

2023PY Competitive Angling Applicant FAQ

1. Do I need to apply each year to be accepted or retained as a member of the Mercury Competitive Angling team?

Yes. All anglers and tournaments, regardless of previous agreements or contracts, must apply each program year. We understand there are some Pro Team members that don't order a new engine every year, but for you to stay current, continue receiving communications on the sponsorship program and receive your Pro Team clothing coupon, as well as the shortened application, we encourage you to apply each year.

2. I applied and was accepted for the 2022 program. Will that carry over to the 2023 program?

No. The 2022 program ends August 15, 2022, regardless of when you applied or were approved. To participate in the program after August 31 (to order products or submit for a rebate), you must be accepted for the 2023 program.

3. How often do I need to apply?

In order to receive a sponsorship from Mercury Marine, you must apply every year during the program time frame. Applications for the 2023 program are only accepted from September 15 to November 30, 2022. No applications will be accepted after **November 30, 2022**, and access to the application will no longer be available after this date.

4. How do I apply?

Applications must be submitted electronically and <u>include a valid email address</u>. Anglers and events previously on the program will receive a profile update via email prior to the start of the application process. Completing the profile update will result in the applicant receiving a shorter version of the 2023PY application on September 15. Applicants who are new to the program can fill out an application at <u>mercurymarine.com/sponsorships/</u>. Applications must be completed in their entirety.

Anglers and tournaments seeking sponsorship must be working with a Mercury dealer or boatbuilder and must provide the dealership/boat company's name, a contact at that company and the contact's email address and phone number on the application.

Immediately after an applicant submits their application, an email will be sent to their evaluating dealer or boat company contact for feedback on the applicant. Provided that the required activity reports are submitted, when feedback is received by Mercury, the application submission process is complete, and the application will be reviewed by the Mercury Competitive Angling Manager. WARNING: For applicants approved on last year's program, if your activity reports for the 2022PY were not submitted, your application will not move forward for review.



5. Can I print and mail in the application?

No. We only accept the electronic application. Please key in the information and submit the application electronically.

6. Will I receive the same benefits for the 2023 program that I received this year?

Mercury sponsorships are evaluated on an annual basis. Therefore, sponsorship levels may change from year to year.

7. How is my discount determined?

We look for opportunities to partner with anglers and organizations that are a good fit for Mercury and provide positive exposure and influence. Anglers who are currently winning or placing in events, actively promoting their dealers and who positively represent Mercury products will have a better probability of being placed on a Mercury sponsorship program. Mandatory activity reports are also used to determine the level of sponsorship.

8. What does my dealer or boat company representative need to do?

Once you submit your application, your dealer or boat company representative will receive an email with a link to an evaluation form. They should click on the link and fill out the brief form that is provided. It's important that anglers maintain a positive, supportive relationship with their dealer and/or boat company. As a Mercury angler, you are representing Mercury Marine and your dealer or boat company.

9. How will I know which program I'm on?

After your sponsorship application is reviewed and a decision has been made, you will receive an email notifying you of your approval status and program, if approved. Remember, your application will not be submitted to Mercury for review until your dealer or boat company partner has provided feedback on your application and your required activity reports are received.

10. What if I don't hear back after submitting my application?

<u>Provided that we have received the required activity reports</u>, please contact your partnering dealer or boat company to confirm they have submitted the required feedback. If so, please send an email to <u>angling@mercmarine.com</u>.

11. If I'm a rebate program angler, how long until I receive my rebate check?

Once your rebate form has been received and all the necessary information is presented, your check will be mailed to you in approximately four to six weeks.

12. Where do I fill out information for a quote for pricing on a new engine?

In the current program structure, we no longer use quotes. Your approval email will contain information about your discount level. If you are on the Pro Team direct discount program or National Pro Team, the email will explain how to place an order. Pro Team members on the rebate program will order from their Mercury dealer. For those approved to buy direct, <u>orderwithmerc@mercmarine.com</u> is your resource for orders and order-related questions.



13. Where do I send my reports?

Your activity report link is provided in your approval email. All Pro Team members, ski teams, tournaments, events and organizations must supply at least two media reports per program year that outline events fished, boat shows attended, seminars, fishing clinics, demo rides, appearances, social media activities, event signage, branding, promotion, etc. National Pro Team anglers will also be required to submit a more detailed media report consistent with a Joyce Julius or Cox Report.

14. When will I receive my engine?

Your approval email will contain information regarding your discount level and your possible acceptance on the Pro Team or National Pro Team, along with appropriate steps to place an order. Pro Team rebate program members will order from their Mercury dealer or boat company.

15. How do I order my engine/s, oil or props?

Your approval email will contain information about how to place an order. Pro Team rebate program members will order from their Mercury dealer or boat company.

16. When can I order?

You can place an order after you receive your approval email.

17. Do I have to order all at once, or can I order multiple times?

If you are a rebate program angler, you may submit for an engine rebate check once within the program year. If you order directly from Mercury Marine, you may order throughout the program year until your discount credit is used. Last day to order is August 15, 2023.

18. Will I still receive a memo package?

If you are placed on the Mercury Pro Team direct program and you are "credit approved," you may be eligible for 360-day terms. Additionally, there is a significant discount of 7.5% for paying cash.

19. How do I contact the Mercury Competitive Angling department?

For all inquiries, please send an email to <u>angling@mercmarine.com</u>. This is the fastest and most efficient way to contact Mercury.

20. Is it possible to speak with a person if I have questions regarding the application or the programs?

If you have questions, please send an email to <u>angling@mercmarine.com</u>.

21. What is the sponsorship amount for members of the National Pro Team?

The sponsorship amount is the total dollar amount of free product the National Pro Team member will receive. For our National Pro Team members, the amount of free product may vary from member to member.



22. When I called my dealer about the application, he said I should submit an application only when I'm ready to purchase a motor right now. Is that true?

No. All anglers and tournaments who intend to be part of the 2023 program must apply before the deadline of November 30, 2022. The application is separate from the order process, so even if you are not ready to purchase an engine, you must apply before the deadline.

23. If I'm placed on the Pro Team direct program, do I get to pick between memo billing or paying with cash?

If you are placed on the Pro Team direct program, you may qualify for memo billing, depending on credit approval. If you are not credit approved, you must pay with cash, or switch to the Pro Team rebate program. Please be sure to discuss your payment choice with your dealer or boat company partner. Some dealers may expect pro-staff to be rebate only.

24. Do I have to do a rebate if I have been approved as rebate in the past?

No. Rebate and buy direct are billing preferences only. Although all first-time applicants begin at the Level 3 rebate, if you have been on the program previously and your dealer agrees, you can choose buy direct or rebate as your billing preference.

25. Based on the rebate table from Mercury, it looks like I can get a better deal ordering direct from Mercury. Why would I order from my dealer?

Both programs are quite competitive. Depending on the products and price you negotiate with your dealer, either program can have substantial benefits.

26. When is the 2023 program year?

The 2023 Mercury Competitive Angling program year goes from September 1, 2022, through August 15, 2023. <u>Applications will be available September 15 and must be submitted by</u> <u>the deadline of November 30, 2022</u>. The application will no longer be available for the 2023 program year after November 30, 2022.

27. Where is the guide application?

The guide rebate program will now go through the Mercury dealer sales program.

Mercury guides should reach out to their local Mercury Authorized Dealer for complete details on this updated program. We look forward to continuing to work with both our Mercury guides and our dealers.

Guides previously on the Mercury rebate program should not fill out a Competitive Angling Program application. Guides will need to reach out to their local Mercury Authorized Dealer

Those anglers who also guide should only fill out the angler application (as opposed to the professional guide program application, through a Mercury Authorized Dealer) if they are actively involved in fishing tournaments throughout the program year.