

CHAMPIONSHIP EVENT AWARDS DISBURSEMENT INFORMATION

The Pokémon Company International (Pokémon or TPCi) disburses funds for Prizes and Travel Awards up to **40 business days** following the Championship event and utilizes third-party administrators to manage those functions (this time-frame is for cash/prepaid VISA card options, not for scholarships or situations where the winner is offered a choice of prize) . We will use your Trainer Club Account contact information to communicate with you throughout the disbursement process, so please make sure your Trainer Club Account contact information is kept current to prevent delays in payment. We will contact you by email to advise players of actions we are taking and to notify you of any possible next steps. Payment will be sent up to **40 business days** following the Championship event.

International Payout Systems, Inc (iPayout) creates an eWallet account for each Award Winner. The eWallet account serves as a central hub in the process and is where we:

- Collect information
- Collect parental/guardian consent if necessary
- Verify award winner identities by requesting contact information, complete US Internal Revenue Service Forms (W-9 Taxpayer ID Form or W-8BEN Certificate of Foreign Status of Beneficial Owner for non-US), social security numbers or other documents that confirm winner's identity
- Disburse cash or Pokémon Visa® Prepaid Cards. Cash disbursements can be made via direct bank transfer, wire or paper check. If your selection is bank transfer or wire, you will be asked to provide your bank account information.
- Issue year-end US Internal Revenue Service Form 1099-MISC for US residents
- Securely store sensitive documents and information (tax forms, contact information, bank account information, social security numbers, etc.)
- Communicate pending payments or tax form availability

Further information regarding iPayout may be found here: <https://www.i-payout.com/>

For those selecting the Scholarship as an award, please review Pokémon's Terms & Conditions [Play! Pokemon Scholarship T&C](#) to obtain further information about program requirements related to US Internal Revenue Service regulations. Pokémon scholarships are administered by International Scholarship and Tuition Services Inc., (ISTS) and they will contact you regarding their services up to **50 business days** following the event. Further information on ISTS can be found here: <http://www.applyists.com/>

For our award winners who are given the option to select what type of prize they would like to receive, Pokémon will email you up to **40 business days** following the event date to ask you for your selection. Once received, you may 'reply' to that email with the option that you choose.

Cash awards, Pokémon Visa® Prepaid Card disbursements, or travel stipends/reimbursements are considered US-sourced income, and therefore subject to taxes. Each award winner is responsible for all tax liability related to his/her receipt of reimbursement, and TPCi may be required by law or regulation to deduct or withhold US tax amounts from disbursement. This may mean that the amount received may be less than original stated award amount.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

When do I get my travel reimbursement or cash prize?

Pokémon will contact you by email and funds will be disbursed up to **40 business days** following the Championship event.

Is there any way to expedite payment or receive it faster?

- The best way to expedite your payment is to make sure that your Pokémon Trainer Club Account has current and accurate contact information before the Championship event. This will help to prevent any delays in the processing of your payout. If you have any questions or notice any issues with your account, please contact Customer Support to help have any issues addressed.
- Another way to speed up your payment is to choose to receive funds by bank transfer or wire and to provide bank account information on your secure iPayout/eWallet account before the event (if you already have an existing account).
- Unfortunately, we cannot guarantee payment faster than 40 business days following the event.

Why is the amount less than communicated previously?

Taxes!! Cash awards, Pokémon Visa® Prepaid Card disbursements, or travel stipends/reimbursements are considered US-sourced income, and therefore subject to taxes. Each award winner is responsible for all tax liability related to his/her receipt of reimbursement, and TPCi may be required by law or regulation to deduct or withhold US tax amounts from disbursement. Payments to Non-US taxpayers will automatically have a 30% deduction for our tax remittance to the IRS. You may want to discuss this with your tax advisor to consider filing an IRS Form 1040NR (U.S. Nonresident Alien Income Tax Return) to claim any possible refund back from the IRS. Additional information can be found on the IRS website, a link to their Publication 519 (U.S. Tax Guide for Aliens) is located here: <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p519.pdf>.

In addition, if the event took place in the State of California, we are required to withhold 7% on amounts exceeding \$1,500 (annually for events held in California) for California Non-Residents (including those residents of other states within the US as well as those residing outside of the US). The amount that you receive will be the reduced amount, and this tax deduction is remitted to California State. You may refer to California State's Franchise Tax Board's website regarding Publication FTB 1017 Resident and Nonresident Withholding Guidelines for further information at <https://www.ftb.ca.gov/forms/misc/1017.html>.

Pokémon is not able to provide any type of tax advice or guidance and you should contact your tax advisor if you have questions.

The country I'm located in has a tax treaty for a lower percentage of tax withholding – why is Pokémon deducting 30%?

Pokémon is required to withhold taxes for all cash awards, Pokémon Visa® Prepaid Card disbursements, or travel stipends/reimbursements that are considered US-sourced income. Each award winner is responsible for all tax liability related to his/her receipt of reimbursement, and TPCi may be required by law or regulation to deduct or withhold US tax amounts from disbursement. Payments to Non-US taxpayers will automatically have a 30% deduction for our tax remittance to the IRS, and the responsibility to claim the difference falls to the individual award winners. You can discuss this with your tax advisor and consider filing an IRS Form 1040NR (U.S. Nonresident Alien Income Tax Return) to claim any possible refund back from the IRS. Additional information can be found on the IRS website, a link to their Publication 519 (U.S. Tax Guide for Aliens) is provided here: <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p519.pdf>.

Pokémon is not able to provide any type of tax advice or guidance and you should contact your tax advisor if you have questions.

Why am I (or my child) receiving a Pokémon Visa® Prepaid Card for a prize award?

Award winners under the age of 18 are eligible to receive either a scholarship or a Pokémon Visa® Prepaid Cards as a cash equivalent. You would receive a Prepaid Card if you select that option.

I already have an iPayout account, do I have to do anything more to receive funds?

Nothing further is required but please make sure your contact information is up to date in your iPayout and Pokémon Trainer Club accounts and you'll be notified by email when funds are available.

How do I get my year-end tax form?

- **1099-MISC/Miscellaneous Income (US) Form:**

1099-Misc Forms are available on the iPayout system and will be available by January 31st of the year following disbursement of funds. Players will be notified by email when available.

- **1042-S/Foreign Person's US Source Income Subject to Withholding (Non-US) Form:**

1042-S Forms are mailed to players by March 15th of the year following disbursement of funds.

Additional Questions?

Cash / Pokémon Visa® Prepaid Card / Payout/eWallet Account:

If you have questions after you have an account set up by Pokémon, please contact iPayout directly at pokemon@globalewallet.com or 1-866-844-5682. Please have your Pokémon POP ID Number available.

Scholarships:

If you have questions after Pokémon has turned your scholarship over to our administrators, please contact International Scholarship and Tuition Services (ISTS) directly at: contactus@applyISTS.com or 866-670-ISTS (4787). Please have your Pokemon POP ID Number and the name of the event you are contacting us about.

If you have questions about selecting a scholarship or other prize offered, you may contact TPCi at awards@pokemon.com.

Championship events or placement:

For questions about events, placement at events, standings, etc., you may contact TPCi at playercoordinator@pokemon.com. Please include your Pokemon POP ID Number and the name of the event you are contacting us about.

Payment of Awards:

For questions related to payment or disbursement of funds or scholarships, you may contact TPCi at awards@pokemon.com. Please have your Pokemon POP ID Number and the name of the event you are contacting us about.

Tax advice:

Pokémon is not able to provide any type of tax advice or guidance and you should contact your tax advisor if you have questions.