**BASIC INFORMATION**

**2016 Diversity Select Camp**

**PURPOSE:**

Instill a vision of success and inspire athletes from ethnically under-represented populations to become leaders in the sport of swimming.

Goals: To empower athletes from ethnically under-represented populations and their coaches to:

* Demonstrate the viability of multicultural success in swimming.
* Achieve performance excellence at every level of the sport.
* Expound the benefits and value of participating in the sport of swimming.
* Assist in recruiting more swimmers and coaches from diverse ethnicities to the sport of swimming.
* Be positive leaders and role models that others from multicultural backgrounds can emulate.

**SITE:**

U.S. Olympic Training Center (OTC), Colorado Springs, CO

**Dates:**

Tentatively May 5-8, 2016. Athletes will arrive on Thursday and depart on Sunday morning.

**NUMBER OF ATHLETES:**

48 athletes (24 boys & 24 girls)

**Application Deadline:**

The application deadline is Monday, February 8, 2016 at 5pm Mountain Standard Time (one month after the application opens).

**AGE:**

14 – 16 years of age. Age is as of the first day of camp May 5, 2016.

**ELIGIBILITY:**

Any USA Swimming registered athlete member who is eligible to represent the USA in international competition: a U.S. citizen who has NOT represented another country in international competition, in the case of dual citizens (your sport nation must be the United States), meets the qualification time standards, has not previously attended a USA Swimming Diversity Select Camp and represents an ethnically underrepresented population that is less than 10% of the current USA Swimming membership. These populations include: African American, Hispanic, Asian or Pacific Islander, or Native American. As an added component, six athletes of each sex will be chosen from Outreach membership applicants. A swimmer cannot attend a Zone Select Camp and the Diversity Select Camp in the same year.

**QUALIFICATION STANDARDS:**

Athletes **must** have achieved at least one Diversity Select Camp time standard as shown [here](http://www.usaswimming.org/_Rainbow/Documents/68e2ae33-ef6c-4826-a452-597de18d4aec/2013%20-16%20TIME%20STANDARDS%20FOR%20APPLICATION.pdf) (SCY and/or LCM) to apply for selection. These times are AAAA National Motivational Times for 13-14 year olds. Times must have been achieved in a USA Swimming sanctioned or approved meet (able to be proven in the SWIMS database).

**Application:**

**The application link will be posted here on January 8, 2016.**

Please note: Application must be filled out by the athlete.  The athlete must have a USA Swimming website account and username that is linked to the athlete's USA Swimming record. The athlete will not be able to access the application until logged into his/her account.

**SELECTION CRITERIA:**

From the applications, the athlete with the fastest time in each of the 13 Olympic events will automatically be selected. Priority will be given to athletes with long course times but short course times will be considered using power point scores as the basis of comparison. Additionally, two athletes of each sex will be selected based on IMX scores,  three athletes of each sex will be selected based on outstanding performance in one or more events, and six athletes of each sex will be chosen based on Outreach membership status.

**CAMP SCHEDULE:**

The 3-day camp program will include a combination of pool training, motivational and education sessions, and team building activities.

**COST:**

Each athlete selected for the camp will be provided free room and board at the Olympic Training Center, ground transportation in Colorado Springs and full airfare to Colorado Springs.

**PERSONAL COACHES:**

As with the National Select Camp program, the personal coaches of the athletes selected will be invited to attend the camp and will be provided an educational tract similar to that offered to the athletes. Personal coaches will be provided room and board at the OTC, ground transportation from/to the Colorado Springs airport, and a $200 reimbursement to offset airfare expense.

**CAMP STAFF:**

The camp staff will be selected from accomplished multicultural candidates from across the USA and include a head coach, four assistant coaches, two managers, and a national team athlete. Assistant coach and manager candidates must submit a written application. **The application link will be posted here on January 8, 2016.**

**USA Swimming Staff:**

Staff from the Club Development and National Team divisions, as well as outside speakers will be assigned as necessary to provide support and make presentations.

**Questions:**

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| [**Time Standards**](http://www.usaswimming.org/_Rainbow/Documents/68e2ae33-ef6c-4826-a452-597de18d4aec/2013%20-16%20TIME%20STANDARDS%20FOR%20APPLICATION.pdf) **http://www.usaswimming.org/Images/icons/pdf_icon.gif** |

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