

Arbitration

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A player and club who cannot agree on a contract may agree to salary arbitration, provided the player has enough Major League service time. CBA, Article VI F.

Eligibility

The following players are eligible for arbitration:

- Players with at least 3 but less than 6 years of Major League service time.
- The top 17 percent of players with at least 2 but less than 3 years of Major League service. (See Super 2). To qualify as a Super 2, a player must have accumulated at least 86 days of service in the previous year. (A year of service is 172 days. The historical cutoff point for Super 2 status is 2 years, 128 days of service, though the requirement has been as high as 2 years, 140 days.)
- Players who have filed for free agency and both received and accepted offers of arbitration from their former club.

Offer requirements

- A club must offer contracts to players under its control by December 12.
- If a player has filed for free agency, his former club must offer him arbitration by December 1. If the player accepts by December 7, he becomes club property again, returns to the roster, and the two sides may continue to negotiate or go to an arbitration hearing. If the player declines, the sides may continue to negotiate. (A club offering arbitration to a player who has filed for free agency retains the right to draft-pick compensation if he signs elsewhere. The club forfeits compensation if it does not offer arbitration. See Free Agent Compensation.)
- The club's salary offer to a player under its control may not be less than 80% of the player's salary and performance bonuses the previous year or less than 70% of his salary and performance bonuses from 2 years earlier. (Exception: If a player won an arbitration award the previous year increasing his salary 50% or more, the 80% requirement does not apply.)