

OUTREACH MEMBERSHIP

OKLAHOMA SWIMMING, INC.

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 to \$5.00. Application for assistance is an annual application which must be renewed each calendar year.

Each LSC determines how it will qualify athletes for Outreach Membership. Oklahoma Swimming will accept proof of qualification from the following:

- Federal food stamp program
- Federal housing documentation
- WIC Program (Women, Infant and Children Federal Nutrition Program)
- AFDC
- Medicaid Medical Card
- TANF
- Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal poverty schedule

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.

Outreach 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 and Oklahoma Swimming, which is to build the base, promote the sport and achieve competitive success.

To reduce potential problems associated with qualifying for scholarships, Oklahoma Swimming recommends that each club certify its own applying athletes.

Many Clubs likely have some type of scholarship/reduced fee program already. This Outreach Program is intended to augment such Club programs. While applicants are ultimately responsible, OKS assumes that the host club will be notified of the need by the athlete and/ or parents. The club then indicates those athletes who have been identified as Outreach eligible. The athlete must be indicated in the registration as a “Premium Athlete”.

Procedures for applying for Outreach Membership

1. The parent submits proof of qualification to the SwimTulsa Registration Chair.
2. Once accepted, the parent will be sent a link to the USA Swimming website to register as an Outreach athlete. The parent of the athlete needs to register on USA Swimming website first as a parent if they are new and then registers their athlete.
3. Payment is made at the end of the athlete's registration process directly to USA Swimming.

Every effort will be made to keep outreach membership confidential.