



Travel Fund Policy

Purpose

In order to ensure equitably that all swimmers have the opportunity to participate in team travel meets that require performance-level qualifying times, SMAC has established a Travel Fund to subsidize costs.

As a part of the annual budget process, the Board identifies certain national and international level meets for which participating SMAC athletes are eligible for partial reimbursement of travel expenses. SMAC Travel funds are in addition to PNS, Section, or Zone funds.

Generally, the Travel Fund is offered for the following Meets Sectionals, Junior Nationals, US Open, Nationals, and Olympic Trials.

The reimbursement amount shall be determined by the SMAC Board of Directors and communicated to the families with eligible athletes 60 days in advance of the meet.

Eligibility for Meet Entry Support

1. The swimmer must be a current year-round athlete member of USA Swimming and SMAC and compete in at least one sanctioned meet while registered as a PNS Athlete in the same season as the reimbursement.
2. The swimmer must have achieved the Qualifying time standard during the qualification time period and must have competed in an individual event.
 - a. Swimmers must list the team as their primary affiliation if multiple affiliations are listed (e.g., SMAC-PN/CAL-PC).
 - b. Individual swimmers competing attached or unattached, may request an exemption to the above requirements. Exemption requests shall be submitted to the Booster Club President and Head Coach at least 60 days prior to the meet.
 - c. Family's accounts must be in good standing (fees, fundraising, volunteer requirements) by the time of reimbursement.
 - d. Swimmers that violate the Travel Code of Conduct will not be eligible for the travel fund.

- e. Following verification of eligibility, a credit will be applied to the member's account.

Please note that the Western Zone has established two programs in order to encourage athletes to participate in the Age Group and/or Senior Zone Championships meets. Therefore, SMAC does not offer further reimbursement for these two meets.

College swimmers are eligible for travel reimbursement only if they were a PNS/SMAC registered swimmer for the year prior to college and participated in at least one PNS sanctioned meet that occurred the year prior to attending college. College swimmers that are new to the team will be eligible for 50% funding their first summer and full funding their second summer.