



# OLYMPIC SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ATHLETES LOS ANGELES 2028 – INDIVIDUAL Guidelines

World Programmes – Olympic Games Universality – Olympic Scholarships for Athletes

## What are the programme's objectives?

To assist athletes selected by their respective National Olympic Committees (NOCs) in their preparation and qualification for the Games of the XXXIV Olympiad, Los Angeles 2028.

Desired outcomes include:

- athletes benefit from improved training and competition experiences;
- athletes progress to the Olympic Games;
- contribute to the universality of the Games, especially in terms of smaller NOCs and female athletes.

## Who can apply?

NOCs that had 50 or fewer athletes in individual sports at the Olympic Games Paris 2024.

The following team sports are not included in the calculation: basketball (including 3x3 basketball), football, handball, hockey, rugby 7s, volleyball (including beach volleyball) and water polo.

## What sports are eligible?

Any individual sport included on the programme of the Olympic Games Los Angeles 2028.

## Who is this programme for?

Only athletes with the following profile may be put forward by their NOC as scholarship candidates:

- **Olympic sport:** athletes practising an individual sport included on the programme of the Olympic Games Los Angeles 2028 at an international level.
- **Minimum technical level:** athletes with the technical level to be able to qualify for the Olympic Games Los Angeles 2028. Proof of the athlete's technical sports level must be shown through results obtained at international competitions and recognised by the International Federations.



- **Limited access to training funds:** athletes for whom a scholarship would make a significant difference in their training, and who do not have access to alternative means of paying for their preparation.
- **Ethics:** athletes who have not been convicted of a doping offence or sanctioned for actions contrary to the standards of sporting ethics as established by the Olympic Charter, the IOC or the NOC.

## What activities are covered?

The individual scholarships give NOCs the possibility to obtain financial and technical assistance for a limited number of athletes who are training and attempting to qualify for the Olympic Games Los Angeles 2028.

In its decision to allocate an Olympic scholarship, Olympic Solidarity will strive to ascertain the optimum training environment for each athlete. Olympic Solidarity's decision as to whether athletes will train in their home country or abroad at a high-level training centre will be based exclusively on the needs of the athlete and the requirements of his/her sport. The principal partners in this decision process will be the NOC and training centres.

Two training options exist:

NOC training option – Olympic Solidarity recognises that most athletes train in an environment in which they feel comfortable, and which offers the necessary facilities. This environment can normally be found within their national territory; however, in certain circumstances it could be an independent training centre overseas that is not part of the Olympic Solidarity training centre network. In such cases, responsibility for the administration of the scholarship and training location lies exclusively with the NOC.

Training centre option – The choice of the high-level training centre will be determined by Olympic Solidarity in collaboration with the NOC. The decision will be based on the personal profile of the athletes and their sporting needs. In such cases, responsibility for the administration of the Olympic scholarship lies primarily with the training centre.

## Are any third parties involved?

Olympic Solidarity has service agreements with high-level international training centres that can accommodate certain scholarship-holders in some sports.

Three options are available: 1) partner NOCs with well-developed training structures, 2) partner IFs, and 3) individual training centres.

Further information on the training centre network is available upon request from Olympic Solidarity at the start of the application process.

## Are there any restrictions?

NOCs will be offered a maximum of six individual Olympic scholarships (three for men and three for women).

NOCs may propose to modify the number of scholarships, if the maximum available monthly budget and gender split are respected.

The programme is designed to be a long-term investment in a limited number of athletes for their preparation for the Olympic Games Los Angeles 2028. The replacement of scholarships during the programme is not envisaged.

## Is there a deadline for submissions?

This programme will be operational from 1 September 2025 until 31 August 2028:

- **As from May 2025:** NOCs can submit applications on RELAY.



- **30 June 2025:** Deadline for submitting applications to Olympic Solidarity to be included in the first batch of allocations (starting on 1 September 2025).
- **1 September 2025:** Programme operational and first batch of scholarships activated.
- **14-30 July 2028:** Games of the XXXIV Olympiad.

Olympic Solidarity will allocate all the scholarships for an NOC at the same time. It is therefore essential that NOCs respect the above deadline and submit applications for all their candidates together.

For NOCs that fail to submit their requests in time to benefit from the first allocation batch, Olympic Solidarity may add new allocation dates. These dates will be dependent on the number and timing of applications received.

## What is the application procedure?

NOCs with athletes who fulfil the eligibility criteria may submit candidatures on RELAY using the individual scholarship application form.

NOCs should submit an equal number of male and female candidates and in order of priority.

Olympic Solidarity will analyse each candidature submitted, in collaboration with the respective International Federation.

Given the complexity of the analysis process and the number of candidatures expected, please note that a minimum of two months will be needed to analyse each NOC's application for this programme.

Olympic Solidarity will be responsible for the final approval of the scholarships.

Each athlete awarded a scholarship will be required to sign an agreement with his/her NOC and NF listing the responsibilities of each party.

NOCs should apply only for athletes who have not been convicted of a doping offence or sanctioned for actions contrary to the standards of sporting ethics as established by the Olympic Charter, the IOC or the NOC.

## What is the maximum amount of funding an NOC can apply for?

NOCs will be offered a maximum monthly budget of USD 9,000, which is to support six athletes (three men and three women). The standard individual scholarship budget is USD 1,500 per month per scholarship-holder.

## What expenses are covered?

The scholarship offers selected athletes a fixed monthly grant for their training and qualification costs, which may cover:

- access to appropriate training facilities/training camps;
- a coach specialised in the relevant sporting discipline;
- regular medical and scientific assistance and monitoring;
- accident and illness insurance, as medical interventions are not covered by Olympic Solidarity;
- board and lodging costs;
- pocket money (amount to be established with the NOC or training centre);
- travel costs for the athlete to participate in competitions, including Olympic qualification events.



Once a scholarship is awarded by Olympic Solidarity, the athlete's NOC is responsible for agreeing with the athlete on the use of the scholarship and the subsequent management of the funds, as well as reporting to Olympic Solidarity.

Since an objective of this programme is participation by the Olympic scholarship-holders in the Olympic Games Los Angeles 2028, part of the monthly scholarship grant should also be used to cover transport costs (including transport of equipment) to take part in Olympic qualification competitions.

For athletes benefitting from the training centre option, the funds will be managed directly by the centre. The scholarship-holders and their training centres are responsible for coordinating with the athletes' NF/NOC to ensure entry in the relevant qualification competitions.

## What are the payment options for this programme?

Two scholarship payment options exist for NOC training. One of these should be selected in the application form:

- Payment to the NOC; or
- Payment to the scholarship-holder.

For the training centre option, Olympic Solidarity will negotiate a fixed monthly rate with the partner training centres, and will make all payments for the athletes directly to the centre (including for airline tickets for travel to and from the centre).

## What are the reporting requirements?

NOCs are exclusively responsible for the administration (technical and financial) of Olympic scholarships with the NOC training option.

Should Olympic Solidarity place scholarship-holders in an overseas training centre, it is the responsibility of the training centre to ensure proper administration and reporting.

Olympic Solidarity requests regular feedback from the NOCs on NOC training option scholarships regarding each athlete's progress towards Olympic qualification. This includes:

- an evaluation form for each scholarship-holder, signed by the athlete, NF and NOC, which the NOC uploads to RELAY every four months; and
- an individual financial report for each scholarship-holder, to be completed by the NOC in RELAY every four months if the scholarship is paid to the NOC.

In accordance with the Olympic Solidarity financial procedures and for the Olympic Solidarity control of funds programme, as a minimum an acknowledgement of receipt, bank statements evidencing the bank transfer or cheque disbursement to the athlete must be kept as supporting documentation in your NOC accounting. Olympic Solidarity does not require athletes' expense details (copies of invoices, receipts, etc.) if the scholarship funds are paid directly to the athlete by Olympic Solidarity or by the NOC.

If the scholarship is not paid directly to the athlete, full details of expenses (invoices, receipts, etc.) to third parties must be kept in the NOC's accounts. Each NOC is solely and entirely responsible for any additional justification demanded by national laws.

It is the responsibility of each NOC to ensure that all evaluation forms and financial reports are fully and correctly completed and submitted for all scholarship-holders at the end of each scholarship period. The scholarship payment will be released by Olympic Solidarity only after all the documents have been accepted.



In order not to penalise scholarship-holders who have reported on time, should the bulk reporting be delayed by one or more scholarship-holders, the athlete(s) concerned must be warned by their NOC. If their reports are still not submitted, Olympic Solidarity must be informed and appropriate measures will be taken (final warning, scholarship cancellation, etc.).

If an NOC has not submitted the scholarship reports to Olympic Solidarity by the end of the following scholarship period (i.e. a four-month delay), the scholarships may be cancelled by Olympic Solidarity.

## Are there any other instructions?

Since one of the objectives of awarding an Olympic scholarship is the athlete's qualification for LA28, Olympic Solidarity reserves the right to withdraw the scholarship from any athlete in the following cases:

- failure to qualify for LA28;
- a decline in technical level making it unlikely the athlete will qualify for LA28;
- any reason that will prevent the athlete from participating at LA28;
- unethical behaviour (doping, disciplinary, etc.);
- contravention of the athlete/NF/NOC scholarship agreement or the Olympic Charter;
- failure to comply with scholarship reporting procedures;
- competing for an NOC other than the scholarship applicant NOC; or
- any other reason deemed to be in violation of the spirit of the programme (in agreement with the NOC).