



USA Swimming Athlete Fellowship



FAQs

What is the USA Swimming Athlete Fellowship?

The USA Swimming Athlete Fellowship is a 13-month leadership development program designed for high school aged athlete members of USA Swimming who wish to gain leadership skills, be more involved in the Safe Sport, Diversity & Inclusion, and Clean Sport movements, and become a liaison between USA Swimming national headquarters and local swim clubs. Fellows will work closely with staff leadership to develop projects to bring the message of their given program to local swim clubs and provide education and mission awareness locally. The Fellowship is anchored by three Leadership Institutes, where fellows will have the opportunity to engage in a thoughtful curriculum of leadership development practices and set personal goals.

Who can apply?

Any high school age athlete member of USA Swimming who is 15 years old or older is eligible to apply by completing the online application at www.usaswimming.org/protect.

What is a Leadership Institute?

A Leadership Institute is a two-day intensive workshop designed to help fellows grow and develop leadership skills. During this time, fellows will have the opportunity to work alongside members of the Safe Sport, Diversity & Inclusion staff and other USA Swimming leaders. At least one Leadership Institute will be hosted at the United States Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs.

What is the time commitment?

The Fellowship is a one year commitment from January to January. Participation in the three Leadership Institutes is mandatory. Additionally, fellows will be expected to implement projects in the time between Leadership Institutes, including hosting trainings for local swim clubs, launching social media campaigns, and/or developing sustainable Safe Sport, D&I, or Clean Sport programming within his/her LSC. Fellows will be in regular communication with staff members for guidance and support to complete identified projects.

Do I need prior leadership experience to become a fellow?

Not necessarily. USA Swimming will be looking for individuals who display a strong desire to develop leadership skills and identify new methods to advance the message of Safe Sport, D&I, or Clean Sport within the swimming community.

Do I get to pick which program I want to work with?

In the application, you are asked to rank the program areas with your first, second, and third choices. We will do our best to match you with your first or second choice program.

Is there a cost to participate?

No. Travel, room, and board for the Leadership Institutes will be provided by USA Swimming. Supplies needed for projects will also be provided.

Is it a paid fellowship?

There are no financial rewards for fellows, however, travel, room, and board will be provided by USA Swimming. You will gain valuable experience, create new professional connections, and experience an opportunity to plug into the governance of USA Swimming in an unprecedented way.

Important Dates:

- Application window September 25-October 20, 2018
- Leadership Institute #1 January 25-27, 2019
- Leadership Institute #2 June 28-30, 2019
- Leadership Institute #3 January 2020 (date TBD)

Questions?

Contact Maggie Vail, Safe Sport Education Manager, with questions at (719) 866-3552 or mvail@usaswimming.org.