete fails to comply within the stipulated time period, CC will initiate the process with Sport Canada to remove the athlete from the AAP.

Cycling Canada will document each step of this process. The final decision to remove an athlete from the AAP is subject to approval by the HPC.

Any funds that become available through athletes' removal from the AAP will be reallocated to other eligible athletes at the discretion of the HPD.

18. Athletes not nominated to the AAP

The intent of the AAP is to help athletes achieve future Olympic and Paralympic results. Based on this principle, athletes who do are not expected to contribute to performances at the Olympic or Paralympic Games within 1-8 years will not be nominated for AAP funding.

An assessment of the athlete's performance potential and commitment to the upcoming Games will be made by the National Coach Panel at the time of the carding nominations. This assessment will be based on a balance of probabilities and will consider all relevant factors, which may include but are not limited to the following:

- The athlete's stated intention to continue competing at the elite level
- The athlete's performance trends (physical, technical, tactical, and psychological)



- The athlete's suitability to the venue at the upcoming Games
- The athlete's potential to contribute to qualification for the upcoming Games

Athletes transitioning to another sport:

Cycling Canada will collaborate with athletes transitioning to another sport to minimize any disruption in support they receive. These situations will be assessed case-by-case.

Retiring athletes:

Any AAP-eligible athlete who is contemplating retirement is encouraged to discuss this with Cycling Canada in a spirit of collaboration to ensure they have access to all available resources they are eligible to receive, which may include AAP retirement assistance, counselling, GamePlan, and assistance and mentoring if the athlete wishes to transition to a career in coaching.

If an eligible athlete retires before the beginning of the carding cycle, Cycling Canada will not nominate that athlete to the AAP. An athlete who chooses to retire during the carding cycle will be removed from the AAP at the earliest opportunity.



SCHEDULE B: SPECIFIC CARDING CRITERIA

The specific criteria to nominate athletes for carding are detailed below, except in cases that fall under the Exceptional Circumstances and Past Olympian and Paralympian clauses.

In order to be considered for AAP nomination for the 2023 carding cycle, athletes must be named by the National Coach Panel to a National Performance Pool based on an assessment of performance potential at upcoming Olympic/Paralympic Games (see Schedule A, Clause 6).

The Coach Panel may choose not to nominate an athlete to a National Performance Pool even if the athlete has met the performance criteria. The rationale for this decision must be reviewed and approved by the HPD and the HPC.

Note that, due to the limited amount of AAP support available, nomination to a Performance Pool does not guarantee AAP nomination.

1. Eligible results

Results achieved between Nov. 1, 2021, and Oct. 31, 2022, will be considered for 2023 carding nominations.

For results to be considered for carding, they must be achieved in events and classes on the Olympic or Paralympic program. The events listed below were correct at the time of publication; any changes to the list published by the UCI will take precedence over this one.

Cycling Discipline	Event	Classes
Track endurance	Team Pursuit	Elite, Junior
	Omnium	Elite, Junior
	Madison	Elite, Junior
Track Sprint	Team Sprint	Elite, Junior
	Keirin	Elite, Junior
	Sprint	Elite, Junior
Road	Road race	Elite, U23, Junior
	Individual Time Trial	Elite, U23, Junior
Mountain Bike	Olympic Cross-Country	Elite, U23, Junior
BMX	BMX Race	Elite, U23, Junior
	BMX Freestyle Park	Elite, U23, Junior
Para-cycling Track	Time Trial	C1-5, B
	Individual Pursuit	C1-5, B
	Mixed Team Sprint	C1-5
Para-cycling Road	Time Trial	H1-5, C1-5, T1-2
	Road Race	H1-5, C1-5, T1-2
	Team Relay	H1-5

2. Depth of Field

The cycling disciplines vary widely in international depth of field, from several thousand in men's road to fewer than three athletes in certain para classes. Cycling Canada has adjusted the Senior International (SR1) and Senior National (SR) criteria to account for this variation as provided for in Section 5.2.1 of the Sport Canada AAP policy.



These adjustments are based on three considerations: the number of athletes or teams on the UCI ranking in each discipline; the number of athletes or teams attending world championships in each discipline; and the number of entries per nation in each discipline.

These numbers are based on the averages from 2016 to 2019, prior to the pandemic (which dramatically reduced the number of athletes in many disciplines) and can be found in Appendix B.

3. Carding Criteria

INTERNATIONAL CARDS (SR1, SR2) and NATIONAL CARDS (C1, SR)

Prerequisites to be eligible for nomination:

- Achieving the results in the table below
- Nomination to the National Team Pool based
- Meeting all the other eligibility requirements outlined in Schedule A

Discipline and Class	SR1 criteria	SR and SR2 maintenance criteria
BMX FS Men MTB XCO Women & Men Road ITT Women & Men Road Race Women & Men	Top 8 & top half at elite worlds	Top 16 & top half at elite worlds or Twice top 12 & top half in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elite European MTB World Cups • Road WT/WWT events
BMX Race Men	Top 8 & top half at elite worlds	Top 16 & top half at elite BMX worlds or Twice top 16 & top half in elite BMX World Cups
BMX Race Women	Top 8 & top half at elite worlds	Top 8 & top half in an elite World Cup or Twice top 16 & top half in elite BMX World Cups
Track Omnium Women & Men Track Madison Women & Men Track Sprint Women & Men Track Keirin Women & Men	Top 8 & top half at elite worlds	Top 12 & top half at elite worlds or Twice Top 8 & top half in elite Track Nations Cup
BMX FS Women Para Road Women B Para Road Men B, C2-5, H2-5, T2 Para Track Men B Track Team Pursuit Women & Men Track Team Sprint Women & Men	Top 6 & top half at elite worlds	Top 8 & top half at elite worlds or Twice top 6 & top half in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Para Road World Cups • Elite BMX FS World Cups • Elite Track Nations Cup
Para Road Men C1, H1, T1 Para Road Women C1-5, H1-5, T1-2 Para Track Men C1-5 Para Track Women B, C1-5	Top 4 & top half at elite worlds	Top 6 & top half at elite worlds or Twice top 4 & top half in Para Road World Cups

Notes:

- Results in timed track events and Para-cycling events must also meet CC time standard (International/A standard for SR1 cards; National/B standard for C1/SR cards).



- For SR cards, at the sole discretion of the National Coach, other results may be taken into consideration if the National Coach can demonstrate the level of competition was equivalent to a World Cup or equivalent (eg. the number of participating nations; the number of entries; the number of athletes in the top 100 of the UCI ranking; the average speed; etc.). This rationale must be approved by the Head Coach, HPD, Coach Panel and the HPC.
- In team events, the National Coach must provide evidence that the athlete directly contributed to the result.
- Regardless of the specific result, the athlete must finish in the top half of the field. The field size will include everyone registered to start, per the official results: athletes who do not finish but are listed on the official results will be counted towards the field size.
- BMX race events are run in gates of eight riders; so target results are expressed in multiples of 8.
- In events where the size of the field is limited by a qualification process, top half may be assessed on the number of athletes or teams in the qualification ranking.

Discretionary SR nominations

- National Coaches may make additional discretionary nominations using the Past Olympians/Paralympians and Exceptional Circumstances clauses.
- Discretionary nominations and accompanying rationale must be approved by the Head Coach, HPD, Coach Panel, HPC, and Sport Canada.

DEVELOPMENT CARDS (D)

Prerequisites to be eligible for nomination:

- Nomination to the National Team Performance Pools
- Meet the minimum performance standard outlined in Appendix A
- Meet all the other eligibility requirements outlined in Schedule A

Discretionary nominations

All Development cards are discretionary.

The Coach Panel will make Development Card nominations from among eligible athletes based on the process outlined in Schedule A. This may include nominations using the Exceptional Circumstances clause.



SCHEDULE C: COACH PANEL

The Coach Panel will be responsible for nominating athletes to the National Performance Pools and ranking athletes for nomination to the AAP.

The Coach Panel will be convened by the Head Coach and will be made up of Cycling Canada National Coaches.

The Head Coach will assign two or more National Coaches to assess and rank athletes within each discipline, using objective evidence and subjective assessments of the athletes' performances and progression. These assessment may include but not limited to any one or more of the following, in no particular order:

- Individual performances and/or results in international competition during the carding eligibility period;
- The rider's potential to contribute to future World Championship, Olympic or Paralympic performances;
- The rider's technical ability;
- The rider's tactical ability;
- The rider's physical ability / fitness;
- The rider's suitability for the course / venue / environmental conditions of targeted events;
- The rider's attitude, composure and behavior in high-pressure competitive environments;
- The results of any of the rider's sport science tests conducted by CC, including biomechanical and physiological;
- The rider's consistency and reliability in competition;
- The ability of the rider to contribute to a team result;
- The rider's attendance, performance, attitude and conduct in training whilst a member of national team program (DTE, training camp or competition);
- The rider's level of communication with CC, including sharing training programs and reports with the relevant National Coach.

These assessments and rankings will then be peer reviewed by the other National Coaches, the Head Coach and the HPD. If the coaches cannot come to a consensus the Head Coach will have final say.

Once the assessments and rankings are complete, the Head Coach and HPD will use them to create the National Team Performance Pools and to determine the distribution of Cycling Canada's AAP nominations.

At its sole discretion, the Coach Panel may invite any other experts to offer information or opinions in person, by teleconference, or in writing. These experts will not participate in the panel's decisions.



APPENDIX A: D CRITERIA MINIMUM PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

Ages are based on an analysis of the results progression of athletes currently performing at the international level. All results must be top half of field (based on number of entrants). Ages are as of Dec. 31, 2022.

BMX RACE WOMEN										
Age	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26+
Junior worlds	Top 3	Top 3								
U23 world cups	Top 16	Top 16	Top 16	Top 16	Top 8	Top 8				
U23 worlds			Top 16	Top 16	Top 8	Top 8				
Elite world cups			Top 32	Top 32	Top 32	Top 32	Top 32	Top 32	Top 32	Top 16
Elite worlds			Top 32	Top 32	Top 32	Top 32	Top 32	Top 32	Top 32	Top 16
BMX RACE MEN										
Age	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26+
Junior worlds	Top 3	Top 3								
U23 world cups	Top 16	Top 16	Top 16	Top 16	Top 8	Top 8				
U23 worlds			Top 32	Top 32	Top 16	Top 16				
Elite world cups			Top 64	Top 64	Top 64	Top 64	Top 64	Top 64	Top 64	Top 32
Elite worlds			Top 64	Top 64	Top 64	Top 64	Top 64	Top 64	Top 64	Top 32

MTB XCO WOMEN								
Age	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26+
European U23 World Cup or U23 World Championships	Top 25	Top 20	Top 15	Top 10				
Non-European U23 World Cup	Top 5	Top 5	Top 5	Top 5				
European Elite World Cup or Elite World Championships					Top 42	Top 35	Top 28	Top 22
Non-European Elite World Cup					Top 10	Top 10	Top 10	Top 10
MTB XCO MEN								
Age	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26+
European U23 World Cup or U23 World Championships	Top 50	Top 35	Top 25	Top 15				
Non-European U23 World Cup	Top 5	Top 5	Top 5	Top 5				
European Elite World Cup or Elite World Championships					Top 42	Top 35	Top 28	Top 22
Non-European Elite World Cup					Top 10	Top 10	Top 10	Top 10



PARA-CYCLING

Meet the Cycling Canada National B Time Standard (see Appendix C)

ROAD – UCI points on Oct. 31, 2022 (excluding Canadian Road Championships)

Age	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28+
Women	10	10	10	20	20	50	50	50	100	100
Men	10	20	40	60	100	100	100	100	100	275

The National Coach (Road Lead) has the sole discretion to make additional nominations based on exceptional performances in international competition. These nominations must be accompanied by evidence and rationale and must be approved by the Head Coach, HPD, Coach Panel, HPC and Sport Canada.

TRACK

Meet the Cycling Canada National Time Standard (see Appendix B). In the case of an athlete meeting the time standard in a team event, the National Coach must submit evidence that the athlete contributed positively to the performance and the nomination must be approved by the Head Coach, HPD, Coach Panel, HPC and Sport Canada.



APPENDIX B: CYCLING CANADA TRACK TIME STANDARDS

Women Sprint	A	B	Junior	Junior Development
Flying 200m	10.75	11.35	11.56	11.90
500m TT	33.55	34.23	34.91	35.96
Standing 250m	19.16	19.54	19.93	20.53

Women Endurance	A	B	Junior	Junior Development
	3km			2km
Individual Pursuit	3:34.5	3:41.0	2:31.5	2:36.0

Men Sprint	A	B	Junior	Junior Development
Flying 200m	9.97	10.17	10.37	10.68
1,000m TT	1:01.00	1:01.50	1:02.31	1:04.18
Standing 250m	17.60	17.96	18.31	18.86

Men Endurance	A	B	Junior	Junior Development
	4km			3km
Individual Pursuit	4:22.0	4:28.5	3:26.0	3:32.5



APPENDIX C: CYCLING CANADA PARA-CYCLING TIME STANDARDS

ROAD									
Class	A	B	D	Minimum Distance	Class	A	B	D	Minimum Distance
MB	48.99	47.52	44.30	20 km	WB	43.45	42.15	39.10	17 km
MC1	39.63	38.44	36.00	15 km	WC1	30.67	29.75	22.00	12 km
MC2	41.32	40.08	37.19	15 km	WC2	35.91	34.83	32.32	12 km
MC3	43.30	42.00	39.30	17 km	WC3	37.75	36.62	31.81	12 km
MC4	44.88	43.53	41.20	17 km	WC4	37.78	36.65	35.30	15 km
MC5	45.65	44.28	42.00	17 km	WC5	40.07	38.87	37.50	15 km
MT1	29.00	28.13	26.10	12 km	WT1	23.95	23.20	19.00	12 km
MT2	35.61	34.74	33.67	12 km	WT2	30.03	29.13	22.00	12 km
MH1	23.68	22.97	21.31	12 km	WH1	16.50	15.95	10.40	10 km
MH2	33.65	32.64	27.40	12 km	WH2	23.75	23.04	15.00	10 km
MH3	39.86	38.67	34.90	17 km	WH3	33.04	32.05	26.90	10 km
MH4	40.20	39.00	34.60	17 km	WH4	33.61	32.61	29.60	15 km
MH5	39.11	37.94	35.30	17 km	WH5	34.74	33.70	32.30	15 km

TRACK						
Men	Individual Pursuit			Time Trial		
	A	B	D	A	B	D
Tandem	04:18.7	04:25.2	04:31.6	01:01.8	01:03.3	01:04.9
C1	03:58.8	04:04.7	04:10.7	01:17.5	01:19.4	01:21.4
C2	03:46.7	03:52.3	03:58.0	01:14.9	01:16.8	01:18.7
C3	03:37.5	03:42.9	03:48.3	01:10.5	01:11.9	01:14.0
C4	04:45.6	04:52.6	04:59.9	01:08.2	01:09.4	01:11.7
C5	04:36.7	04:43.6	04:50.5	01:06.4	01:07.9	01:09.7

Women	Individual Pursuit			Time Trial		
	A	B	D	A	B	D
Tandem	03:34.1	03:39.4	03:44.2	01:08.3	01:10.0	01:15.1
C1	04:49.2	04:49.2	04:49.2	47.2	48.3	49.3
C2	04:25.9	04:32.5	04:39.2	42.9	44.0	45.1
C3	04:24.5	04:27.5	04:31.5	43.2	44.2	45.3
C4	04:00.6	04:06.6	04:12.6	39.9	40.9	41.9
C5	03:56.1	04:01.1	04:06.4	38.1	39.0	40.0



APPENDIX D: INTERNATIONAL DEPTH OF FIELD COMPARISON

The following data was used to assess the international depth of field across cycling disciplines and classes:

Discipline & Class	Athletes/Teams on UCI ranking (Avg. 2016-2019)	Entries at worlds (Avg. 2016-2019)	Max. entries per nation at worlds
Road Men RR	3125	197	8
Road Men ITT	3125	64	2
MTB Men	1704	90	7
MTB Women	1000	60	7
Road Women RR	813*	151	7
Road Women ITT	813*	50	2
Track Men Omnium	809	23	1
Track Men Madison**	752	16	1
Track Men sprint	661	34	2
Track Men keirin	616	28	2
Track Women Omnium	458	23	1
Track Women Madison**	424	17	1
BMX Men	361	81	6
Track Women sprint	345	32	2
Track Women Keirin	345	26	2
BMX FS Men individual	220	59	6
BMX Women	165	42	5
Para Road Men H3	86	37	3
BMX FS Women individual	77	31	6
Para Road Men B	70	27	3
Para Road Men H4	67	20	3
Para Road Men C5	62	18	3
Para Road Men C3	52	24	3
Para Road Men C4	49	25	3
Track Men Team Sprint***	46	15	1
Track Men Team Pursuit***	46	17	1
Para Road Men C2	45	24	1
Para Track Men B	42	14	3
Track Women Team Sprint***	38	14	1
Para Road Men T2	37	17	3
Para Road Men H2	36	14	3
Para Road Women tandem B	31	16	3
Track Women Team Pursuit***	30	15	1
Para Road Men H5	30	18	3
Para Track Men C4	28	14	3
Para Track Women B	27	13	3
Para Track Men C5	26	14	3
Para Track Men C2	26	16	3
Para Road Men C1	25	23	3
Para Road Men H1	23	9	3
Para Track Men C3	23	11	3
Para Road Women H3	22	10	3
Para Road Women H4	21	8	3
Para Road Men T1	19	9	3
Para Road Women C5	18	12	3
Para Track Men C1	16	14	3
Para Road Women C4	14	8	3
Para Track Women C5	13	9	3
Para Road Women C2	12	9	3



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Para Track Women C4	12	11	3
Para Road Women T2	11	7	3
Para Road Women C3	11	8	3
Para Track Women C2	10	7	3
Para Track Women C3	9	8	3
Para Road Women H5	8	5	3
Para Road Women T1	6	6	3
Para Road Women H2	5	2	3
Para Road Women H1	3	1	3
Para Track Women C1	3	1	3
Para Road Women C1	3	3	3

* This number has increased through the pandemic to more than 1,200

** The ranking shows individual athletes ranked; the worlds shows number of teams entered

*** The ranking shows nations ranking; the worlds shows number of teams entered