**Outreach Swimming**

**Mississippi Swimming Outreach Chair:
Candace Loper**

USA Swimming offers a reduced registration fee for athletes from low income families. The purpose of this program is to provide competitive swimming opportunities to the underrepresented and economically disadvantaged youth in the United States. The Outreach Program reduces the annual membership fee an athlete pays to USA Swimming from $62 to $5. In addition extreme efforts will be made to secure funds for additional needs such as swimsuits, equipment and possible travel expenses.

**Outreach Qualification Considerations:**-

Food Program

Welfare Recipient

Disability

Yearly Family Income

Government Assisted Healthcare

Special Circumstances

**Outreach Mission**

USA Swimming is committed to increasing multicultural, ethnic, and socioeconomic diversity at all levels of the sport to achieve and foster an inclusive swimming environment**.**

**Vision**

As the national governing body for competitive swimming in the United States, USA Swimming has a vision to create and maintain an environment that is free from participation barriers for persons from all cultural, ethnic, and socioeconomic backgrounds. Diversity and inclusion are valuable components that will benefit the organization at all levels. Embracing the strengths and beauty of diversity enhances the mission of USA Swimming, which is to build the base, promote the sport and achieve competitive success.

**Mississippi Swimming Outreach Procedure**

The Mississippi Swimming athlete “Outreach” membership (an annual reduced registration fee for USA Swimming membership), along with the athlete’s club giving a reduced monthly club fee, will aid the athlete financially to continue their swimming program. Applicants (or parents/guardians) must submit to the Outreach Chair, proof of qualifying for the public school free/reduced lunch program, proof of reported family income *Or* one of the above listed Outreach Qualification Considerations (the burden of proof lies with the applicant). In addition, the club team must provide financial assistance in the form of a scholarship to the athlete if the athlete is accepted as an Outreach member.