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**Monterey Bay Offers Generous
Prize Purse for a Half Marathon in the U.S.**
\$32,000 includes \$5,000 for Equalizer bonus

The fast course of the Monterey Bay Half Marathon has always attracted top runners, but it's not just the course that draws them to Monterey each year; it's the attractive prize money offered: a potential total of \$32,000 split between the top eight male and female runners.

A field of more than 25 elite racers will vie for the top spots with the male and female winners being awarded \$4,000 each. In addition, with the "equalizer" bonus, one of these athletes has the potential of taking home another \$3,000 for being the first runner across the finish line. The second and third overall finishers – male or female – will also receive extra cash beyond their gender place finish.

This year's race starts with the elite and seeded females on course nine minutes and five seconds ahead of the elite and seeded men. The amount was calculated as the average differential between men's and women's finishing times at the race over the last five years so, in theory, the men could catch the lead women within the last few hundred yards of the course.

In addition to the equalizer bonus, an additional \$1,000 will be given to any runner who sets a new course record. The current records are 1:02:32 for men, set by Ian Dobson in 2006, and 1:09:43 set by Belainish Gebre (Ethiopia) in 2010.

Prizes will be awarded at the race finish festival in Custom House Plaza beginning at 10 a.m.

The 2019 prize money breakdown is as follows:

<u>Place</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>
First	\$4,000	\$4,000
Second	\$2,500	\$2,500
Third	\$2,000	\$2,000
Fourth	\$1,500	\$1,500
Fifth	\$1,000	\$1000
Sixth	\$750	\$750
Seventh	\$500	\$500
Eighth	\$250	\$250

Equalizer Bonus: \$5,000 total – 1st-\$3,000, 2nd-\$1,500; 3rd-\$500

Course Record Bonus: \$1,000