

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

Veteran Monthly Assistance Allowance for Disabled Veterans Training in Paralympic and Olympic Sports Program (VMAA)

In partnership with the United States Olympic Committee and other Olympic and Paralympic entities within the United States, VA supports eligible service and non-service-connected military Veterans in their efforts to represent the USA at the Paralympic Games, Olympic Games and other international sport competitions. The VA Office of National Veterans Sports Programs & Special Events provides a monthly assistance allowance for disabled Veterans training in Paralympic sports, as well as certain disabled Veterans selected for or competing with the national Olympic Team, as authorized by 38 U.S.C. 322(d) and Section 703 of the Veterans' Benefits Improvement Act of 2008.

Through the program, VA will pay a monthly allowance to a Veteran with either a service-connected or non-service-connected disability if the Veteran meets the minimum military standards or higher (e.g., Emerging Athlete or National Team) in his or her respective Paralympic sport at a recognized competition. In addition to making the military standard, an athlete must also be nationally or internationally classified by his or her respective Paralympic sport federation as eligible for Paralympic competition. VA will also pay a monthly allowance to a Veteran with a service-connected disability rated 30 percent or greater by VA who is selected for a national Olympic Team for any month in which the Veteran is competing in any event sanctioned by the National Governing Bodies of the Olympic Sport in the United State, in accordance with P.L. 114-223. Since qualification for the Olympic sports is based on disability rating by the VA, this rating functions as the qualifying disability classification for determining a Veteran's eligibility. For both Olympic and Paralympic sports, the national sport organizations include those of the United States Olympic Committee, including its Paralympic Division, and the equivalent organizations for American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the United States Virgin Islands. Athletes must have established training and competition plans and are responsible for turning in monthly and quarterly reports in order to continue receiving the monthly assistance allowance. The allowance rate for an athlete approved for monetary assistance is the same as the 38 U.S.C. Chapter 31 Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment (VR&E) rate.

Evaluative criteria differ from sport to sport and can vary from open tryouts, invitation only tryouts, world rankings, achievement standards or a combination of standards and tryouts. The VMAA Standard for each sport is determined by the respective National Governing Body (NGB) or High Performance Management Organization (HPMO), National Paralympic Committee (NPC), based on the sport and/or discipline/event international competitive analysis and existing athlete pipeline. Generally, the initial VMAA Standard is 25% back from the respective sports' national team criteria or equal to the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) determined Minimum Qualifying Standard (MQS) where applicable. Standards may be graduated to require periodic improved performance over time to achieve progress as a developing athlete. To learn more about the specific sport standards, the VMAA, or sport pipelines, contact the applicable Paralympic sports organization at https://www.va.gov/adaptivesports/docs/Paralympic_Sport_POCs.pdf or visit our website at www.va.gov/adaptivesports.

For more information on classification visit the following links:

International - IPC : <http://www.paralympic.org/Sport/Classification/>

National - U.S. Paralympics : <http://www.teamusa.org/US-Paralympics/Sports/Classification.aspx>

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Sport Specific (VMAA) Performance Standards

Summer Sports

Archery

For more information contact Randi Smith at rsmith@usarchery.org or 719-866-4576

VMAA Standard

- Athletes must be a member of USA Archery
- Standard must be achieved during World Archery Federation (Star FITA) tournament shooting 50 Meter (compound) or 70 Meter (recurve)

2018 VMAA Standards	
EVENT	70M/50M
W1 Compound Men	570
Open Compound Men	630
W1/ W2 & Standing Recurve Men	570
Open Compound Women	600
Open Recurve Women	520
Open W1 Women	500

Following is a description of the events:

Compound shooters shoot 72 arrows at 50 meters at an 80 cm 6 ring (individual) target.

W1 shooters shoot 72 arrows at 50 meters at an 80 cm 10 ring target.

Recurve shooters shoot 72 arrows at 70 meters at a 122 cm 10 ring target.

Scores must be shot at registered Star FITA tournaments. A tournament schedule is at USArchery.org

Wheelchair Basketball

For more information contact Brandon McBeain at brandonmcbeain@nwba.org or 719-266-4082 ext 108

VMAA Standard

Athletes must attend or receive an invitation to camps, clinics and national team tryouts to allow evaluations to be conducted by NWBA High Performance Staff and recommendations made by NWBA coaches. Veteran athletes will be considered for the allowance when they meet one of the following criteria as established by the National Wheelchair Basketball Association (NWBA):

- Named to the Veteran Emerging Athlete Pool
- Named to the NWBA Development Pool
- Named to the NWBA High Performance Pool
- Named to an NWBA Junior or Senior National Team

Boccia

For more information contact Charley Wright at Charles.Wright6@va.gov or 314-652-4100 ext. 64590

VMAA Standard

The athlete must:

- be named to the USA Boccia National Pool of emerging athletes
- place first, second or third at the National Boccia Championships in one of four Paralympic individual divisions,
- or is placed in the top five on the USA Boccia ranking list for the divisions BC1, BC2, BC3 and BC4.

There is a provision for scouting for Paralympic eligible athletes and Veteran sponsored events. If athletes appear to 'class in' to BC4 via a video presentation, they could be considered for the US Team Pool for a regional event

Canoe/Kayak

For more information contact Shaun Caven at Scaven@americancanoe.org or 405-535-9311

VMAA Standard

- Athletes must be a member of USA Canoe/Kayak.
- Standard can be achieved during USA Canoe/Kayak selection trials and National Championships (for able bodied and/or Paracanoe); regattas on the International Canoe Federation Canoe Sprint Calendar; and at other regattas designated by USA Canoe/Kayak.

- Athletes must paddle in boats meeting International Canoe Federation specifications, including weight. Below are the 2018 Time Standards.

Men 200m	VMAA Standard (min:sec)	Women 200 m	VMAA Standard (min:sec)
KL3 M	0:52	KL3 W	1:04
KL2 M	0:54	KL2 W	1:09
KL1 M	1:04	KL1 W	1:13
VL3 M	1:05	VL3 W	1:19
VL2 M	1:06	VL2 W	1:20
VL1 M	1:14	VL1 W	1:21

Cycling

For more information contact Erin Popovich Erin.Popovich@usoc.or and/or Ian Lawless Ian.Lawless@usoc.org at 719-272-1761

VMAA Standard

- Athletes must be licensed by USA Cycling.
- Road standard can be achieved during a USA Cycling or UCI sanctioned Time Trial competition that is at least 15km long, on an out/back course or a looped road course (no closed –circuit track courses).
- Track standard can be achieved during a sanctioned USA Cycling or UCI event track competition.
- Military Veterans, with a disability rating, who compete as the pilot of a tandem may be eligible for the VMAA provided they achieve the VMAA standard in a USA Cycling or UCI sanctioned cycling competition (road or track) as part of a Tandem.

Road (time per KM)	Classification	VMAA Standard Women	VMAA Standard Men
Handcycle TT	H1	04:55.30	02:59.53
Handcycle TT	H2	03:23.65	02:04.41
Handcycle TT	H3	02:09.01	01:48.15
Handcycle TT	H4	02:09.68	01:44.26
Handcycle TT	H5	02:01.73	01:48.00
Bicycle TT	C1	02:03.72	01:44.32
Bicycle TT	C2	01:58.96	01:40.76
Bicycle TT	C3	01:53.85	01:37.06
Bicycle TT	C4	01:52.46	01:32.54
Bicycle TT	C5	01:45.58	01:30.31
Tricycle TT	T1	03:04.37	02:29.03
Tricycle TT	T2	02:19.57	02:01.50
Tandem TT	B	01:37.25	01:25.28

CYCLING TRACK					
Men			Women		
Class	Distance	Military Standard	Class	Distance	Military Standard
C1 Time Trial	1km	01:32.43	C1	500m	00:56.00
C2 Time Trial	1km	01:31.65	C2	500m	00:52.60
C3 Time Trial	1km	01:24.47	C3	500m	00:52.56
C4 Time Trial	1km	01:19.79	C4	500m	00:47.95
C5 Time Trial	1km	01:19.18	C5	500m	00:45.91
MB Time Trial	1km	01:14.69	WB	1km	01:23.19
C1 Pursuit	3km	04:52.64	C1 Pursuit	3km	05:48.92
C2 Pursuit	3km	04:37.06	C2 Pursuit	3km	05:13.11
C3 Pursuit	3km	04:18.95	C3 Pursuit	3km	05:10.19
C4 Pursuit	4km	05:34.30	C4 Pursuit	3km	04:54.45
C5 Pursuit	4km	05:32.20	C5 Pursuit	3km	04:41.84
MB Pursuit	4km	05:14.16	WB Pursuit	3km	04:17.21

Equestrian

For more information contact Laureen Johnson at lkjohnson@usef.org or 908-326-1155

VMAA Standard

Athletes must be

- Be a U.S. citizen.
- Must be a current member in good standing of U.S. Equestrian Federation (USEF) at the time that the Required Scores are achieved.
- Ride independently (without side aides).

Para-Equestrian sport has two FEI (International Federation for Equestrian Sport) disciplines authorized for the VMAA: Dressage and Para-Driving. Requirements are listed below:

PARA-DRIVING REQUIRED SCORES:

- Be medically eligible in accordance with the FEI Classification Manual for Para-Equestrian Competitions, 4th Edition, 2015 Rules for FEI Para-Equestrian Driving Events to compete in Para-Equestrian Driving competitions. To do so, Drivers shall have either a National or International Para-Equestrian Classification and be assigned a Grade. For more information regarding Classification, visit the FEI website at <http://www.fei.org/fei/regulations/driving>
- A total of two scores for each must be submitted as follows for the current competition year:
- The minimum score of two driven FEI or ADS Dressage Tests at or above the ADS Preliminary Level at two USEF or ADS sanctioned Combined Driving Event must be below 65 penalty points and the entire event must have been completed successfully without Elimination, Retirement nor Disqualification.
- Scores for the entire event may be submitted from any horse/driver combination;
- All test scores (both driver and/or horse) must be achieved at ADS, USEF or FEI Para-Equestrian licensed competitions. FEI PE tests must be scored by a USEF "R" rated judge or above, or an FEI PE recognized judge. ADS tests must be scored by ADS "R" rated judges or above.

EQUESTRIAN REQUIRED SCORES:

- A total of one score for each must be submitted as follows for the current competition year:
 - One “Championship Team” test score;
 - One “Individual” test score;
- The minimum score of any Individual or Championship test submitted must be 60% or higher;
- Scores may be submitted from any horse/rider combination;
 - Scores shall be achieved at the championship test of the rider’s Grade level or at any test which is above the rider’s Grade level. These levels are as follows:
 - For Grade I riders – USDF Walk Trot Test
 - For Grade II riders – USDF Walk Trot Test
 - For Grade III riders – First Level Test 4 or above
 - For Grade IV riders – Third Level Test 1 or above
- All test scores (both rider and/or horse) must be achieved at USEF or FEI Para-Equestrian licensed competitions. FEI PE tests must be scored by a USEF “R” rated judge or above, or an FEI PE recognized judge.
- Athletes are required to submit legible copies of all qualifying tests, clearly indicating the name of the judge and competition at which the scores were achieved to Laureen Johnson, USEF High Performance Director of Para-Equestrian Programs at the address below.

USEF Attention: Laureen Johnson
 P.O. Box 83
 Gladstone, NJ 07934
lkjohnson@usef.org

Fencing

For more information contact Brandon Dyett at b.dyett@usafencing.org or 719-219-8357

VMAA Standard

Athletes must:

- Be a member of USA Fencing
- Retain a coach or training partner to guide training
- Submit a monthly training log and progress report, signed by the athlete’s coach/training partner, to the National Office
- As of the 1st of the month for which the 0918a is submitted:
 - Emerging Athletes
 - Rank in the top 50% of the domestic Rolling Point Standings in at least one weapon OR place 1st – 3rd at the most recent National Championships in at least one weapon (if only 1st – 3rd places are awarded at Nationals, athlete must place in the top 50% of those competing in the event) – rounding will be made to the next lowest ranking/place (ex: top 50% of 9 will include the 5th athlete)
 - Compete in at least 3 IWAS events in the preceding 24 months
 - National Team Athletes:

- Rank in the top 50% of the domestic Rolling Point Standings in at least one weapon OR place 1st – 3rd at the most recent National Championships in at least one weapon (if only 1st – 3rd places are awarded at Nationals, athlete must place in the top 50% of those competing in the event) – rounding will be made to the next lowest ranking/place (ex: top 50% of 9 will include the 5th athlete)
- Compete in the most recent World Championships or the most recent Paralympic Games

Goalball

For more information contact Mark Lucas at mlucas@usaba.org or 719-866-3224

VMAA Standard

The athlete must:

- Be entered on a club team's roster.
- Training with that team on a regular basis.
- Establish a training and competition plan and submit monthly and quarterly progress reports to the United States Association of Blind Athletes (USABA) Goalball High Performance Manager.
- Compete with that team or as a pool player in at least 2 U.S. Association of Blind Athletes (USABA) regional events AND the USABA national championship tournament.
- Receiving a national or international classification assessment as a B1, B2, or B3 athlete.

Judo

For more information contact Eddie Liddie at eddie.liddie@usajudo.us or 719-866-4730

VMAA Standard

Athletes currently ranked 5th or higher in their weight class on the U.S. Para-Judo national ranking list and have attended or are on the confirmed attendee list for at least 1 USA Para-Judo regional or national camp will be considered for the Allowance.

Para-triathlon

For more information contact Amanda Duke Boulet at Amanda.Duke@usatriathlon.org or 719-955-2674

VMAA Standard

General time standards for triathlon are difficult to use as a basis of someone's performance ability in the developmental pipeline because course conditions (distances, weather, topography, etc) make the race times so variable, so in 2018 there are five (5) events in which an athlete can achieve the military standard.

These are the events in which athletes can strive to achieve this standard:

- CAMTRI Paratriathlon Championships – March 10-11 – Sarasota, Florida
- ITU Paratriathlon New Orleans World Cup – April 14-15 – New Orleans, Louisiana
- USA Paratriathlon National Championships – June 24 – Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin
- ITU Elite Paratriathlon World Championships – September 13-16 – Gold Coast, Australia
- ITU Paratriathlon Sarasota World Cup – October 13-14 – Sarasota, Florida

The chart below shows the finishing time an athlete needs to complete at the events above, to achieve the military standard. This calculation is 30% behind the 2017 ITU World Champion finishing time. If an event is shorted to a duathlon then the race is void as a qualifier.

Additionally, an athlete who achieves a spot on the USAT National A, B, or Emerging Teams has also achieved the military standard. The criteria for these teams can be found at www.usaparatriathlon.org.

Sport Class	2017 World Championship Finishing Time	Military Qualifying Standard
Male PTWC	1:02:18	1:21:27
Male PTS2	1:09:55	1:31:33
Male PTS3	1:11:22	1:33:03
Male PTS4	1:04:15	1:23:43
Male PTS5	1:01:20	1:20:00
Male PTVI	1:05:21	1:25:21
Female PTWC	1:20:28	1:44:42
Female PTS2	1:23:30	1:48:35
Female PTS3	1:23:25	1:48:28
Female PTS4	1:18:18	1:42:07
Female PTS5	1:09:49	1:31:24
Female PTVI	1:13:48	1:36:02

Powerlifting

For more information contact Butch Schovanec at ironmindbutch@gmail.com

VMAA Standard

Weight Class in Kg	VMAA MQS in Kg	Weight Class in Kg	VMAA MQS in Kg
MEN		WOMEN	
49	105	59	105
54	115	54	115
59	125	59	125
65	135	65	135
72	142	72	142
80	150	80	150
88	157	88	157
97	165	97	165
107	172	107	172
107+	180	107+	180

Power Soccer

For more information contact Dominic Russo at uspsapresident@gmail.com .

VMAA Standard

Athletes are invited to training camps and national team selection events based on coach's evaluation of athletes. The Power Soccer National Team only exists during the year preceding the Powerchair Football World Cup, which occurs once every four years. For example, the 2017 Powerchair Football World Cup occurred in July 2017; therefore, the National Team program only existed from July 2016-July 2017. As a result, the VMAA was only available for June 2016-July 2017. The next Powerchair Football World Cup will occur in 2021; therefore, the VMAA should become active sometime during 2020, unless a significant change occurs in the sport.

Rowing

For more information contact Tom Darling at tdarling@usrowing.org or 617-513-0708

VMAA Standard

The below standards are based on 1000M indoor.

	Classification	VMAA Standard
Men		
1000m	AS	4:40 min/sec
1000m	TA	4:15 min/sec
1000m	LTA	3:20 min/sec

	Classification	VMAA Standard
Women		
1000m	AS	5:40 min/sec
1000m	TA	4:40 min/sec
1000m	LTA	3:50 min/sec

Rugby

For more information contact Mandy Goff at mandyg@lakeshore.org or 205-313-7437

VMAA Standard

Players are invited to tryouts and national team selection through two components.

Except as provided below an athlete must be a member of one of the following teams in order to receive an invitation to 2018 Selection Camp:

- 2014 World Championship Team and alternates
- 2015 Parapan American Team and alternates
- 2016 Paralympic Team and alternates
- 2017 Americas Championship Team and alternates

If not a member of one of the above teams an athlete may be eligible for an invitation to the 2018 Selection Camp through the following procedures:

- Athletes outside of the above team members with a special invitation from the Selection Committee

Athletes not named to either list may be accepted through the petition procedures, found at www.lakeshore.org and www.usawr.org

Athletes selected to the emerging athlete pool or higher will be considered for the allowance.

Athletes not named to either list may be accepted through the protest procedures, found at www.lakeshore.org and www.usawr.org

Athletes selected to the development team or higher will be considered for the allowance.

Sailing

For more information email Kate Drummey at KateDrummey@ussailing.org or 401-342-7935

VMAA Standard

Athletes must:

- Be a member of US Sailing;
- compete internationally in one of the following categories:
 - 2.4mR (1-Person Keelboat);
 - Hansa303 (1-Person Keelboat);
 - RS Venture Connect (2-Person Keelboat);
 - either of the Blind Sailing disciplines (Match or Fleet racing);
- participate in one or more Grade 1 or 2 international competition events (ie. World Cup, EUROSAF, Continental, or Para Sailing World Championship) annually.

Shooting

For more information contact Bob Foth at bob.foth@usashooting.org or 719-866-4670

VMAA Standard

- Must be a member of USA Shooting.

		Classification	VMAA Qualification Score	
Men			Paper Targets	E- Targets*
R1	10m Air Rifle	SH1	545	570.0
R7	50m Free Rifle 3x40	SH1	1060	same
P1	10m Air Pistol	SH1	535	same

Women			Paper Targets	E- Targets*
R2	10m Air Rifle	SH1	355	370.0
R8	50m Free Rifle 3x20	SH1	525	same
P2	10m Air Pistol	SH1	340	same

Mixed			Paper Targets	E-Targets*
R3	10m Air Prone	SH1	575	600.0
R4	10m Air Standing	SH2	570	595.0
R5	10m Air Rifle Prone	SH2	575	600.0
R6	50m Rifle Prone	SH1	560	585.0
P3	25m Sport Pistol	SH1	530	same
P4	50M Free Pistol	SH1	490	same

Soccer

For more information contact Stuart Sharp ssharp@ussoccer.org or 780-951-2109

VMAA Standard

Athletes are invited to training camps and national team selection events based on coach's evaluation of athletes.

Athletes must be:

- Competing in 7-a-side Paralympic soccer as the U.S. does not currently provide an active 5-a-side Paralympic soccer team.
- Athletes selected to at least 3 camps/events in a calendar year will be considered for the allowance.

Swimming

For more information contact Jamie Martin at jamie.martin@usoc.org or 719-866-2024

VMAA Standard

Event	Class	2014 VMAA Men	2014 VMAA Women
50 Free	S3	00:54.85	N/A
50 Free	S4	00:49.35	00:57.55
50 Free	S5	00:42.10	00:47.35
50 Free	S6	00:37.60	00:45.15
50 Free	S7	00:35.60	00:41.60
50 Free	S8	00:32.90	00:39.45

SELECTION STANDARDS

50 Free	S9	00:32.40	00:36.60
50 Free	S10	00:29.85	00:35.85
50 Free	S11	00:32.95	00:39.60
50 Free	S12	00:30.45	00:34.70
50 Free	S13	00:30.10	00:34.95
100 Free	S3	02:01.05	02:29.70
100 Free	S4	01:47.20	N/A
100 Free	S5	01:34.60	01:43.20
100 Free	S6	01:25.00	01:36.05
100 Free	S7	01:16.85	01:30.75
100 Free	S8	01:12.90	01:25.45
100 Free	S9	01:10.85	01:19.55
100 Free	S10	01:05.95	01:16.95
100 Free	S11	01:14.50	01:27.8
100 Free	S13	01:06.80	01:17.40
200 Free	S2	06:13.15	N/A
200 Free	S3	04:32.25	N/A
200 Free	S4	03:47.05	N/A
200 Free	S5	03:23.95	03:40.15
200 Free	S14	02:29.90	02:48.50
400 Free	S6	06:29.50	06:57.15
400 Free	S7	05:58.45	06:38.65
400 Free	S8	05:41.15	06:26.70
400 Free	S9	05:23.20	05:53.60
400 Free	S10	05:10.20	05:46.55
400 Free	S11	05:52.15	06:40.35
400 Free	S13	05:13.90	05:52.50
50 Back	S1	01:55.55	N/A
50 Back	S2	01:22.15	01:21.45
50 Back	S3	00:58.10	01:23.70
50 Back	S4	00:58.95	01:07.90
50 Back	S5	00:48.65	00:56.60
100 Back	S1	03:39.25	N/A
100 Back	S2	02:43.60	3:00.70
100 Back	S6	01:34.95	01:51.3
100 Back	S7	01:30.65	01:46.65
100 Back	S8	01:25.45	01:40.25
100 Back	S9	01:19.65	01:30.35
100 Back	S10	01:15.90	01:26.25
100 Back	S11	01:25.30	01:39.90
100 Back	S12	01:16.95	01:27.70

SELECTION STANDARDS

100 Back	S13	01:16.35	01:31.45
100 Back	S14	01:20.65	01:26.85
50 Breast	SB2	01:13.15	N/A
50 Breast	SB3	01:02.85	01:26.80
100 Breast	SB4	02:01.55	02:25.20
100 Breast	SB5	02:01.05	02:18.45
100 Breast	SB6	01:48.85	02:06.10
100 Breast	SB7	01:43.30	02:01.25
100 Breast	SB8	01:28.85	01:43.05
100 Breast	SB9	01:24.25	01:39.40
100 Breast	SB11	01:33.05	01:54.00
100 Breast	SB13	01:23.80	01:41.85
100 Breast	SB14	01:25.55	01:41.50
50 Fly	S5	00:46.50	00:58.25
50 Fly	S6	00:39.30	00:49.10
50 Fly	S7	00:38.45	00:45.65
100 Fly	S8	01:17.50	01:31.60
100 Fly	S9	01:15.95	01:27.65
100 Fly	S10	01:12.20	01:26.35
100Fly	S11	01:20.90	N/A
100 Fly	S13	01:10.60	01:24.85
150 IM	SM3	03:46.45	N/A
150 IM	SM4	03:20.30	04:23.30
200 IM	SM5	N/A	04:20.70
200 IM	SM6	03:25.45	04:02.85
200 IM	SM7	03:16.45	03:55.00
200 IM	SM8	03:03.95	03:31.85
200 IM	SM9	02:55.35	03:17.25
200 IM	SM10	02:48.45	03:12.45
200 IM	SM11	03:04.70	03:43.75
200 IM	SM13	02:42.75	03:07.95
200 IM	SM14	02:55.90	3:14.55

Table Tennis

For more information contact Jasna Rather at jasna@usatt.org or 817-715-4062

VMAA Standard

Athletes must meet the below eligibility requirements.

- Current competitive member of USA Table Tennis.

	VMAA Standard (World Rating points)- Men	VMAA Standard (World Rating points)-Women
Class 1	400	400
Class 2	450	450
Class 3	500	500
Class 4	550	550
Class 5	600	600
Class 6	800	800
Class 7	850	850
Class 8	900	900
Class 9	950	950
Class 10	1000	1000
Class 11	700	700

A player earns points by winning matches in a sanctioned international tournament.

Below you will find a link to the World ranking list for each class:

- <http://www.ipttc.org/rating/2014-12-01/index.htm>

Taekwondo

For more information contact Dani Sweigard at Dani.Sweigard@usa-taekwondo.us or 719-866-3624

VMAA Standard

Athletes must:

Be ranked 5th place or higher in the most recent World Taekwondo Para Rankings or finish 5th place or higher at the most recent USA Taekwondo National Championships.

Wheelchair Tennis

For more information contact Dan James at james@usta.com or 914-696-7000

VMAA Standard

Athletes must:

- Must be a member of U.S. Tennis Association (USTA).
- In order to be eligible to play wheelchair tennis, players must meet certain criteria, as set out in Rule IV, 2 of **INTERNATIONAL TENNIS FEDERATION REGULATIONS FOR WHEELCHAIR TENNIS 2014**. The document can be found at to <http://www.itftennis.com/media/166080/166080.pdf>

Athletes must in Wheelchair Tennis must be in the top 50% of the B Division, any of the A Division or Open Division. An annual review will occur on the anniversary date the athlete entered the program to determine future eligibility for the VMAA.

Track & Field

For more information contact Julie Dusliere at Julie.Dusliere@usoc.org

VMAA Standard

- Must compete in an IPC approved event and submit a Proof of Performance for m showing that you have met the standards listed below. The Proof of Performance form can be found at <http://www.teamusa.org/US-Paralympics/Sports/Track-and-Field/Athlete-and-Sport-Program-Plan>
- Events highlighted in blue are only offered at 2015 Parapan American Games and are not on the 2016 Rio Paralympic Games program. Only events that are on the Rio program are eligible for National team status.

Men's Standards

Class	Event	VMAA Standard
11	100	12.30
12	100	11.90
13	100	12.00
33*	100	26.00
34	100	20.00
35	100	15.60
36	100	15.00
37	100	13.10
38	100	13.00

42	100	15.60
43/44	100	12.50
45/46/47	100	11.70
51	100	30.00
52	100	21.00
53	100	16.65
54	100	15.15
11	200	26.00
12	200	24.20
33/34	200	38.00
35	200	32.00
36	200	31.00
37	200	26.60
38	200	27.00
42	200	34.00
43/44	200	26.00
45/46/47	200	24.00
52	200	-
53	200	30.40
54	200	27.00
11	400	59.00
12	400	55.00
13	400	56.00
*20	400	55.00
33/34	400	1:08.00
36	400	1:10.00
37	400	1:03.00
38	400	1:05.00
43/44	400	1:01.00
45/46/47	400	54.00
*51	400	1:50.00
52	400	1:10.00
53	400	56.20
54	400	50.00
33/34	800	2:10.00
36	800	2:40.00
37/38	800	2:25.00
52/53	800	1:55.00
54	800	1:40.00

11 /12	1500	4:27.00
13	1500	4:20.00
20	1500	4:12.00
37	1500	4:55.00
38*	1500	5:10.00
45/46	1500	4:30.00
51/52	1500	5:20.00
53/54	1500	3:09.00
11/12	5000	16:40.00
13	5000	16:35.00
53/54	5000	10:50.00
11/12	Marathon	3:10:00
42/43/44/45/46	Marathon	3:10:00
52	Marathon	2:40:00
53/54	Marathon	2:00:00
12	High Jump	1.45
42	High Jump	1.40
43/44/45/46/47	High Jump	1.50
46/47	Triple Jump	11.50
11	Long Jump	5.20
12	Long Jump	5.80
13	Long Jump	5.50
20	Long Jump	5.70
36	Long Jump	4.00
37	Long Jump	4.50
38	Long Jump	4.40
42	Long Jump	4.20
43/44	Long Jump	5.15
45/46/47	Long Jump	6.0
11/12	Shot Put	10.7
20	Shot Put	10.5

32	Shot Put	5.0
33	Shot Put	6.0
34	Shot Put	7.0
35	Shot Put	8.0
36	Shot Put	8.5
37	Shot Put	10.0
38	Shot Put	9.0
40	Shot Put	6.0
41	Shot Put	8.0
42	Shot Put	9.5
44	Shot Put	10.5
46	Shot Put	11.0
*53	Shot Put	5.0
54/55	Shot Put	8.5
56/57	Shot Put	10.5
11	Discus	27.0
12	Discus	30.0
33/34	Discus	19.0
37	Discus	37.0
42	Discus	33.0
43/44	Discus	39.0
46	Discus	35.0
51/52	Discus	10.0
53	Discus	-
54/55/56	Discus	29.0
57	Discus	35.0
11	Javelin	28.0
12/13	Javelin	40.0
33/34	Javelin	14.0
37	Javelin	29.0
38	Javelin	30.0
40/41	Javelin	26.0
43/44	Javelin	40.0
46	Javelin	35.0
53/54	Javelin	17.0
55	Javelin	19.0
56/57	Javelin	27.0

31/32	Club	18.0
51	Club	17.0
11--13	Relay	-
42-44	Relay	-
53-54	Relay	-
		-
Possible Rio Event		-
42-44	Relay	-
13	LJ	-

Women's Standards

Class	Event	VMAA Standard
11	100	15.00
12	100	14.30
13	100	14.20
33	100	30.00
34	100	25.00
35	100	20.5
36	100	18.00
37	100	16.00
38	100	15.80
42	100	20.00
43/44	100	16.00
45/46/47	100	14.60
51	100	35.00
52	100	28.00
53	100	20.30
54	100	18.90
11	200	31.00
12	200	30.00
35	200	44.00
36	200	38.00
37	200	34.00
38	200	33.60
43/44	200	33.00
45/46/47	200	-
51/52	200	48.00

53	200	37.00
54	200	34.00
11	400	1:15.00
12	400	1:12.00
13	400	1:10.00
20	400	1:10.00
37	400	1:20.00
38	400	1:19.00
43/44	400	1:30.00
45/46/47	400	1:15.00
51/52	400	1:30.00
53	400	1:10.00
54	400	1:05.00
11	800	3:25.00
33/34	800	2:50.00
52/53	800	2:30.00
54	800	2:10.00
11	1500	6:20.00
12/13	1500	5:35.00
20	1500	5:20.00
45/46	1500	5:40.00
53/54	1500	4:00.00
53/54	5000	14:00.00
11/2	Marathon	N/A
45/46	Marathon	N/A
52/53/54	Marathon	N/A
11	Long Jump	3.40
12	Long Jump	3.70
20	Long Jump	4.30
37	Long Jump	3.50
38	Long Jump	3.60
42	Long Jump	2.80
43/44	Long Jump	3.80
45/46/47	Long Jump	4.0

11/12	Shot Put	8.0
20	Shot Put	9.50
32	Shot Put	2.80
33	Shot Put	3.50
34	Shot Put	5.20
*35	Shot Put	6.0
36	Shot Put	5.50
37	Shot Put	7.50
38	Shot Put	-
40	Shot Put	3.50
41	Shot Put	5.0
53	Shot Put	2.70
54/55	Shot Put	5.50
56/57	Shot Put	7.0
11	Discus	18.0
12	Discus	22.0
37/38	Discus	18.0
40/41	Discus	15.0
43/44	Discus	18.0
51/52	Discus	5.0
54/55	Discus	13.0
56/57	Discus	19.0
11	Javelin	10.0
12/13	Javelin	15.0
34	Javelin	11.50
37	Javelin	17.0
38	Javelin	-
45/46	Javelin	18.0
53/54	Javelin	10.0
55/56	Javelin	12.0
57	Javelin	-
31/32	Club	13.0
51	Club	8.0
11--13	Relay	-
35-38	Relay	-
53-54	Relay	-

Sitting Volleyball

For more information contact Bill Hamiter at Bill.Hamiter@usav.org or 405-974-3153

VMAA Standard

Players are invited to tryouts and national team selection is based on coach's evaluation of athletes. Athletes selected to the development (A2) team or higher will be considered for the allowance. Once added to the A2 or national team roster non-resident athletes will be required to meet the below requirements:

1. Athletes are to train for 10 hours a week.
 - a. 6-7.5 hours of on-court training.
 - b. 2.5-4 hours of strength and conditioning.
2. Athletes will find a training partner or coach to guide and assist in the training.
3. Athletes will videotape their on-court training and submit the video to the respective Head Coach for critique.
4. Athletes will utilize the strength and conditioning workouts provided by their respective Head Coach and maintain a log of exercises completed to include count of sets, reps, and weight, or time. The Head Coach will confirm with the player's training partner or coach.
5. All videos are to be submitted on a weekly basis.
6. Athletes will use the web based program to log all training activity to include on-court and strength and conditioning sessions on a daily-weekly basis.

Winter Sports

Alpine Skiing

For more information contact Jessica Smith at jessica.smith@usoc.org or 719-243-8966

VMAA Standard

All athletes must:

- Have National (U.S. Ski and Snowboard Association - USSA) and International (IPC) license for the current season.
- Men: Top 45 World Ranking in a discipline.
- Women: Top 20 World Ranking in a discipline.

Bobsled / Skeleton

For more information contact David Kurtz at usasled22@aol.com

VMAA Standard

All athletes must:

- Top five overall ranked in the past season,
- Or, top-five finish in at least two competitions in the current season

Nordic Skiing (Biathlon and Cross Country)

For more information contact Jessica Smith at jessica.smith@usoc.org or 719-243-8966

VMAA Standard

Athletes must achieve one of the following:

- Achieve a 180 IPC Nordic Skiing race points (or lower) in any IPC sanctioned race.
- Standing athletes achieve a calculated 400 points (or lower) in any USSA race.

Curling

For more information contact Marc Deperno at mdeperno@sitrin.com

VMAA Standard

Players are invited to tryouts and national team selection based on coach's evaluation of athletes. Athletes selected to the development team or higher by USA Curling will be considered for the allowance. Additionally, developmental OR national team members who are still actively involved in the current National Team Selection Trials and who have participated in the World Championships/Paralympics within the past three years but have not continued to secure a spot on the Developmental Team or higher will be considered for the allowance.

Sled Hockey

For more information email Jeremy Kennedy at jeremyk@usahockey.org or 719-538-1117

VMAA Standard

Players are invited to tryouts and national team selection is based on coach's evaluation of athletes.

Athletes selected to the development team or higher by USA Hockey will be considered for the allowance.

Snowboard

For more information contact Jessica Smith at jessica.smith@usoc.org or 719-243-8966

VMAA Standard

Athletes must:

- Have National (USA Snowboard and Freeski Association - USASA) and International (IPC) license for the respective season.
- Men and Women: Must compete and score in a minimum of two events.
- Standing Men: Over 150 IPC points in the discipline.
- Standing Women: Over 150 IPC points in the discipline.

VA Monthly Assistance Allowance Re-certification Process

The following is a list of the requirements each certified Veteran athlete must complete each year in order to be eligible for the VA monthly assistance allowance under the VMAA Program.

Developing/Emerging Veteran Athletes

Each Developing/Emerging Military athlete must meet the following criteria **EACH** competitive season to remain on the certified VA monthly assistance allowance under the VMAA Program pay list:

- 1) Continue training on an ongoing basis, which includes providing applicable Paralympic or Olympic representative of the respective National Governing Body (or equivalent), with a copy of his/her personal training plan for each month, complete with training and competition plans;
- 2) Complete VA Form 0918a on a monthly basis;
- 3) Achieve the VMAA standard or higher for his/her respective sport and sport class every season, with a maximum allowable certification period of 12 months. Achievement of a certified performance renews the 12-month period. Certain sports may have more stringent reporting or qualifying periods that VA will abide by on a sport by sport basis

National Team Veteran Athletes

Each National Team Veteran athlete must meet the following criteria **EACH** competitive season to remain on the certified VA monthly assistance allowance under the VMAA Program pay list:

- 1) Continue training on an ongoing basis; which includes providing National Paralympic or Olympic Committees, or the respective National Governing Bodies with a copy of his/her personal training plan for each month, complete with training and competition plans;
- 2) Complete VA Form 0918a on a quarterly basis;
- 3) Achieve the National Team standard for his/her respective sport and sport class at **least once in each competitive season** [as defined by the sport] at a sanctioned event (Results must be reported by the athlete to applicable Olympic or Paralympic Sport Program Manager;
 - a. If within the competitive season a National Paralympic Team standard is not met, but a VMAA or higher standard is achieved, the athlete will continue to be eligible for the VA Training Allowance under the Emerging athlete process (see above for details);
 - b. If within the competitive season a National Olympic Team standard is not met, , the athlete will not continue to be eligible for the VA Training Allowance because the eligibility criteria is National Olympic Team member, by law.
- 4) Be certified by national team coach or respective sport High Performance Director on a quarterly basis and achieve the VMAA standard or higher for his/her respective sport and sport class every season, with a maximum allowable certification period of 12 months.

Re-Classified Veteran Athletes

If a Veteran athlete is reclassified within their current sport during the competition season, the athlete will have until the end of the NEXT competition season to achieve the VMAA standard or higher in the athlete's new sport class. The athlete will remain on the VA monthly assistance allowance under the VMAA Program pay list during this time if they continue to meet the following criteria:

- 1) Continue training on an ongoing basis, which includes providing the applicable Paralympic or Olympic sport entity with a copy of his/her personal training plan for each month, complete with training and competition plans;
- 2) Complete VA forms on a monthly basis;
- 3) Continue to actively compete in sanctioned events throughout the competition season [as defined by the sport].

Veteran Athletes switching sports

Veteran athletes who choose to switch sports will be treated as "new athletes" and to be certified for the VA monthly assistance allowance under the VMAA Program pay list, an athlete must meet the following criteria:

- 1) Athlete must achieve the VMAA standard or higher for his/her respective sport and sport class at least once in the competitive season [as defined by the sport] at a sanctioned event;
- 2) Be confirmed to be training on an ongoing basis;
- 3) Be confirmed to be meet the disability classification eligibility requirement and be nationally or internationally classified at the time of achieving the standard if not already classified at the time the standard is achieved;
- 4) Fill out all required VA paperwork.

For more information about the Veterans Monthly Assistance Allowance, please contact the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' Office of National Veterans Sports Programs and Special Events at Sports4Vets@va.gov.