



## FACT SHEET: HOW THE AOC DIRECTLY SUPPORTS ATHLETES

### AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIAN RETIREMENT GRANT [NEW]

A retirement grant of **\$32,000** per Games attended from Milano Cortina 2026 onwards. All Olympians attending Milano Cortina 2026, Los Angeles 2028, French Alps 2030, and Brisbane 2032 are eligible to apply.

Olympians retired from sport will be eligible to receive the first payment 16 years after they competed at an eligible Games.

The grant is payable in installments of \$8000 over 4 years.

*For example, an athlete competing at the Milano Cortina 2026 Winter Olympic Games who subsequently retires from sport, will be eligible to receive \$32,000 payable in installments of \$8000 in 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045.*

Athletes who attend two Olympic Games in the period are entitled to receive \$64,000.

*For example, an athlete competing at Los Angeles 2028 and Brisbane 2032 Olympic Games who subsequently retires from sport, will be eligible to receive \$64,000 payable in installments of \$8000 in 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051. Payments accrue based on the number of Games attended - starting from Milano Cortina 2026 (ie. Previous Games do not count).*

The assessment criteria will include a means testing threshold (amount TBC).

Total projected cost to AOC: **\$42million**

### RETURN TO OLYMPIC SPORT GRANT (POST-BIRTH) [NEW]

A return to Olympic Sport grant of **\$10,000** for Olympians who give birth after 11 December 2025.

The grant is set at \$10,000 in 2025 and 2026, with grants increasing by a set 2.50% from 2027 through to 2032 to reflect increase in CPI.

It is designed to encourage Olympians to return to high performance Olympic sport.

There is no requirement to be selected for a future Games, however a commitment to return to high performance sport is required.

- Athletes can receive the grants multiple times for multiple births.
- Payments will be payable in the year of application.
- Total projected cost to the AOC: **\$1.1million**

## TEAM SELECTION PAYMENTS **[NEW]**

- Australian athletes will be eligible to receive a **Team Selection Payment** of **\$5,000** from the AOC for attending the Games from Milano Cortina 2026 onwards (payable after the Games).  
[Milano Cortina 2026 Winter Olympic Programs & Funding Guidelines](#)  
[Los Angeles 2028 Summer Olympic Programs & Funding Guidelines](#)
- The AOC will distribute approximately **\$7.6m** in Team Selection Payments between 2026 – 2032.

## AOC ATHLETE INCENTIVE FUNDING (AIF) **[EXISTING]**

- Formerly known as the AOC Medal Incentive Funding (MIF), the AOC Athlete Incentive Funding (AIF) supports the endeavour of Olympians whilst training, preparing, and attending the Olympic Games.
- Athletes who win medals at the Olympic Games or finish top-4 at other Benchmark Events in a non-Olympic year (ie. World Championships) will be considered for a payment of up to **\$20,000** for a gold medal.
- Total MIF/ AIF spend in 2024 Quad: **\$7.5m/** Projected AIF spend in 2028 Quad: **\$8m**

## EXAMPLE: WHAT IS POSSIBLE DURING AN OLYMPIAN LIFE-CYCLE

**Athletes who attend Milano Cortina 2026, Los Angeles 2028, French Alps 2030, and/or Brisbane 2032 could be eligible to receive the following direct payments from the AOC:**

- Athletes receive a **\$5000** Team Selection Payment for making the Australian Olympic Team. This is a **NEW** initiative and it begins at Milano Cortina 2026.
- Athletes who medal or finish top-3 at an Olympics or top 4 at a Benchmark Event (eg. World Championships) are eligible for an Athlete Incentive Fund payment of up to **\$20,000**.
- Active Olympians who give birth from December 11 2025 onwards can apply for the **NEW** Return to Olympic Sport Grant (post-birth) of **\$10,000**.

- Upon retirement, Olympians are now eligible for a **NEW \$32,000** payment per Games attended from Milano Cortina 2026 to Brisbane 2032. This multiplies to **\$64,000** for attending two Games within the eligibility period.
- As part of the AOC community program such as [Olympics Unleashed](#), athletes are compensated for making appearances and that has provided **\$1.7m** to athletes to date.
- Athletes can fundraise through the Australian Sports Foundation to fuel their Olympic dreams via [Australian Olympic Team - Donate Today | Australian Sports Foundation](#)