



## OUTREACH MEMBERSHIP

### FAQ

#### **For Members:**

**1. Does USA Swimming provide any assistance related to the annual membership fee?**

USA Swimming is committed to providing outreach membership for families in need. The national fee for outreach membership is \$5.00 and the Local Swimming Committee (LSC) has the option to set a local fee that may not exceed \$2.00.

**2. Which LSCs offer an outreach membership?**

Each LSC is required by USA Swimming to offer outreach memberships to qualified athletes. (USA Swimming Rules and Regulations – **Article 302.2.2**)

**3. What are the outreach membership qualifications?**

Each LSC determines how they will qualify athletes for outreach membership. LSCs are encouraged to use any of the following programs to determine outreach membership eligibility:

- Federal food stamp program ([SNAP](#))
- Federal housing documentation ([HUD.GOV](#))
- WIC Program (Women, Infant and Children Federal Nutrition Program)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (previously AFDC)
- Emergency Food Assistance Program ([TEFAP](#))
- [Medicaid](#) Medical Card
- Children's Health Insurance Program ([CHIP](#))
- State programs
- Social Security Disability Insurance ([SSDI](#))
- Supplemental Security Income ([SSI](#))
- Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) 1. Emergency Assistance
- Federal Poverty Schedule
- Federal Tax Return
- This does not exclude participation in the Free and Reduced Lunch Program if CEP is not available in your area.

Participation in each program is based on individual family economics. Contact your LSC for their eligibility criteria. LSC info can be found [here](#).

**4. What paperwork do I need to fill out to register as outreach?**

You will need to fill out a USA Swimming Outreach registration application. It can be found on your LSC website with the other USA Swimming registration applications.

**5. What else do I need to submit for the outreach membership?**

Your LSC may require you to submit verification of the criteria they specify.

**6. To whom do I submit the necessary paperwork (including paperwork for athletes that are homeschooled and/or in foster care, etc.)?**

Complete an Outreach Athlete registration form and send it with the supporting paperwork to your club registrar. Athletes who do not belong to a club may send the application and paperwork to the LSC Registrar.

**7. If I am concerned about privacy, is there a way to send the information confidentially?**

Most LSC's will allow you to hand deliver documents. For more information please contact your LSC to discuss what alternate delivery options are available for you and for a list of outreach programs (scholarships, reduced fees, etc.).

**8. How often do I need to register for the outreach membership?**

Outreach memberships are renewed annually.

**9. I can't find information on outreach membership on the LSC website.**

Contact your LSC Diversity and Inclusion Chair or your LSC Registrar for outreach information. Contact information for members of your local leadership can be found on your LSC website.

**10. How does outreach membership fit into seasonal and year-round swimming?**

The outreach membership is a year-round membership, but at a reduced cost. It is not a seasonal membership.

**11. Who is responsible for handling registration of outreach memberships - USA Swimming or the LSC?**

All membership registrations are handled by the LSC, not the USA Swimming National office.

**12. I have a disabled son/daughter do they qualify for the outreach membership?**

It depends on your LSC. Some LSC's do allow athletes with disabilities to apply for outreach, while others do not.

**13. Where is information about the outreach membership on USA Swimming's website?**

[usaswimming.org/outreach](http://usaswimming.org/outreach)

## **For LSC Leadership:**

### **1. What is the purpose of the outreach membership?**

The outreach membership can assist families in need, alleviating some of the financial burden associated with participation in our sport. USA Swimming outreach membership offers qualified individuals the opportunity to become a USA Swimming year-round athlete member at a reduced fee.

### **2. What are the benefits of expanding/offering alternative qualifying criteria?**

There are many national and state programs that determine financial need. In some areas, the free and reduced lunch program is no longer an indicator of a family's income level due to the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP). Regardless of the effect of CEP, expanding eligibility criteria allows LSCs to use other local and national programs, tailoring the criteria to best fit the specific needs of the LSC.

### **3. Is USA Swimming mandating that LSC's expand the qualifying criteria that LSC's use to determine outreach membership eligibility?**

Each LSC is required by USA Swimming to offer the outreach membership to those who qualify, however each LSC determines the qualifying criteria.

### **4. Will our LSC Registrar receive guidelines for each category?**

Yes. The National Diversity and Inclusion Committee has provided a list of suggested programs.

### **5. What are the most commonly used criteria for Outreach eligibility?**

Several LSC's use the Federal food stamp program and Medicaid as their primary methods of qualification because families have those documents on hand.

For more information please email USA Swimming at [inclusion@usaswimming.org](mailto:inclusion@usaswimming.org) or call (719) 866-4578.