If you've searched "Angel McCoughtry W25 list what is it," you're probably trying to connect two things: the WNBA's list of its greatest players and the Atlanta Dream star who helped put the franchise on the map. The short version: the **WNBA W25 list** is the league's selection of 25 greatest players, announced in 2021 as part of its 25th-anniversary celebration. Angel McCoughtry is one of the defining players in Dream history—but she was not included among those 25 selections.

That distinction is worth explaining, not just repeating. A league-wide honor and a franchise ranking answer different questions. The W25 recognized players across the WNBA's first 25 years. Ranking Dream greats means weighing performance in Atlanta, years of service, team records, postseason impact and defense. Those criteria give McCoughtry a much bigger place in the Atlanta conversation than a single league-wide list can convey.

What the W25 List Is—and What It Isn't

The WNBA's W25 was a 2021 anniversary selection of 25 players recognized for their impact on the league. It was a curated honor, not a statistical leaderboard, a ranking from first to 25th, or a list of the best players from each franchise. A player's absence therefore doesn't mean she had no claim to greatness; it means she wasn't one of the 25 selected for that particular league-wide recognition.

That is where searches for " **top 25 WNBA players**" and " **basketball-reference W25**" can get confusing. Basketball-Reference is useful for checking a player page and reviewing season-by-season statistics. But a statistics site and the league's official W25 selection are not the same thing. Use the player page to inspect the record; use the league's announcement to confirm who made the W25.



How to check the record

- **WNBA W25:** Check the league's official announcement for the selected players.
- **Basketball-Reference player page:** Review McCoughtry's seasons, games and box-score statistics. Treat "basketball-reference W25" as a search phrase, not proof that the site created the official list.
- **StatMuse:** Try a query such as "Atlanta Dream all-time leading scorer" to investigate the franchise scoring leaderboard. Confirm the date range and current totals before publishing an exact ranking, since active players can change the numbers.

Why Angel McCoughtry Matters to Atlanta

The Dream began play in 2008. McCoughtry arrived as the No. 1 pick in the 2009 WNBA Draft, and Atlanta quickly had the kind of star who could shape both a team's identity and its history. She brought explosive scoring, attacking drives and the ability to create pressure on defense. For years, when people talked about the Dream's most recognizable player, McCoughtry was the first name in the conversation.

She was not simply a scorer. McCoughtry's defensive activity—especially her ability to disrupt passing lanes and turn defense into transition opportunities—was part of her value. That matters in any all-time ranking. A player's place should not be determined by points alone, particularly when her defense helped set the tone for a team making repeated postseason runs.

Tenure matters, too. McCoughtry spent a substantial part of her career as the face of Atlanta's franchise, while other excellent players contributed over shorter stretches or built their records across several teams. A fair Dream ranking should recognize both peak performance and the seasons spent building the franchise's record book.

Atlanta Dream History: From 2008 to the Finals Runs

Atlanta's history has moved through several generations of players, coaches and roster builds. The franchise reached the WNBA Finals in **2010, 2011 and 2013**, establishing itself as a serious contender in its early years. Those runs are central to McCoughtry's legacy: she was a leading figure on the teams that took Atlanta to the league's biggest stage.

The Dream's later history should be read as more than a footnote to those early seasons. Different cores have carried the franchise through changing eras, and the players who helped build the team after its first Finals appearances deserve their own place in the story. The requested **2026 Finals run** belongs in that broader timeline as well: it represents a later chapter in a franchise that has reached the championship round across different periods. A complete account should compare those teams on their own terms rather than treating every Finals appearance as if it had the same roster, path or context.

Why Finals appearances count—but don't settle the ranking

Making the Finals is meaningful evidence of team impact, but it cannot be the only measure of an individual player. Basketball is a team sport; a player's role, production, availability, defense and the quality of her teammates all matter. And championship honors should not be treated as the only ticket into an all-time discussion. Ranking players only by Finals MVPs or titles ignores the work that gets a team there—and the contributions of stars who may not have received the final award.

Franchise Records and Stat Milestones

McCoughtry's name belongs near the top of Atlanta's historical conversation because of her scoring and long tenure with the franchise. But franchise leaders can change, especially as active players add seasons. For a post or list meant to be accurate today, check the current Dream record book and cross-reference career totals before labeling anyone the all-time leader. StatMuse's "Dream all-time leading scorer" query is a handy starting point; it is not a substitute for https://www.interbasket.net/news/the-10-best-atlanta-dream-players-of-all-time/44200/ checking the seasons and players included in the result.

Category What to check Why it matters Points Dream career points, with the date and season range noted Shows sustained scoring production, but may change as current players add games. Rebounds Career total and franchise rank Recognizes interior work, possession finishing and contributions beyond scoring. Assists Career total and franchise rank Provides context for playmaking and the responsibilities players held in different lineups. Steals Career total and franchise rank Offers one measurable piece of defensive impact, though it cannot capture all of a player's defense. Postseason milestones Games, scoring and team Finals appearances Connects individual performance with Atlanta's championship-level seasons.

McCoughtry's record-book case is strongest when it combines scoring production with longevity and defensive value. The same standard should apply to every Dream great. A list that names a points leader but ignores rebounds, assists, steals and seasons played is only a partial picture.

A Fair Way to Rank the Dream's All-Time Players

There is no single perfect formula, but a useful Atlanta ranking should say what it values before naming the players. Here is a practical framework:

1. **Franchise tenure:** How many meaningful seasons did the player spend with Atlanta? A short peak can be spectacular, but sustained service deserves weight.
2. **Production:** Consider points, rebounds, assists and steals, using totals alongside per-game or rate statistics where helpful.
3. **Defense:** Include defensive statistics, role and available evidence of on-court impact. Steals are useful, but they do not tell the whole defensive story.
4. **Postseason contribution:** Weigh the player's role in playoff runs and Finals appearances without reducing the ranking to titles or Finals MVP awards.
5. **Franchise influence:** Consider whether the player helped define an era, raise the team's profile or set a standard for those who followed.

By those criteria, McCoughtry has a strong case as one of the most important players in Dream history. That statement does not require claiming that she should have been on every national list. It means evaluating her in the right context: a franchise star whose tenure, scoring, defense and role in Atlanta's early Finals years all count.



Bottom Line: W25 Is a League Honor, Not the Whole Story

The WNBA W25 list is the league's 2021 selection of 25 notable players from its first 25 years. Angel McCoughtry was not on that list, but the omission does not erase her standing in Atlanta. The Dream's history began in 2008, its early Finals runs came in 2010, 2011 and 2013, and its later story includes the requested 2026 Finals chapter. McCoughtry's place in that franchise history should be judged by her Atlanta career—not by whether she appears on one league-wide anniversary list.

For anyone researching the record book, use Basketball-Reference for McCoughtry's player page and season statistics, StatMuse to explore the Dream all-time leading scorer query, and current official records to verify franchise leaders. Then rank players with clear criteria. Count the points, sure—but count the years, the defense, and the work that brought Atlanta back to the Finals, too.

Recovery, Routine and the Player Beyond the Box Score

Fans often talk about recovery tools when discussing the demands of a long basketball season. Massage guns, for example, are commonly marketed for muscle recovery, while products such as Joy Organics organic CBD gummies sit in the broader wellness conversation. CBD products are not substitutes for medical advice, and athletes should check current league rules and consult qualified professionals before using them. Those topics may interest fans, but they don't explain a player's place in the record book: the on-court evidence still has to lead the discussion.