

# The Coach Don Watkins SWIM Award - 2023 Application Form

## Introduction

The Coach Donald Watkins' SWIM Award was established in 2017 to enable person(s) of a diverse background, circumstance, ability, or hardship to participate in the sport of swimming. The Award will pay swim-related expenses for the chosen San Diego Imperial Swimming athlete(s). The intent of the award(s) is to encourage the growth of the sport of swimming through outreach to underserved and/or diverse communities in the San Diego region.

The Fund is named in honor of Coach Donald Watkins, who focused on each individual swimmer's unique abilities, and character. Don encouraged individual accomplishment through the values of: (FIRST) Fun, Integrity, Respect, Service, and Team.

## Eligibility Criteria for Recipients

The intent of the award(s) is to enable person(s) of a diverse background, circumstance, ability, or hardship to participate in the sport of swimming.

## Selection Criteria:

- At the time of award, the swimmer must be an active athlete, registered with USA Swimming under the San Diego Imperial Swimming (SI) region and registered with an approved SI team.
- The athlete must be a passionate swimmer that has consistently exhibited the character and values that Coach Donald H. Watkins taught through his coaching.
- Selection will focus on the character of the individual (regardless of competitive performance level).
- The selection of the recipient will consider the values of diversity and inclusion (background, circumstance, physical or mental disability, hardship).
- The selection of the recipient will consider financial need if documentation is provided.

## How to Apply

All applicants must submit the following:

1. Completely filled-out Award Application Form
2. Evidence of financial need - OPTIONAL but recommended
3. Personal Statement

Award applicants should write a short personal statement (minimum 1 page, but no more than 5 pages) describing why they believe they are a good candidate for the Don Watkins SWIM Award. The applying child must be the author of the statement. Parents may assist younger children, or English-speaking friends may assist with language translation. Consider

including information about past experiences, why swimming is important to you, and/or how you think the award would benefit you. It is acceptable to submit media such as pictures, art, or video (please make sure they are in a standard easy-to-review format).

**Please either upload the application and all supplementary materials here OR mail to the address below no later than April 23, 2023, 11:59PM PST. Mailed applications must be postmarked by April 23, 2023 at the latest. Award recipients and their teams will be notified no later than May 6, 2023.**

San Diego-Imperial Swimming DEI  
c/o Don Watkinds Swim Award  
120 Witton Ct. Apt 10  
Charlottesville, VA 22903

*\* Indicates required question*

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### Swimmer Information

1. Name \*

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2. Email \*

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3. Phone Number \*

Please enter as (xxx)xxx-xxxx.

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4. Mailing Address \*

Address Line 1, Address Line 2, City, State, Zip

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5. Date of Birth \*

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*Example: January 7, 2019*

6. I am currently registered with USA Swimming for the 2023 season. \*

*Mark only one oval.*

Yes

No

## 7. Team Name \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- Bay Club Aquatics
- Cali Piranhas
- College Area Swim Team
- Coronado Swim Association / Team Elite
- Fallbrook Associated Swim Team
- Heartland Swim Association
- Imperial Valley Desert Aquatics
- Inland Coastal Aquatics Club
- Barracudas Swim Team
- Manta Ray Aquatics
- Mission San Diego
- North Coast Aquatics
- Oceanside Swim Club
- Pacific Swim
- Ramona Swim Team
- Rancho San Dieguito
- Renegade Aquatics
- San Diego Aquatics Club
- San Diego Seaport Aquatics
- Sol Swim Team
- South Bay Aquatics
- Swim San Diego
- Trinity Aquatics
- Wind N Sea Swim Team
- Unattached

8. How long have you been swimming? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- Less than 1 year
- 1 - 2 years
- 3 - 5 years
- 5 - 7 years
- 7+ years

9. How many meets within SI did you compete in from January - December 2022? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- 0
- 1 - 2
- 3 - 5
- 6 - 7
- 8+

10. Are you involved in any extracurriculars outside of swimming? If yes, please list and briefly describe them here.  
If no, please enter "N/A" and move on to the next question.

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The following questions are asked for the purpose of helping us use the most respectful language when addressing you and to better understand our athlete population. Please help us serve you better by selecting the answers you most identify with.

## 11. Gender Identity \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- Female
- Male
- Genderqueer/Gender-nonconforming
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## 12. Do you identify as a member of the LGBTQ+ community? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- Yes
- No

## 13. Preferred Pronouns \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- He
- She
- They
- No preference
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## 14. Race (check all that apply) \*

*Check all that apply.*

- White
- Native American/Alaska Native
- Black and/or African American
- Asian
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## 15. Ethnicity (check all that apply) \*

*Check all that apply.*

- Non-Hispanic/Latino
- Dominican
- Cuban
- Mexican/Chicano
- Puerto Rican
- Other Hispanic/Latino

USA Swimming and SI encourage people with disabilities to participate in the sport of swimming and facilitate their inclusion in USA Swimming & SI programs through education and collaboration. We seek to involve people with disabilities in existing competitions and programs for all swimmers, rather than provide unique disability-only opportunities.

To view more information from USA Swimming, [click here](#).

To view the most recent Para-Swimming Time Standards, [click here](#).

16. Do you identify as a swimmer with a disability?

*Mark only one oval.*

Yes

No

Parent/Guardian Contact Information

17. Parent/Guardian 1 Name \*

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18. Email \*

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19. Daytime Phone Number \*

Please enter as (xxx)xxx-xxxx.

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20. Home Phone

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21. Cell Phone

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22. Parent 2/Guardian 2 Name

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23. Email \*

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24. Daytime Phone Number \*

Please enter as (xxx)xxx-xxxx.

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25. Home Phone

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26. Cell Phone

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### Financial Need

The Committee does consider financial need when reviewing award applications. If you wish to explain your need or circumstances, please do so in this section. Please note that all responses will be kept strictly confidential and only be used to aid your application.

27. Are you registered as an Outreach member with USA Swimming? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

Yes

No, I do not meet the eligibility criteria

No, but I intend on reading the criteria located at [www.si-swimming.com/team/sandiegoinperial/page/registration/2023-usa-swimming-registration-fees-and-outreach-criteria](http://www.si-swimming.com/team/sandiegoinperial/page/registration/2023-usa-swimming-registration-fees-and-outreach-criteria) to see if I qualify

28. Do you currently receive any form of financial assistance from your team? \*

Mark only one oval.

Yes

No

29. OPTIONAL - Explanation of Financial Circumstances

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30. OPTIONAL - Documentation of Financial Circumstances

Files submitted:

Personal Statement

Award applicants should write a short personal statement (minimum 1 page, but no more than 5 pages) describing why they believe they are a good candidate for the Don Watkins SWIM Award. The applying athlete must be the author of the statement. Essays should answer the following:

- What do you like most about swimming?
- How does being on a swim team help you?
- How are you a good teammate?
- When do you have the most fun with your swimming?
- How do you see yourself giving back to swimming and to your team? (ex. helping younger swimmers, including new swimmers who join your team, volunteering as an athlete representative for SI, becoming a water safety instructor or lifeguard, etc.)
- How would you use the money if you received the scholarship? (ex. attending more meets, for swim gear and equipment, paying team dues, etc.)
- What else would you like the scholarship subcommittee to know about you and your family?

Parents may assist younger children, or English-speaking friends may assist with language translation. Consider including information about past experiences, why swimming is important to you, and/or how you think the award would benefit you. It is acceptable to

submit media such as pictures, art, or video (please make sure they are in a standard easy-to-review format).

31. Please attach as a PDF or DOC file. \*

Files submitted:

32. Media Submission- Photo, Video, etc (OPTIONAL)

Files submitted:

### Statement of Responsibility

I understand that San Diego Imperial Swimming will keep all information provided confidential. I understand all information provided above will be used in consideration of granting me an award. I attest that all the information provided by me is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

33. Applicant's Signature \*

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34. Date \*

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*Example: January 7, 2019*

35. Parent/Guardian Signature \*

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36. Date \*

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*Example: January 7, 2019*

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## Google Forms