



National Diversity Select Camp Athlete FAQs

What is the USA Swimming National Diversity Select Camp?

Each Spring, USA Swimming invites 48 athletes (24 boys and 24 girls) from underrepresented populations to participate in a three-day camp program which includes pool training, motivational and educational sessions and team-building activities.

Why is my athlete eligible to apply?

Any USA Swimming registered athlete member who is eligible to represent the USA in international competition: a US citizen who has NOT represented another country in international competition, 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 can include African American, Hispanic, Asian or Pacific Islander, Native American, and others.

Athletes must be between the ages of 14 and 16 on the first day of camp; May 7, 2020.

Athletes must have achieved at least one National Diversity Select Camp time standard. 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.

For more information or to find specific time standards: www.usaswimming.org/camps

How are athletes selected after applications have been submitted?

From the applications, the athlete with the fastest time for each gender in each of the 13 Olympic events will automatically be selected. Only LCM times will be considered. Additionally, three athletes of each gender will be selected based on IMX scores, three athletes of each gender will be selected based on outstanding performance in one or more events, and five athletes of each gender will be chosen based on Outreach membership status.

What will my athlete be doing at camp?

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



Can my athlete attend a Zone Select Camp and a National Diversity Select Camp in the same year?

No, during the same year an athlete can attend either the National Diversity Select Camp OR the Zone Select Camp, not both. An athlete would remain eligible for the camp they chose not to attend if they still qualified the following year. You have been notified about the National Diversity Select Camp prior to the Zone Select Camp RSVP deadline.

Where will camp be held?

The 2020 National Diversity Select Camp will be held at the US Olympic & Paralympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, CO.

What costs am I responsible for?

Each athlete selected for the National Diversity Select Camp will be provided free room and board at the Olympic & Paralympic Training Center, ground transportation in Colorado Springs, meals and full economy airfare to Colorado Springs.

Where will my athlete sleep?

Athletes will be housed in dorms at the US Olympic & Paralympic Training Center in Colorado Springs. They can expect to have 1-2 additional roommates. Males/Females are always separated.

Who will chaperone my athlete?

USA Swimming selects an experienced staff to chaperone these athletes. There will be a head manager and an assistant manager on staff who are responsible for the safety and well-being of the athletes. There is also a head coach and four assistant coaches on staff. In addition, at least two USA Swimming staff members will be present for the camp.

Who will coach my athlete?

Camp staff will be selected from accomplished multicultural candidates from across the country which will include a head coach and four assistant coaches.

Are personal coaches invited to camp as well?

Yes, personal coaches of the athletes selected will be invited to attend the camp and will be provided with a separate educational tract to that offered to the athletes. Personal coaches will be provided room and board at the OTC, ground transportation to and from the Colorado Springs airport, meals and a \$200 reimbursement to offset the airfare/mileage expense.

**How do we screen our camp staff?**

USA Swimming requires all camp staff to be USA Swimming members in good standing. That means, they all have a valid background check on file and have taken the Athlete Protection Training course. In addition, all camp staff members are screened by the U.S. Center for SafeSport and forego additional screening through our USA Swimming pre-employment screening process. For more information about our Safe Sport program please contact Tiffany Midkiff at tmidkiff@usaswimming.org.

Where will my athlete eat?

All meals are provided for the camp and will be eaten on campus at the Olympic & Paralympic Training Center. Light snacks are provided, but if your athlete needs anything extra please have them bring it with them.

My athlete is flying to camp... what do I do?

USA Swimming will book all travel for athletes coming to camp. Please fill out the travel information form in the trip portal by the deadline. USA Swimming will send you a tentative flight itinerary to approve before booking. Camp staff will greet athletes at the airport and arrange ground transportation to/from the airport.

I am nervous about my child traveling alone... what do I do?

USA Swimming will make every effort to put your athlete on a direct flight to Colorado Springs. However, it is a smaller airport and that cannot be guaranteed based on cost and flight times. Should you feel uncomfortable with your child flying alone, you can choose to travel with them or add the unaccompanied minor feature to their ticket at your own cost. USA Swimming will not cover your costs while in Colorado Springs. We make every effort to get swimmers on the same flights if they are traveling from the same area. Also, if their home coach is attending the camp, we require that the home coach book the same flight as the athlete.

What does my athlete need to pack?

A packing list will be provided closer to the camp, but you can expect basic clothing and amenities to survive a 3-night stay in dorms. They will need to pack a suit and goggles in their carry-on. Athletes will receive a swim backpack, t-shirts, two swim caps, a water bottle, and a notebook/pen.

Is there any required paperwork?

Yes, once you accept your athlete's invitation to camp you will receive online instructions to complete the required paperwork. This includes an honor code,



authorization/waiver, medical release, travel information and swimmer information form. Please complete all required documents.

What do I need to do now?

You need to fill out the paperwork by **March 30, 2020**. There will be an informational parent webinar held as we get closer to camp (approximately one month before camp), so stay tuned for more information.

I still have a question- what do I do?

Questions can be directed to Morgan Weinberg, Senior Manager of Education & Programs. She can be reached via email at mweinberg@usaswimming.org.

USA Swimming will host a parent webinar approximately one month prior to the first camp to cover any remaining questions.