



HIGH PERFORMANCE  
SPORT NEW ZEALAND

TAILORED ATHLETE PATHWAY  
SUPPORT (TAPS) PROGRAMME  
2025-2028

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***GUIDANCE FOR  
HPSNZ INVESTED  
PODIUM AND  
ASPIRATIONAL  
SPORTS***

For the Period 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2028

VERSION 1.0 – 11 JULY 2024

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. The purpose of this guidance document is to outline to HPSNZ invested podium and aspirational sports the strategy, criteria, and process for HPSNZ's **Tailored Athlete Pathway Support (TAPS) Programme for the 2025-2028 cycle**. Supporting documents include:
- HPSNZ's High Performance (HP) Investment Programme 2025-2028* overarching guidance.
  - HPSNZ's HP Glossary of Terms* (for clarification of terms and definitions within this document).
- 1.2. **WHAT IS TAILORED ATHLETE PATHWAY SUPPORT?**  
TAPS is a programme designed to ensure that invested sports and their athletes have the right resources at the right time, relative to the athlete's stage in their sport's performance pathway. This is guided by the **Performance Pathways Framework** (refer **Appendix 1**) by which athletes meet criteria at Elite, Potential and Pre-HP levels. Athletes are supported through a mix of athlete performance support and athlete financial support, which includes training and excellence grants.
- 1.3. TAPS Athletes are determined in partnership between respective NSOs and HPSNZ, based on the athlete's readiness and performance assessment against the criteria within the Performance Pathways Framework. NSOs who are TAPS-eligible are responsible for nominating athletes who have demonstrated performance evidence and/or potential to succeed on the world stage (aligned to HPSNZ investment outcomes) to HPSNZ for TAPS consideration.
- 1.4. This guidance, and the associated Performance Pathways Framework, takes effect from 1 January 2025, and is applicable through to 31 December 2028.
- 1.5. For quick reference to the Performance Pathways Framework, TAPS Streams including Athlete Performance Support and Athlete Financial Support please go directly to **Appendix 1 and 2**.

## 2. TAPS PROGRAMME

- 2.1. **HPSNZ STRATEGY 2025-2028**  
The TAPS programme is aligned to the strategic priorities of HPSNZ's Strategic Plan 2025-2028 and associated principles.
- 2.2. **PRINCIPLES**  
The Performance Pathways Framework, which underpins the TAPS programme, has three key principles:
- High performance focused** – High standards of entry are in place, the progression of athletes is expected, transitions will occur, and sport/event Pictures of Performance (POP) outline clear standards of what it takes to win on the world stage.
  - Evidence-based** – Results in competition and progression against sport Pictures of Performance (POP) will demonstrate the potential of athletes for podium success.
  - Sustainable and multi-horizon** – Balancing short-term performance outcomes with long-term high performance system-building, with a view to enabling success for athletes in sport and life.

## 3. TAPS CRITERIA

- 3.1. The criteria for TAPS are made up of the Eligibility Criteria, the Assessment Criteria (as per the Performance Pathways Framework) and associated prioritisation.
- 3.2. **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**  
Sports and athletes may be eligible for TAPS as follows:
- TAPS Eligible Sports** – are sports categorised as podium or aspirational sports via the 2025-2028 HP investment process that have disciplines/events confirmed as part of the Olympic/Paralympic Games programmes in the 2025-2028 cycle.
    - HPSNZ may, in agreement with an NSO, provide components of TAPS to HP invested sports for their individual athletes who compete in non-Olympic/Paralympic disciplines/events.
    - Team sports are not eligible for TAPS.
  - TAPS Eligible Athletes** – are individual athletes from TAPS eligible sports as defined above that compete in disciplines/events confirmed as part of Olympic/Paralympic Games programmes in the 2025-2028 cycle.
- 3.3. **ASSESSMENT CRITERIA**  
TAPS eligible sports/athletes will be assessed against the Performance Pathways Framework, which is summarised below and shown in diagrammatic form with associated support components in **Appendix 1**.

### 3.4. PERFORMANCE PATHWAYS FRAMEWORK

The Performance Pathways Framework illustrates the entry/progression criteria and support available from development (pre-high performance) through to high performance and beyond (post-performance). There are three levels of progression in the framework as follows (note that references to pinnacle event/s in this section refer to the Olympic/Paralympic Games):

Phase	Level	Description	Evidence
High Performance	Elite	Athletes who have demonstrated realistic medal winning capabilities and are refining performances for podium success at the pinnacle event/s in this cycle	The athlete has achieved multiple top 8's at Olympic Games / Paralympic Games / world championships (or one Top 8 OG/ PG/WC and equivalent international performances) <b>AND</b> shows evidence of progression against the sport's Picture of Performance towards a podium at the Olympic Games/ Paralympic Games in this cycle
	Potential	Athletes who have demonstrated performance progression, showing high potential of a Top 8 placing at the Pinnacle Event/s in this cycle and/or potential to medal at the pinnacle event/s in the next cycle	The athlete has demonstrated performance progression (at agreed international events and against the sport's Picture of Performance) tracking towards a Top 8 placing at the Olympic Games/Paralympic Games this cycle <b>AND</b> tracking towards a podium at the Olympic Games/Paralympic Games next cycle
			<b>OR</b> The athlete has demonstrated performance progression (at agreed international events and against the sport's Picture of Performance) tracking towards a podium at the Olympic Games/Paralympic Games next cycle
Pre-High Performance		Athletes who are confirming the attributes, ambition, and attitude to achieve a Top 8 placing or medal at the pinnacle event/s in the next cycle and future cycles	NSO must show benchmarking of the athlete against the sport's Picture of Performance (POP) that demonstrates evidence that the athlete is confirming the attributes, attitudes, and ambition to achieve world Top 8 placings or medal success at the pinnacle event/s in future cycles

*NB: In agreement with an NSO, HPSNZ may, at its discretion, provide TAPS at any level of the Performance Pathway Framework to HP invested sports for other individual athletes.*

### 3.5. PRIORITISATION

The total quantum of HPSNZ's TAPS resourcing is limited, thus priority for awarding TAPS is subject to availability and based on the demonstrated need of the sport and its athletes to achieve their performance goals, as aligned to HPSNZ investment priorities.

3.6. The number of TAPS athletes per sport is based on the athletes who meet the TAPS criteria and will be agreed between HPSNZ and each NSO, initially via the HP Investment process and then throughout the cycle via the TAPS nomination process.

## 4. TAPS STREAMS

4.1. TAPS has two key streams – Athlete Performance Support and Athlete Financial Support. The streams, including the levels of TAPS available in each sub- category, are summarised in this section, and detailed at **Appendix 2**.

### 4.2. ATHLETE PERFORMANCE SUPPORT

Through TAPS, NSOs will be provided access to the following for their athletes:

- a) **Athlete Performance Support (APS)** – tailored support from HPSNZ specialists across Performance Science (Performance & Technique Analysis, Strength & Conditioning, Physiology and Nutrition), Performance Health (Medical, Psychology, Physiotherapy and Massage) and Performance Life. Note that this support will be delivered by HPSNZ staff and contractors, except where otherwise agreed with an NSO and approved as part of the HP

investment process. Sports will create an Individual Performance Plan (IPP) with each athlete to suit the age and stage of athletes in their sport's performance pathway, which will guide APS allocation.

- b) **HPSNZ facilities** – to support the NSO's athletes to train and prepare for competition.
- c) **Medical insurance** - with nib Group for the NSO's Elite and Potential level athletes.

### 4.3. ATHLETE FINANCIAL SUPPORT

- a) Training Grants: through TAPS, NSOs will receive training grants for their Elite or Potential level athletes. There are two types of Training Grants:
  - i. **Elite Training Grant (ETG)** – NSOs will receive a grant of **\$50,000 per annum** (gross) for each of their athletes who are awarded TAPS at Elite level. These grants are awarded for up to four years (depending on the time remaining in the cycle when they are awarded TAPS), with annual review.
  - ii. **Potential Training Grant (PTG)** – NSOs will receive a grant of **\$25,000 per annum** (gross) for each of their athletes who are awarded TAPS at Potential level. These grants are awarded for up to two years (depending on the time remaining in the cycle when they are awarded TAPS), with annual review.

- b) **Excellence Grants (EGs)** – NSOs whose TAPS Athletes (at Elite, Potential or Pre-HP) achieve performance excellence at pinnacle events or benchmark events (as defined below) will receive an Excellence Grant for these athletes. There are two types of Excellence Grants:
- i. **EGs earned at pinnacle events** – Athletes who achieve a placing of between 1st and 8th at the Olympic or Paralympic Games in Milano Cortina 2026 or Los Angeles 2028, will be awarded a pinnacle event-earned Excellence Grant, at the levels outlined in **Appendix 2**.  
  
*Note that Excellence Grants earned at Paris 2024 will be awarded in accordance with the TAPS Guidelines 2022-2024.*
  - ii. **EGs earned at benchmark events** – Athletes who achieve a placing of between 1st and 6th at an agreed benchmark event will be awarded a benchmark event-earned Excellence Grant, at the levels outlined in **Appendix 2**.
  - iii. Refer to **Appendix 3** for details of Excellence Grant timelines and criteria.
- c) **Prime Minister’s Scholarships** - TAPS athletes are eligible to apply for a Prime Minister’s Scholarship, as outlined in HPSNZ’s Prime Minister’s Scholarships Programme 2025-2028 guidance document and associated criteria.

## 5. TAPS PROCESS

- 5.1. In their 2025-2028 HP planning submissions, NSOs are asked to identify key campaigns and athletes aligned to HPSNZ’s Performance Pathways Framework at Elite, Potential and Pre-HP levels. HPSNZ will review which of an NSO’s athletes already meet the 2025-2028 TAPS criteria and which of their athletes shall be nominated for further assessment.
- 5.2. The TAPS process for the 2025-2028 cycle will operate via three phases as outlined in **Appendix 4**.

## 6. PERFORMANCE PATHWAYS FRAMEWORK TRANSITIONS

- 6.1. It is expected that many athletes who are awarded TAPS at the commencement of the 2025-2028 cycle, may transition through various phases of the Performance Pathways Framework, while new athletes will also enter the framework.
- 6.2. Nominations from NSOs (in consultation with their HPSNZ Performance Team Leader) for their athletes to enter, progress through, or transition out of the Performance Pathways Framework will be considered regularly as outlined in **Appendix 5**.

## 7. TRANSITION BETWEEN CYCLES

- 7.1. HPSNZ will support invested sports with the changeover of training and excellence grants from the 2022-2024 cycle to the 2025-2028 cycle as per **Appendix 6**.

## 8. PARTNERSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

### 8.1. HPSNZ RESPONSIBILITIES

HPSNZ will:

- a) Implement the TAPS programme to better enable NSOs to support their athletes to transition in, through and out of the Performance Pathways Framework as outlined in this guidance.
- b) Maintain clear and timely communications with NSOs regarding implementation of the TAPS programme.
- c) Provide high transparency with NSOs regarding TAPS decisions in line with our programme principles, and openly discuss any questions or concerns NSOs may have.
- d) Make monthly payments of training and excellence grants to NSOs for onward payment to athletes.

### 8.2. NSO RESPONSIBILITIES

With regard to their athletes who are awarded TAPS (at Elite, Potential, and Pre-HP), it is the responsibility of each NSO to:

- a) Take all practicable steps to provide a safe and productive high performance environment that protects and enhances the wellbeing of all involved.
- b) Lead the induction of athletes into their sport’s performance pathway to ensure that new athletes understand their roles and expectations and they feel supported with the view to optimising their potential.
- c) Ensure appropriate communication directly with athletes relating to their entry and transition through the Performance Pathways Framework, including notifying their athletes of their TAPS status, level and duration, and commencement or ceasing of all grants.
- d) Manage their TAPS athletes, including development and monitoring of an IPP (Individual Performance Plan) and appropriate communication with their athletes relating to their expected performance progression to maintain TAPS eligibility and any relevant review dates.
- e) Once received from HPSNZ, make onward payment of training and excellence grants in full (less any applicable taxes) monthly to TAPS athletes as appropriate.
- f) Work with each of their TAPS athletes to agree and sign an appropriate athlete agreement.
- g) Ensure that TAPS athletes complete all TAPS registration forms for HPSNZ and ensure that HPSNZ is kept updated of the contact details of TAPS athletes.
- h) Assist TAPS athletes to complete all necessary anti-doping and sport integrity education and compliance requirements with the Sport Integrity Commission.
- i) Assist TAPS athletes to comply with all codes of conduct that may be in place within their sport, HPSNZ, Sport Integrity Commission and the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).
- j) Facilitate an appropriate NSO athlete voice mechanism for athletes to engage with.

## APPENDIX 1 – PERFORMANCE PATHWAYS FRAMEWORK

Performance Pathways Framework (with aligned Tailored Athlete Pathway Support)							
Phase	Progression	Description	Entry Criteria / Evidence Required	Athlete Performance Support	Athlete Financial Support	Transition	Post-Performance
High Performance	Elite	Athletes who have demonstrated realistic <b>medal winning capabilities</b> and are refining performances for podium success at the pinnacle event/s in this cycle	The athlete has achieved multiple top 8's at Olympic Games /Paralympic Games / world championships (or one Top 8 OG/PG/WC and equivalent international performances) <b>AND</b> shows evidence of progression against the sport's Picture of Performance towards a podium at the Olympic Games/Paralympic Games in this cycle	Tailored support aligned to the sport's Picture of Performance (POP) and the athlete's Individual Performance Plan (IPP)  Medical Insurance  Access to HPSNZ Facilities  Access to Campaign Investment	Elite Training Grant  Eligible for Excellence Grant  Eligible for Prime Minister's Scholarship	Athletes are supported as they transition in, through, and out of the performance pathway	Athletes successfully transitioning out of Performance Pathways Framework into future aspirations in sport and life.  <b>Athlete Performance Support:</b>  HP athletes - Medical and Performance Life for current issues and future planning, for 6 months or as agreed.  Pre-HP athletes - as agreed.  <b>Athlete Financial Support:</b>  3-month Elite Training Grant (Elite only) and applicable portion of Excellence Grant (for eligible athletes)
	Potential	Athletes who have demonstrated <b>performance progression</b> , showing high potential of a Top 8 placing at the Pinnacle Event/s in this cycle and/or potential to medal at the pinnacle event/s in the next cycle	The athlete has demonstrated performance progression (at agreed international events and against the sport's Picture of Performance) tracking towards a Top 8 placing at the Olympic/Paralympic Games this cycle <b>AND</b> tracking towards a podium at the Olympic/Paralympic Games next cycle	Potential Training Grant  Eligible for Excellence Grant  Eligible for Prime Minister's Scholarship			
		Athletes who have demonstrated performance progression (at agreed international events and against the sport's Picture of Performance) tracking towards a podium at the Olympic Games/Paralympic Games next cycle	<b>OR</b> The athlete has demonstrated performance progression (at agreed international events and against the sport's Picture of Performance) tracking towards a podium at the Olympic Games/Paralympic Games next cycle				
Transition	Demonstrating the readiness and commitment to do what is required to achieve future podia success on the world stage						
Pre-High Performance	Athletes who are confirming the <b>attributes, ambition, and attitude</b> to achieve a Top 8 placing or medal at the pinnacle event/s in the next cycle and future cycles	NSO must show benchmarking of the athlete against the sport's Picture of Performance (POP) that demonstrates evidence that the athlete is confirming the attributes, attitudes, and ambition to achieve world Top 8 placings or medal success at the pinnacle event/s in future cycles	Tailored support aligned to the sport's Picture of Performance (POP) and the athlete's Individual Performance Plan (IPP)  Access to HPSNZ Facilities	Eligible for Excellence Grant  May be eligible for Prime Minister's Scholarship based on criteria and agreed prioritisation with NSOs			

NB: Pinnacle Event/s = Olympic/Paralympic Games

## APPENDIX 2 – TAPS STREAMS

Tailored Athlete Pathway Support		High Performance		Pre-High Performance
		Elite	Potential	
Athlete Performance Support	Athlete Performance Support	Tailored	Tailored	Tailored relevant to age and stage of development
	Medical Insurance	Premium valued at \$1,679 (plus GST) p.a.	Premium valued at \$1,679 (plus GST) p.a.	n/a
	Access to HPSNZ Facilities	Tailored	Tailored	Tailored
	Access to Campaign Investment	Yes	Yes	n/a*
Athlete Financial Support	Training Grant	Elite Training Grant \$50,000 p.a.	Potential Training Grant \$25,000 p.a.	n/a
	Pinnacle Event-earned Excellence Grants - eligible to earn for up to four years based on continuing to meet TAPS criteria	Gold \$40,000 p/a Silver/Bronze \$30,000 p/a	Gold \$40,000 p/a Silver/Bronze \$30,000 p/a	Gold \$40,000 p/a Silver/Bronze \$30,000 p/a
	Pinnacle Event-earned Excellence Grants - eligible to earn for up to two years based on continuing to meet TAPS criteria	4th to 6 <sup>th</sup> \$20,000 p/a 7th to 8 <sup>th</sup> \$10,000 p/a	4th to 6 <sup>th</sup> \$20,000 p/a 7th to 8 <sup>th</sup> \$10,000 p/a	4th to 6 <sup>th</sup> \$20,000 p/a 7th to 8 <sup>th</sup> \$10,000 p/a
	Benchmark Event-earned Excellence Grants - eligible to earn for one year	Gold \$20,000 p/a Silver/Bronze \$15,000 p/a 4th to 6 <sup>th</sup> \$10,000 p/a	Gold \$20,000 p/a Silver/Bronze \$15,000 p/a 4th to 6 <sup>th</sup> \$10,000 p/a	Gold \$20,000 p/a Silver/Bronze \$15,000 p/a 4th to 6 <sup>th</sup> \$10,000 p/a
	Prime Minister's Scholarships: Education Fees and Study Support	Eligible to apply. Up to \$10,000 p/a / \$5,000 p/a	Eligible to apply. Up to \$10,000 p/a / \$5,000 p/a	May be eligible to apply based on PM Scholarship criteria and agreed prioritisation with NSOs.

\*By exception

## APPENDIX 3 – EXCELLENCE GRANTS - TIMELINES AND CRITERIA

These tables contain visual representations of the ordinary duration of Excellence Grants across the cycle as described in **Appendix 2**, for summer and winter Olympic/Paralympic sports, respectively.

### SUMMER OLYMPIC/PARALYMPIC SPORTS

Excellence Grants	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Pinnacle event-earned Excellence Grants (Paris 2024 Medallists)					→
Pinnacle event-earned Excellence Grants (Paris 2024 4th to 8th)	→		→		
Benchmark event-earned Excellence Grants (1st to 6th)		→	→	→	→

### WINTER OLYMPIC/PARALYMPIC SPORTS

Excellence Grants	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Pinnacle event-earned Excellence Grants (Milano Cortina 2026 Medallists)		→	→	→	→
Pinnacle event-earned Excellence Grants (Milano Cortina 2026 4th to 8th)		→	→	→	
Benchmark event-earned Excellence Grants (1st to 6th)	→		→	→	→

### EXCELLENCE GRANTS CRITERIA

**Excellence Grants (EGs)** – TAPS eligible sports whose TAPS athletes (at Elite, Potential or Pre-HP) achieve performance excellence at pinnacle events or benchmark events on the world stage are eligible to receive EGs. EGs for medalists earned at Olympic/Paralympics Games are reviewed at the next pinnacle event (up to four years) while EGs for non-medalists (4th to 8th) are earned for two years. EGs earned at an agreed benchmark event are reviewed at the next agreed benchmark event (ordinarily one year). On-going eligibility for TAPS and therefore EGs is subject to athletes continuing to adhere to the training and performance standards outlined in their IPPs.

There are two types of Excellence Grants:

- EGs earned at pinnacle events** – Athletes who achieve a placing of between 1st and 8th at the Olympic or Paralympic Games in Milano Cortina 2026 or Los Angeles 2028, will be awarded a pinnacle event-earned EG. Note that EGs earned at Paris 2024 will be awarded in accordance with the *TAPS Guidelines 2022-2024*.
- EGs earned at benchmark events** – Athletes who achieve a placing between 1st and 6th will be awarded a benchmark event-earned EG, at the levels and timeframe outlined in the table above provided that the performance is in:
  - A discipline/event that has been confirmed for the next Olympic or Paralympic Games (note that if the

relevant Olympic or Paralympic programme is not yet confirmed, then discretion will be applied in consultation between HPSNZ and NSO); and

- An agreed world-standard benchmark event agreed in advance of the event taking place between their NSO and HPSNZ, noting that where relevant factoring and/or combined classes/classifications for Paralympic disciplines will be applied as per the programme for the next pinnacle event; and
- A non-Olympic/Paralympic Games year (2025/2026/2027 for summer Olympic/Paralympic sports and 2025/2027/2028 for winter Olympic/Paralympic sports).

c) In addition, regarding Excellence Grants:

- During the TAPS process, TAPS eligible sports and HPSNZ will discuss and agree the benchmark event/s for each year in the cycle and agree performance standards, if any, that are higher than the levels noted above.
- Athletes can only receive one EG award at any one time with the higher value being awarded.
- The total number of EGs which may be awarded in a multi-athlete event (e.g. Team Pursuit, Relays) should they achieve the agreed performance standard, will be linked to the size of the team at the benchmark event as specified in the rules of the organising authority for the event (e.g. international federation) or otherwise agreed between HPSNZ and the NSO prior to the event.



## APPENDIX 4 – TAPS PROCESS

### PHASE ONE – NOMINATION, ASSESSMENT AND APPROVAL

1. Nomination – In consultation with their PTL, NSOs should submit their TAPS nominations as per the NSO HP Planning Guidance documentation by October 18, 2024.
2. Assessment – An HPSNZ TAPS panel will review all submissions against the Performance Pathways Framework criteria.
3. Approval - Following the assessment outlined above, HPSNZ will determine what TAPS will be offered to respective NSOs.

### PHASE TWO – PAYMENT

1. Ordinarily, payments of Training and Excellence Grants will be made to NSOs monthly in advance as per the agreed investment schedule.
2. NSOs must pay each TAPS Athlete the full amount of their Training and/or Excellence Grants (less any applicable taxes) monthly.
3. Payment of Training Grants and pinnacle event-earned Excellence Grants for the start of the new 2025-2028 cycle will commence as outlined in Appendix 6.
4. Payment of new Training Grants awarded during the 2025-2028 cycle will commence in the month following approval, unless otherwise agreed (e.g. If TAPS is approved on 17 June, payments of Training Grants will commence from 1 July).
5. Payment of new Excellence Grants earned during the 2025-2028 cycle will commence one full calendar month after the completion of the pinnacle or agreed benchmark event in which they were earned, and end one full calendar month after the completion of the next pinnacle event or agreed benchmark event (if any), unless otherwise agreed (e.g. If the agreed benchmark event is on 17 June, payment will commence from 1 August and run through 31 July).

### PHASE THREE – MONITORING

1. HPSNZ, in partnership with NSOs, will periodically monitor the implementation of TAPS throughout the cycle, including but not limited to formal performance conversations between the NSO and HPSNZ, and regular informal conversations between HPSNZ's assigned PTL and the NSO's designated High Performance Leader.
2. Ongoing eligibility for TAPS and therefore Training Grants and Excellence Grants will be subject to athletes continuing to adhere to the training and performance requirements outlined in their IPPs as agreed with NSO.
3. Athletes may have their TAPS withdrawn by their NSO if they no longer meet the TAPS criteria, after relevant consultation processes between the NSO and athletes have been conducted.

## APPENDIX 5 – PERFORMANCE PATHWAYS FRAMEWORK TRANSITIONS

### ENTRY OF NEW ATHLETES AND PROGRESSION OF CURRENT ATHLETES

During the 2025-2028 cycle, nomination by NSOs of new athletes or nomination for progression of current athletes should be made in accordance with the nomination process as confirmed by the respective PTL.

### EXIT OF CURRENT ATHLETES

Nomination by NSOs (in consultation with their PTL) for exit of current athletes during the 2025-2028 cycle should consider the following elements.

1. **Temporary exit** – TAPS athletes may seek to withdraw temporarily from their sport, if they are unable to train and compete for an extended period due to, for example, rehabilitation from a significant injury, parental commitments or a planned and agreed sabbatical. In such cases, relevant consultation processes should take place between the NSO and the athlete, and the NSO should notify the athlete as per the conditions outlined in the Investment Schedule. NSOs should apply to HPSNZ for consideration on behalf of the athlete proposing the support needed, duration and relevant conditions. The athlete must have an IPP in place and each application will be assessed on a case-by-case basis including consideration of any other relevant HPSNZ or NSO specific policies or guidelines.
2. **Permanent exit** – TAPS athletes may choose to withdraw or retire from their sport or may be withdrawn by their NSO if they no longer meet the TAPS criteria. In such cases, relevant consultation processes should take place between the NSO and the athlete, and the NSO should notify the athlete as per the conditions outlined in the Investment Schedule. As athletes move into post-performance, they may be eligible for transition support (Athlete Performance Support and/or Athlete Financial Support) in accordance with the Performance Pathways Framework and as determined with input from the NSO, the PTL, and/or other applicable HPSNZ personnel.
3. **Post-performance athlete support** – Where TAPS athletes are permanently exiting their sport, to assist the transition from HP sport into a productive next stage of their lives, they will be eligible for APS services to support transition and may also be eligible for Training and Excellence Grant transition payments as follows:
  - a. **ETG** – TAPS athletes at Elite level are eligible for up to three months of additional payments of their ETG from the date of exit, which will be paid in one lump sum once the athlete has formally completed all exit requirements with the NSO and the Sport Integrity Commission. Athletes will be eligible for this payment only once throughout their career.
  - b. **PTG** – TAPS athletes at Potential level are not eligible for additional payments of their PTG from the date of exit. The PTG will cease in the month of exit.
  - c. **EGs** – TAPS athletes who retire within 12 months of earning their EG are entitled to receive the balance of the annual value of their EG. If they retire after this initial 12-month period, EG payments will cease upon date of retirement.

## APPENDIX 6 – TRANSITION BETWEEN CYCLES

### TRAINING GRANTS CHANGEOVER

1. The start date for new 2025-2028 Training Grant levels (ETG \$50,000 and PTG \$25,000) will be 1 January 2025.
2. During the transition period, to enable sports to support their TAPS athletes who are continuing from 2022-2024 to train and compete while resourcing is still being confirmed, Q1 2025 Training Grant payments (to be made in January, February, and March 2025) will be at the current 2022-2024 Training Grant levels (BTG \$32,500 and DTG \$11,000).
3. Once final 2025-2028 TAPS resourcing is confirmed (by 31 March 2025), payment for the new Training Grant levels will commence in April 2025 and be backdated in April 2025 to January 2025 for all confirmed Elite and Potential athletes.
4. For sports with athletes on a Training Grant in 2022-2024 who are continuing to train and compete but do not meet the 2025-2028 TAPS criteria, or who do meet the 2025-2028 TAPS criteria but will receive a reduction in Training Grant level from the 2022-2024 cycle to the 2025-2028 cycle, HPSNZ will continue to provide support, including training grants, at current levels through the transition period 1 January to 31 March 2025.

### EXCELLENCE GRANTS CHANGEOVER

1. The end date for 2022-2024 Excellence Grants will be 30 September 2024 for disciplines in the Olympic Games and 31 October 2024 for disciplines in the Paralympic Games.
2. The start date for Excellence Grants earned at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games will be 1 October 2024 and monthly payments will commence in October 2024. The start date for Excellence Grants earned at the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games will be 1 November 2024 and payments will commence in November 2024.
3. For current or potential podium or aspirational sports operating on the Winter Olympic cycles 2022-26 and 2026-2030, dates for the transition period, and Training and Excellence Grants changeover will be confirmed separately.



**HIGH PERFORMANCE  
SPORT NEW ZEALAND**

**HIGH PERFORMANCE SPORT NEW ZEALAND**  
NATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE  
17 ANTARES PLACE,  
MAIRANGI BAY, AUCKLAND 0632

**Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa**  
New Zealand Government