

Qualified Athletes may receive a reduced fee for USA Swimming athlete membership. To determine if you qualify, please review this document and complete the corresponding application.

Qualifications of Swimmers:

The yearly income guidelines that are used by school district to qualify children for the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program are also used to qualify Ozark Outreach swimmers. A swimmer does not have to participate in the actual lunch program in order to qualify. These are the same guidelines that USA Swimming say LSC's may use but are not limited to use along with economically disadvantaged, underserved, unserved and under-represented as discussed above by Sue Anderson, USA Swimming, Club Development Division, Program and Services Director.

A copy of one of the following items currently must be provided in order to show proof of need:

- Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program Verification Form
- Medicaid card
- Food Stamp Letter
- Current signed Federal Tax Return that shows that the guidelines have been met.

At the 1999 National Convention, USA Swimming approved a new registration fee for low-income families. The purpose of this fee is to reach out to the economically disadvantaged youth throughout the county. The Outreach Membership Program reduces the fee a year-round athlete pays to National Headquarters for membership. Outreach membership offers qualified individuals the opportunity to become a USA Swimming year-round athlete member at a reduced fee.

The national fee for outreach membership is \$5.00 and Local Swimming Committee has the option to set a local fee that may not exceed \$2.00. Ozark's Local Swim Committee has not set a local fee at this writing (February 2011) since the inception of the USA Swimming Outreach Membership Program in 1999. This fee reduction has been effective in recruiting underserved, underrepresented and economically disadvantaged youth to USA Swimming Programs.

Each LSC determines how they will qualify athletes for Outreach Membership. In accordance with USA Swimming Memberships: The Ozark LSC Registration and Membership policy handles a request for reimbursement/refund for any reason for all year-round Ozark USA Swimming Memberships including year-round Ozark USA Swimming Outreach Memberships void and expired 30 days following the purchase of the membership be it paid by a USA Swimming Club and/or USA Swimming Athlete.

USA Swimming's goal is for each LSC to make the Outreach Membership program as easy to administer as possible and have as many athletes' participate as possible. Each Local Swim Committee determines how they will qualify athletes for outreach membership. LSC's may use but are not limited to national guidelines based on: Federal Food Stamps, Free School Lunch and/or Federal Poverty Guidelines. USA Swimming suggests that the burden of "proof" rest with the applicant. It is not the LSC Registration Chair's job to track down people to verify their economic status.

Ozark LSC currently expects the Team and/or athlete to verify and keep a record of athlete USA Swimming outreach membership qualifications. LSC participation in the outreach membership program is not optional. The USA Swimming rulebook references in rule number 302.2 and 502.5 that it is mandated that the outreach category of athlete membership is available to all qualified athletes. So, all LSC's are required to offer Outreach Memberships.



USA Swimming Outreach Membership UCSC Record Keeping Form

Athlete Signature: _____

Club: UCSC

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please check ALL that applies:

Race and Ethnicity:

1. White
2. American Indian
3. Alaska Native
4. Asian
5. Black or African American
6. Hispanic or Latino
7. Native Hawaiian
6. Other Pacific Islander
7. Other Race

Disability:

1. Legally Blind
 2. Visually Impaired
 3. Deaf /Hard of Hearing
 4. Physical Disability*
 5. Cognitive Disability**
- *Physical Disability i.e.amputation, cerebral palsy, dwarfism, spinal injury, mobility impairment.
- **Cognitive Disability such as Mental retardation, severe learning Disorder, autism, other:

In your Community for the Sport of Swimming are you:

1. Under-represented
 2. Under-served
 3. Economically Disadvantaged
 4. Unemployed and/or Student
 5. Financially/Other Stressors: Please give a brief description _____
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Please indicate (provide copy to show proof)

1. Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program participant
2. Medicare and/or Medicaid Membership Card
3. Food Stamp letter
4. Utility and/or Rental Assistance letter
5. Signed Federal Tax Return (shows the Current Poverty Guidelines are met)

Upon receipt of this informational form and copies if applicable, we will issue your USA Swimming Membership Card and ALL of its privileges. See usaswimming.org
We want you on our Team!

Office Use Only:

Received by: Date _____