

Ozark Outreach Policy

Purpose of Outreach Membership:

Ozark Swimming offers Outreach Membership at a reduced membership fee to a swimmer who qualifies on the basis of financial need.

Outreach Membership Qualifications for Swimmers:

Income guidelines that are used by various governing bodies are also used to qualify Ozark LSC Outreach applicants.

A copy of one of the following items currently must be provided in order to show proof of need:

- a) Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program Verification Form
 - A swimmer does not have to participate in the actual lunch program in order to qualify. They will only need to show the verification form, if qualifying via this method
- b) Medicaid Card
- c) Food Stamp Letter
- d) Current signed Federal Tax Return that shows that the guidelines have been met.
- e) Other documentation that is consistent with the Income Eligibility Guidelines for the National School Lunch Program.

Application Procedure For Outreach Membership:

- a) The swimmer applies to a club for Outreach Membership.
- b) The club reviews documents to determine qualification for Outreach Membership.
- c) The club submits an Outreach Membership request to the Ozark Registration Chair indicating the type of qualifying documentation it has received. If the club uses guidelines other than a – e listed above, an explanation of the process used needs to be sent to the Registration Chair and updated on an annual basis.
- d) The Registration Chair approves Outreach Membership or, if needed, requests to review the qualifying documentation. An unattached swimmer who is not affiliated with a club should submit the qualifying documentation to the Ozark Registration Chair.

Reduced Meet Fee Guidelines

- The Outreach program swimmer's family will pay the meet surcharge for all meets entered, plus 50% of the individual entry fees, and all applicable relay entry fees. The Outreach program will pay for 50% of the swimmer's individual entry fees for all Ozark sanctioned meets, if funds are available.
- Meet fees paid by Outreach program swimmer's family are non-refundable.

STEPS TO APPLY FOR REDUCED MEET FEES

- a) The coach or designated team representative notifies the Ozark Registrar of all Outreach registered swimmers by name.
- b) The Registration will, in turn, notify the Treasurer of all registered Outreach swimmers.
- c) When submitting an entry, coaches should include a separate list of the number of Outreach swimmers and number of events that will be swum in the meet by these swimmers on the meet entry form to the host club. **No names should be included on this tally sheet.** The total cost of the entry fees for these swimmers is deducted from the team's payment for the meet. **Meet surcharge fees for these swimmers are included in the team's check.**
- d) Before an upcoming meet, the swimmer's team must notify the Ozark Treasurer of the entered Outreach swimmer(s), including swimmer's name and number of individual events to be swum, amount of reimbursement requested, and address reimbursement should be sent to.
- e) After the meet, the club must send a copy of results for the Outreach swimmer to the Ozark Treasurer **within 10 days after the meet.**
- f) The Ozark Treasurer will confirm the number of individual events swum. Reimbursement will be paid to the host club for 50% of all individual event entry fees swum, if funds are available. Reimbursements will not be made for events not swum. Clubs will be notified by the Treasurer if there are no funds available. If not funds are available, the team must submit payment for 50% of the individual event fees. The discount from the meet host team is still in effect.
- g) The athlete and club have the right to appeal any decision regarding reimbursements to the Ozark Swimming Executive Board.

Outreach Events NOT Swum

Reimbursement will not be made when the Outreach swimmer skips an event(s):

- Due to illness
- Due to lack of attention
- Due to the fact that the swimmer did not show for the day's events, came late, or left early
- Meet results were not received within 10 days after the meet.
- The swimmer was entered in a limited event and did not make the cut.