

## **2017 - 2018 PODIUM PROGRAMS**

*(2017 qualification standards for 2018 funding)*

### **Introduction**

The following document outlines the USA Cycling Podium Program. The purpose of this program is twofold. First, its purpose is to support American riders with proven ability to win medals at Olympic Games and World Championship competitions. Its second purpose is to provide support and program assistance to riders who have demonstrated the ability to develop into medal winning athletes. At all levels, the primary goal of this program is to support and develop riders that are capable of sustained international success and consistent podium finishes in Olympic and World Championship competitions. Since most of the funding for direct athlete support is provided by the US Olympic Committee (USOC), this program is focused only on Olympic events. Also, since funding for this program is fixed, there are a limited number of supported positions available.

Since this program is focused on international success, all riders who participate in these programs must have shown the ability to earn medals in World and Olympic competition either presently or in the next four years based on performances. Riders accepted into the program must meet stringent international performance standards as a condition of their entrance as well as continued participation in the program. Athletes who do not achieve World or Olympic podiums, or clearly demonstrate progress to the level where they should be capable of attaining World or Olympic podiums, will be removed from the program. Further, because the program is strictly based on international performance standards, USA Cycling will accept ONLY those athletes who meet current performance standards. If there are not enough athletes who meet performance standards for a particular category, then the available support positions in that category will remain unfilled.

The standards for program entry are derived from current international performances that are indicative of the level of performance required to achieve the podium in an Olympic event at the World Championships or Olympic Games. These standards may be in the form of performance times at specific venues, laboratory performance standards, or results from specific categories of international events. Because different disciplines have different demographics at various events, e.g. Road World Cups vs. Track World Cups, the specific competitions deemed to be representative of the world's best will vary by discipline.

The number of available support positions in each program level is fixed and all available positions will be filled according to the specific performance criteria described for each program. Support is strictly limited to athletes who are qualified by meeting performance standards in an Olympic event. With the exception of the highest level of support, the term of support is limited for each level. The purpose for doing this is to ensure that athletes are "moving through" the system and making continual progress toward achieving a podium result at a World Championships or Olympic Games. Athletes who "stall out" or fail to demonstrate progress, will be removed from the programs. Additionally, athletes with a long history of performance, i.e. several years or more, within the specific event or discipline who have failed to demonstrate the ability to achieve a top-three finish at a World Championships or Olympic Games may not be accepted into the program, and/or may receive a lower prioritization than an athlete performing at a similar level who only has recently started competing in that event.

### **Program Goals**

The goal of this program is to provide a support structure for top athletes who are delivering international results and to create additional motivation and incentive for developing athletes to transition to the endurance track events and to progress to the highest level of performance in all disciplines.

## **Strategy**

- Create a consistent, tiered support program and motivate athletes to “move up” the support ladder
- Use strict international criteria for the funded levels of the program
- Limit amount of time an athlete can remain at any level of the program other than “Podium Capable”
- Require clearly demonstrated progression in performance towards “Podium Capable”

## **Core Components**

### **Podium Capable Program**

This program will provide resources and support to top athletes and ensure that they have access to the international racing competition required in addition to financial support, coaching and sport science. This program will require the athletes to meet strict international standards, e.g., a podium finish in the World Championships or Olympic Games in at least one Olympic event. In other words, these athletes will be “capable” of attaining the podium at Olympic and World Championships competition.

The entire focus of this program will be on international success and will endeavor to instill and reward that philosophy in our top athletes. We believe that the ONLY path to sustained international excellence is through the development of a cadre of American athletes for whom success at the International level is paramount.

In order to qualify for the support and funding commensurate with this level, athletes will be expected to agree to and fulfill an international racing program that will be negotiated with each athlete in advance of the season. This agreement will be in the form of a contract between the athlete and USA Cycling that will commit the athlete to certain events during the year. Additionally, an athlete at this level will be required to demonstrate they remain “podium capable” by meeting specific benchmarks during the season. These benchmarks will be determined by USA Cycling coaching staff and based upon their assessment of reasonable and periodized performance standards.

Because the qualification for this level of support is contingent upon the potential for podium finishes at the World Championships or Olympic Games, athletes may remain at this level so long as they continue to meet the performance requirements. Allowances may be made for injury and other circumstances in order to continue to support an athlete at this level once they have qualified. However, in general, athletes once qualified will not be supported for more than one year without meeting the qualification standards. Athletes who do not meet requirements for continued participation will be moved to the Podium Potential level.

## **Goals & Objectives**

The USA Cycling objective with this program is to provide support for its top athletes and to continue to influence their careers and development. Through this program, USA Cycling will work to maintain a positive relationship with those athletes that have come through the National teams and who continue to share our strong desire for international excellence.

Additionally, this program will ensure that our best athletes are participating in the select international competitions that will ensure USA Cycling is able to qualify Olympic and World Championship start positions for our nation.

### **Program Elements**

- Podium Capable Stipend
- International Competition Program
- Contractual obligation to meet specific performance benchmarks up to and including World Championship medals.
- Eligible for OTC Resident or Off-Site Access consideration
- Eligible for Elite Athlete Health Insurance

### **Benefit**

Developing, encouraging, and rewarding international excellence will ensure that American athletes FOCUS on international excellence as their benchmark. In other words, we will create and reward podium-capable athletes who are driven to succeed at the highest levels.

### **Podium Potential Program**

This program will focus on the continuing development of the best American cyclists and will endeavor to provide the needed programmatic support in the form of camps and International competitions that are necessary to allow *those who are capable* to “graduate” to the Podium Capable support level.

This athlete centered and coach driven program will be the primary pathway to the top level of international performance and will include **only those athletes who *CONTINUE TO DEMONSTRATE PROGRESS TOWARD THE PODIUM CAPABLE LEVEL.*** Membership in this program will be contingent upon meeting international performance criteria and *continual progression* to the highest level of International performance (Podium Capable level). Athletes who “stall out” in terms of progress will be removed from the program. In general, it is expected that athletes will move through this program in three years or less. Under various circumstances it is recognized that athletes may drop down to this level from Podium Capable.

In order to qualify for the support and funding commensurate with this level, athletes will be expected to agree to and fulfill an international racing program that will be negotiated with each athlete in advance of the season. This agreement will be in the form of a contract between the athlete and USA Cycling that will commit the athlete to certain events during the year. Additionally, an athlete at this level will be required to

demonstrate they remain “podium potential” by meeting specific benchmarks during the season. These benchmarks will be determined by USA Cycling coaching staff and based upon their assessment of reasonable and periodized performance standards.

### **Goals and Objectives**

The USA Cycling goal is to provide support and assistance to those athletes that have demonstrated they are capable of developing to the Podium Capable level. This program also will be designed to instill an attitude of professionalism in our top amateur riders; and to provide needed opportunities for international racing experience.

### **Program Elements**

- Podium Potential Stipend
- International competition program Eligible
- Contractual obligation to meet specific performance benchmarks
- Eligible for OTC Resident or Off-Site Access consideration
- Eligible for Elite Athlete Health Insurance consideration

### **Benefits**

This program will provide support for emerging talent and create an uninterrupted pathway or “bridge” for our best athletes to the top level of international performance.

## **Podium Promise Program**

This program is aimed at identifying and developing the next generation of cycling talent. Athletes who qualify for this level must meet stringent performance requirements derived from international standards and demonstrate the potential to attain the Podium Potential and, ultimately, the Podium Program level of performance. Again, in order to qualify for this level, athletes must continue to demonstrate *progress* toward ever higher performance levels – athletes cannot “park” at this level of performance. In general, it is expected that athletes of elite age will move onto a higher level of the Podium Program in three years or less.

### **Goals & Objectives**

The goal of the program is to create an environment that will speed the development of USA Cycling athletes by providing access to professional coaching and sport science, as well as top level domestic and international racing opportunities.

### **Program Elements**

- Podium Promise level assistance to attend National Team projects, qualifying events and camps.
- Possibility for international competition

- Eligible for minimal equipment support

### **Benefits**

The program will ensure that the best emerging talent has access to the resources and opportunities required for continual development. Like the programs above, this program is “progressive” in that it is predicated upon continual progress by the participants.

### **Overall Benefits**

This program will provide the needed incentive for athletes to focus on the specific goal of international and Olympic success. For the endurance track events, this program will provide THE PRIMARY incentive for road athletes to make the transition to the track events.

### **Prioritization of Awarding Podium Program Positions**

In the case that more riders attain the minimum standard for a given elite (non-U23) support program than there are available support positions, the allocation of support positions will be prioritized according to the following criteria:

1. Riders who have achieved a top-three (3) finish at the Olympic Games in the past 12 months.
2. Riders who have achieved a top-three (3) finish at the World Championships in and Olympic event in past 12 months.
3. Riders who exceeded the minimum performance time or standard by the greatest percentage within the previous 12 months.
4. Riders with the greatest rate of improvement in time or performance standard within the previous 12 months.

### **Admission into the Podium Program**

Only athletes who have met the specific minimum qualification criteria for a particular program will be considered for admission to any of the Podium Support programs. Please note that athletes may only qualify for ONE podium program at a time, i.e., athletes who meet the qualification criteria in more than one event or discipline, will be admitted to the program for the single event at highest level they are qualified for. In addition, it should be noted that **the Podium Program is not a reward** based program. Rather, it is an **incentive program** to assist and enable athletes to focus on the specific goal of international and Olympic success. Admission into the Podium Program requires specified international results, which provide an athlete with an opportunity to participate in the Podium Program.

### **Rider Agreement**

All athletes admitted into the Podium Program ***will be required*** to sign an Athlete Agreement in order to participate and receive benefits from the program. The Podium Program contract requires a high level of commitment to USA Cycling by the athlete. The agreement includes a quarterly assessment that athletes must comply with to receive funding. Athletes must meet agreed upon markers at each quarterly assessment. The concept is to assure the athlete and athlete PET that we are on the same team with the same goals. These goals and or markers will differ from rider to rider based upon personal training philosophy and the timing of the program. If an athlete fails to meet goals, a plan will be discussed at the quarterly meeting as to how to get the athlete back on track as soon as possible. In this way, USA Cycling hopes to keep its top performers at the necessary level for the important events of the season. Riders missing two or more markers in consecutive assessment periods may be moved to a lower level of the program.

## **Podium Program Support Levels**

### **Podium Capable**

This program provides a \$25,000 annual stipend plus program and logistical support that is specific to the particular program and/or event for which the athlete is qualified. This is the highest level of support and is restricted to those athletes who are currently capable of a top-three finish at the Olympic Games or World Championships. Qualification for this support program is contingent upon signing a performance agreement that outlines the athlete's specific event and project obligations, as well as performance goals for the year.

### **Podium Potential**

This program provides a \$12,500 annual stipend plus program and logistical support that is specific to the particular program and/or event for which the athlete is qualified. This level of support is restricted to athletes who demonstrate that they have the potential to achieve a top-three finish at the Olympic Games or World Championships within the next four years. Support at this level is limited to four years, and athletes must demonstrate that they are "on track" to attain the Podium Capable level within their allotted time frame in order to remain in the program. Qualification for this support program is contingent upon signing a performance contract that outlines the athlete's specific event and project obligations, as well as performance goals for the year.

### **Podium Promise**

This program provides program and logistical support that is specific to the particular program and/or event for which the athlete is qualified. This level of support is provided to athletes who demonstrate that they have the ability to achieve the Podium Potential level within the next three years. Participation in this program is limited to three years and athletes must demonstrate that they are "on track" to attain the next level within their allotted time frame in order to remain in the program. Qualification for this support program is contingent upon signing a performance contract that outlines the athlete's specific event, project and equipment obligations, as well as performance goals for the year.

## 2018 Podium Program Qualification Matrix

The following tables describe the minimum criteria required for consideration of athlete to enter the program. All time, performance, World Championship, and or Olympic podium requirements must be in the same discipline (Road, Track, MTB, and BMX). Subsequent qualifications in different events in the same discipline in the successive years will be considered a continuation of the podium process, i.e., once an athlete meets a standard in a discipline, they must meet subsequent year standards in any event in that discipline. Athletes who meet podium standards in more than one event may only qualify for ONE podium program per year.

## 2018 Time and Performance Standards

All results and/or time standards must have been met in 2017. Track time standards must be met at World Championships, World Cup events, U.S. National Championships, or UCI International C1-3 events, where starting gates and electronic timing systems are used.

| Funding Level           | Women's Endurance                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                         | Road Race                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Time Trial                                                                                                                                                                                       | Team Pursuit*                                                                                                                                                                                           | Omnium                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Podium Capable</b>   | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Olympic Games Medal – Top 3</li> </ul> Or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Championships Medal – Top 3</li> </ul>                                      | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Olympic Games Medal – Top 3</li> </ul> Or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Championships Medal – Top 3</li> </ul>          | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Olympic Games Medal – Top 3</li> </ul> Or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Championships Medal – Top 3</li> </ul>                 | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Olympic Games Medal – Top 3</li> </ul> Or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Championships Medal – Top 3</li> </ul> |
| <b>Podium Potential</b> | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WWT Victory</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                             | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Win an ITT stage of a WWT event (longer than 20K)</li> </ul>                                                                           | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Cup Top 5</li> </ul> <b>And</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Time</li> <li>Meet International Elite Time Standards</li> </ul> | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Cup Top 5</li> </ul> <b>And</b>                                                                                         |
| <b>Podium Promise</b>   | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Top-5 World Cup RR</li> <li>Top-5 European 2.HC or 2.9.1 Individual GC</li> <li>Win a road stage in European 1.WWT, 2.WWT</li> <li>National RR Champion</li> </ul> | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National TT Champion</li> </ul> Or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Win European 1.1 Stand Alone TT (longer than 15K)</li> </ul> | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Cup Top 5</li> </ul> <b>And</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Time</li> <li>Meet International Elite Time Standards</li> </ul> | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Cup Top 8</li> </ul> <b>And</b>                                                                                         |

\*Team Pursuits that include International athletes do not qualify for Athlete Support.

Eligibility for athlete support is based on participating team members or individuals who rode the qualifying time and earned the qualifying results. Qualifying times and result must come from the same event and ride.

| Funding Level           | Men's Endurance                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                         | Team Pursuit*                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Omnium                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Podium Capable</b>   | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Olympic Games Medal – Top 3</li> </ul> Or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Championships Medal – Top 3</li> </ul>                          | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Olympic Games Medal – Top 3</li> </ul> Or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Championships Medal – Top 3</li> </ul> |
| <b>Podium Potential</b> | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Cup Top 5</li> </ul> <b>And</b><br><b>Time</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet International Elite Time Standards</li> </ul>         | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Cup Top 5</li> </ul> <b>And</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>                                      |
| <b>Podium Promise</b>   | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Cup Medal - Top 8</li> </ul> <b>And</b><br><b>Time</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet International Elite Time Standards</li> </ul> | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Cup Top 8</li> </ul> <b>And</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet Emerging Elite Time Standards</li> </ul>    |

\*Team Pursuits that include International athletes do not qualify for Athlete Support.

Eligibility for athlete support is based on participating team members or individuals who rode the qualifying time and earned the qualifying results. Qualifying times and result must come from the same event and ride.

| Funding Level           | Men Sprint Track                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                         | Team Sprint*                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Sprint**                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Keirin**                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Podium Capable</b>   | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Olympic Games Medal – Top 3</li> </ul> Or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Championships Medal – Top 3</li> </ul>                                                                        | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Olympic Games Medal – Top 3</li> </ul> Or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Championships Medal – Top 3</li> </ul>                                                                        | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Olympic Games Medal – Top 3</li> </ul> Or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Championships Medal – Top 3</li> </ul>                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Podium Potential</b> | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Cup Top 5</li> </ul> Or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pan Am CC Top 3</li> </ul> <b>And</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet International Elite Time Standards</li> </ul> | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Cup Top 5</li> </ul> Or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pan Am CC Top 3</li> </ul> <b>And</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet International Elite Time Standards</li> </ul> | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Cup Top 5</li> </ul> Or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pan Am CC Top 3</li> </ul> <b>And</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet International Elite Time Standards</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul> |
| <b>Podium Promise</b>   | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Cup - Top 8</li> </ul> <b>And</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet Emerging Elite Time Standards</li> </ul>                                                                         | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Cup - Top 8</li> </ul> <b>And</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet Emerging Elite Time Standards</li> </ul>                                                                         | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Cup - Top 8</li> </ul> <b>And</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet Emerging Elite Time Standards</li> </ul>                                                                                                                            |

\*Team Sprints that include International athletes do not qualify for Athlete Support.

\*\*Please reference the 2017/18 USA Cycling International Sprint Time Standards  
<http://www.usacycling.org/usa-cycling-international-sprint-track-program-time-standards.htm>

Eligibility for athlete support is based on participating members or individuals who rode the qualifying time and earned the qualifying results. Qualifying times and result must come from the same event and ride.

| Funding Level           | Women Sprint Track                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                         | Team Sprint*                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Sprint**                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Keirin**                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Podium Capable</b>   | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Olympic Games Medal – Top 3</li> </ul> Or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Championships Medal – Top 3</li> </ul>                                                                        | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Olympic Games Medal – Top 3</li> </ul> Or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Championships Medal – Top 3</li> </ul>                                                                        | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Olympic Games Medal – Top 3</li> </ul> Or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Championships Medal – Top 3</li> </ul>                                                                        |
| <b>Podium Potential</b> | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Cup Top 5</li> </ul> Or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pan Am CC Top 3</li> </ul> <b>And</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet International Elite Time Standards</li> </ul> | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Cup Top 5</li> </ul> Or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pan Am CC Top 3</li> </ul> <b>And</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet International Elite Time Standards</li> </ul> | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Cup Top 5</li> </ul> Or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pan Am CC Top 3</li> </ul> <b>And</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet International Elite Time Standards</li> </ul> |
| <b>Podium Promise</b>   | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Cup - Top 8</li> </ul> <b>And</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet Emerging Elite Time Standards</li> </ul>                                                                         | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Cup - Top 8</li> </ul> <b>And</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet Emerging Elite Time Standards</li> </ul>                                                                         | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Cup - Top 8</li> </ul> <b>And</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet Emerging Elite Time Standards</li> </ul>                                                                         |

\*Team Sprints that include International athletes do not qualify for Athlete Support.

\*\*Please reference the 2017/18 USA Cycling International Sprint Time Standards  
<http://www.usacycling.org/usa-cycling-international-sprint-track-program-time-standards.htm>

Eligibility for athlete support is based on participating members or individuals who rode the qualifying time and earned the qualifying results. Qualifying times and result must come from the same event and ride.

| Funding level           | MTB                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                         | Elite Men XCO<br>U23 Men XCO                                                                                                                                                                                     | Elite Women XCO<br>U23 Women XCO                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Podium Capable</b>   | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Olympic Games Medal – Top 3</li> </ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Championships Medal – Top 3</li> </ul>                          | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Olympic Games Medal – Top 3</li> </ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Championships Medal – Top 3</li> </ul>                          |
| <b>Podium Potential</b> | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Top 3 in XCO World Cup race</li> </ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Top ten (10) overall UCI World Cup Season End Rankings</li> </ul>     | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Top 3 in XCO World Cup race</li> </ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Top ten (10) overall UCI World Cup Season End Rankings</li> </ul>     |
| <b>Podium Promise</b>   | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Top-10 in a UCI XCO World Cup Race</li> </ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Top 30 overall in the UCI World Cup Season Rankings</li> </ul> | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Top-10 in a UCI XCO World Cup Race</li> </ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Top 30 overall in the UCI World Cup Season Rankings</li> </ul> |

| Funding level           | BMX                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                         | Elite Men*                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Elite Women*                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Podium Capable</b>   | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Olympic Games Medal – Top 3</li> </ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Championships SX Medal – Top 3</li> </ul>                                                     | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Olympic Games Medal – Top 3</li> </ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Championships SX Medal – Top 3</li> </ul>                                                     |
| <b>Podium Potential</b> | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Top three (3) overall in the UCI BMX Supercross Season End Rankings</li> </ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimum of two (2) UCI BMX Supercross podiums</li> </ul>    | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Top three (3) overall in the UCI BMX Supercross Season End Rankings</li> </ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimum of two (2) UCI BMX Supercross podiums</li> </ul>    |
| <b>Podium Promise</b>   | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A podium result in a 2017 UCI BMX Supercross</li> </ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Top ten (10) overall in the 2017 UCI BMX Supercross Season End Rankings</li> </ul> | <b>Performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A podium result in a 2017 UCI BMX Supercross</li> </ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Top ten (10) overall in the 2017 UCI BMX Supercross Season End Rankings</li> </ul> |

## **2018 ELITE ATHLETE HEALTH INSURANCE (EAHI)**

EAHI will be offered to athletes who are currently training and competing in Olympic disciplines and have qualified for the program based upon results in Olympic disciplines only. The following lists the qualification criteria *in priority order* that athletes must meet to be eligible for this program as of January 1, 2018.

Total number of EAHI slots allocated: 20

1. Athletes who are members of Podium Program – Capable level - all disciplines (2018 Podium Program – Results from the 2017 season)
2. Athletes who are members of Podium Program – Potential level - all disciplines (2018 Podium Program – Results from the 2017 season)
3. Athletes who are members of Podium Program – Promise level - all disciplines (2018 Podium Program – Results from the 2017 season)

### **Tie Breakers**

If there are more qualified riders than EAHI positions (ties) within a certain qualifying criteria, the ties will be broken by the USA Cycling Athletic Department coaching staff based on past performance history and future medal potential, across disciplines, regardless of gender.

***Once an insurance slot is offered to an athlete, they will have 45 days to activate their coverage. Athletes not activating their coverage within 45 days of notification of eligibility will lose their slot. Should there be any available EAHI slots left after all eligible athletes have either accepted or declined, those slots will remain unused.***

## **2017 PODIUM BONUS PROGRAM**

### **Introduction**

The Podium Bonus program is designed to provide additional reward to athletes who attain the podium (top-3) in specific international events. All of the competitions included in the award schedule have important ramifications for the qualification of Olympic start positions. Athletes do not need to be a member of a specific Podium program in order to qualify for these bonuses.

### **Program Goal**

The goal of this program is to provide additional incentive to our top athletes to attend critical international events. These bonuses are for Championship events that are in Olympic Disciplines at the ELITE level.

### **Strategy**

Provide additional compensation to athletes who are reaching the podium in events that have implications for start positions at World Championships and Olympic Games. Each year a “pool” of money will be set aside for these World Medal Athletes.

## Program Components and Award Schedule

*Awards are for Elite Level Championships in Olympic events ONLY!*

| <b>Event</b>         | <b>Gold</b> | <b>Silver</b> | <b>Bronze</b> |
|----------------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| Olympic Games*       | \$15,000    | \$10,000      | \$5,000       |
| World Championships* | \$5,000     | \$3,000       | \$2,000       |
|                      |             |               |               |
| MTB World Cups       | \$1,000     | \$750         | \$500         |
| Track World Cups*    | \$1,000     | \$750         | \$500         |
| BMX SX World Cups    | \$1,000     | \$750         | \$500         |

\* Team events will pay 50% of bonus to EACH rider on the team. All members of a medal winning team MUST be U.S. riders for the bonus to apply.

## GO FAST ATHLETE STIPEND PROGRAM

### Introduction

The Go Fast athlete stipend program is designed to serve as direct athlete support towards developing disciplines and events. One of the largest obstacles of success is the cannibalizing of talented athletes from specific disciplines with weak professional opportunities, to disciplines with rich professional opportunities. In many instances, simply providing a livable level of financial support could alter the course of an entire discipline. Not only will this aid in the growth of multiple disciplines, but it will also provide an immediate impact on USA Cycling's ability to be internationally successful in multiple disciplines.

### Program Goal

The goal of this program is to provide additional resources to emerging international athletes and provide an opportunity for them to fully commit to long-term athlete development. The Go

Fast athlete stipend also will provide USA Cycling the opportunity to have more influence in the trajectory and pathway of an athlete or entire program, and fully actualize that potential.

### **Benefit**

The program will ensure that the best emerging talent has access to the resources and opportunities required for their continual development. Like the programs above, this program is “progressive” in that it is predicated upon continual progress by the participants.