



# Olympic Scholarships for Athletes

## « London 2012 »

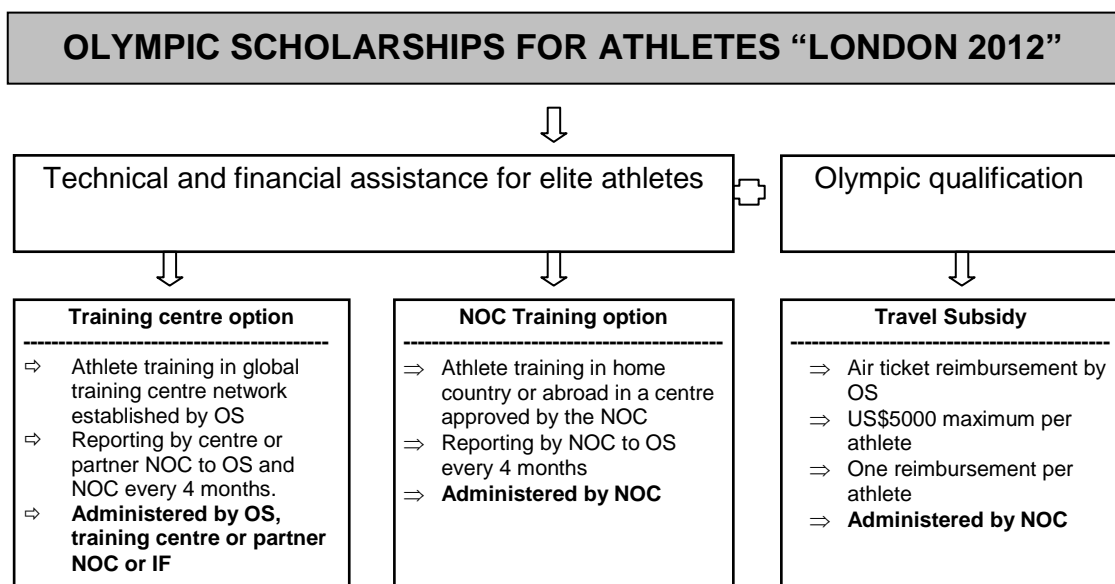
### Programme Guidelines

#### Objectives

To assist elite athletes nominated by their respective National Olympic Committees in their preparation and qualification for the Games of the XXX Olympiad, London 2012 with a particular attention to athletes and NOCs having financial difficulties.

#### Description

The Olympic scholarship programme offers NOCs the possibility to obtain financial and technical assistance for a select number of elite athletes who are training, and attempting to qualify, for the London Olympic Games.



#### 1. Content of an Olympic Scholarship

Should an athlete be awarded an Olympic scholarship, Olympic Solidarity and the NOC will ensure that he/she will be provided with the following:

- Access to appropriate training facilities
- A coach specialised in the relevant sporting discipline
- Regular medical and scientific assistance and control



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- Accident and illness insurance
- Board and lodging costs
- Adequate pocket money
- A fixed subsidy to offset travel costs to participate in the required international Olympic qualification competitions
- Access to technical information on the London Olympic Games

### 2. Athlete training options

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 in a high level training centre will be exclusively focused upon the needs of the athlete and the requirements of his/her sport. The principal partner in this decision process will be the NOC, whose advice and proposals will be taken into consideration.

Two training options exist:

#### a) TRAINING CENTRE OPTION

Olympic Solidarity will assist certain scholarship holders to train in an international high level training centre with which Olympic Solidarity has a service agreement for this programme. The agreements should enable athletes to access training in all of the most popular sports within each Continent. There are three types of options available:

- **Individual training centres:** Olympic Solidarity has entered into a limited number of service agreements with specialised training centres.
- **Partner NOCs:** Olympic Solidarity has agreed with a number of large and well-developed NOCs to place athletes in their national training centre network.
- **Partner IFs:** Olympic Solidarity has agreed with a number of International Federations to place athletes in their Continental or Regional training centres.

The choice of the high level training centre will be determined by Olympic Solidarity in collaboration with the NOC and, where need be, the Continental Association concerned on the basis of the personal profile of the athlete and their sporting needs. In these cases, the responsibility for the administration of the Olympic scholarship will be primarily with Olympic Solidarity and the training centre. Olympic Solidarity will ensure that the training centre provides the athlete with the content of the Olympic scholarship as noted above.

Further information on the training centre network is available before and during the allocation of the scholarships from Olympic Solidarity directly.



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### b) NOC TRAINING OPTION

Olympic Solidarity recognises that a majority of athletes are training within an environment in which they feel comfortable and which offers all the necessary facilities. This environment is normally within their national territory, however, in some particular circumstances, it could be in an independent training centre or university overseas that is not part of the training centre network noted above.

In this option, the responsibility for the administration of the Olympic scholarship will lie exclusively with the NOC. Olympic Solidarity will ensure that the NOC provides the athlete with the content of the Olympic scholarship as noted above. The base of calculation for an “NOC training option” per athlete, per month will be negotiable and will be dependent upon the cost of training the athlete in his/her chosen training environment (i.e. in their home country or abroad).

### 3. Olympic qualification process

Since the principal objective of this programme is the qualification of the Olympic scholarship holders for the London Olympic Games, Olympic Solidarity will offer each athlete a fixed travel subsidy of up to USD5'000.- to cover a limited number of air tickets for scholarship holders to participate in relevant Olympic qualification competitions.

Athletes who manage to qualify and who are entered to participate in the London Olympic Games by their NOC will have their scholarships confirmed up until 31<sup>st</sup> August 2012. Scholarships awarded to athletes who fail to qualify for the London Olympic Games will be withdrawn from the date of the final qualification opportunity.

## External Partners

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The Summer Olympic International Federations will assist Olympic Solidarity in the analysis of the NOC candidatures, in offering technical advice and in the follow-up of the results of the athletes who are awarded scholarships.

Olympic Solidarity will work with certain Partner NOCs, IFs and independent training centres to provide training opportunities to the scholarship holders.

The Continental Associations of the NOCs and the IOC Sports Department will be regularly consulted and informed on the situation of the programme and of the results obtained.

## Beneficiaries

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### NOC profile

This programme aims to promote the universal representation at the Olympic Games. Consequently, candidates from NOCs that have traditionally sent small delegations to the Olympic Games will be prioritised. Olympic Solidarity intends to



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enforce the principle of solidarity whilst allocating scholarships; thus favouring the NOCs with the most needs.

### Athlete profile

Athletes must have the following profile to be considered for a scholarship:

- **Olympic Sport:** An international level athlete who practises an individual sport included on the Olympic programme.
- **Minimum technical level:** The athlete must have the technical sports level to be able to qualify for the London Olympic Games. Proof of the athlete's technical level must be shown through results obtained at national and international competitions.
- **Maximum technical level:** Athletes having won a medal at the Olympic Games or the World Championships may be put forward by their NOC for an Olympic scholarship. However, these candidatures will be specifically reviewed on a case-to-case basis with Olympic Solidarity's technical partners so as to decide whether these athlete's profiles are compatible with the objectives of the programme.
- **Personal income:** The NOCs are asked to not submit candidates having a substantial personal income obtained through government grants, commercial sponsorship or prize money.
- **Ethics:** Please note that athletes having been convicted of a doping offence or having been sanctioned for actions contrary to the standards of sporting ethics as established by the Olympic Charter and the IOC may not be presented as scholarship candidates.

### Application procedure

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NOCs may submit candidatures for scholarships by using the application form attached (ANNEX 1).

- The maximum number of candidatures that an NOC can submit is limited to 15, however, we ask the NOCs to make a pre-selection to limit their applications according to the eligibility criteria noted above.
- Olympic Solidarity will ask the NOCs to prioritise the candidates submitted.
- The NOCs should make an effort to submit an equitable balance of male and female candidates.
- Applications submitted after 1<sup>st</sup> August 2010 will only be considered in exceptional circumstances.

### Analysis and approval

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Olympic Solidarity will analyse each candidature submitted in collaboration with the relevant IFs and, if needed, the respective Continental Association of NOCs.



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Olympic Solidarity will be responsible for the final approval of the Olympic scholarships and of the training option for the athletes.

Each athlete who will be awarded a scholarship will sign a contract with Olympic Solidarity and his/her NOC that will clearly list the responsibilities of each party and the monthly budget distribution of the scholarship.

### Financial conditions

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The budget allocated to this programme for the 2009 – 2012 quadrennial plan is USD19,000,000.

#### Budget allocation

##### 1. TRAINING CENTRE OPTION

Olympic Solidarity will negotiate a fixed monthly rate with the training centres with which an agreement will be signed so as to guarantee that the athletes benefit from all aspects of the Olympic scholarship as listed above. Olympic Solidarity will make all payments relating to athletes in the high level training centre network directly to the centre.

##### 2. NOC TRAINING OPTION

Our experience has shown that the cost of athlete training varies widely between regions of the world. Therefore, Olympic Solidarity and the NOC will agree upon the monthly amount of the scholarship per athlete per month. The number of scholarships allocated to an NOC will depend upon the amount offered to each athlete. Olympic Solidarity will make all payments relating to this training option directly to the NOC, which will then administer the funds in relation to the scholarship holders regardless of where they are training.

##### 3. TRAVEL SUBSIDY

During the full period of the programme, a maximum travel subsidy of USD5'000.- will be available to each scholarship holders to cover air ticket costs to participate in Olympic qualification events. NOCs may claim this travel subsidy once during the course of the programme by providing copies of the relevant air tickets (ANNEX 2) once the maximum budget is attained for the relevant athlete.

### Follow-up and control

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The detailed administrative procedures, together with the athlete evaluation form, for this programme will be sent to NOCs to which scholarships have been awarded.

#### Athlete Evaluation

Olympic Solidarity will request a constant information feedback by means of:

- An evaluation report (ANNEX 3) for each scholarship holder, to be submitted every four (4) months from the date of the award of the scholarship by either the NOCs or the training centres.
- A financial statement (ANNEX 3) from the athlete and the NOC that the scholarship funds have been distributed as agreed in the contract.



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### Termination of an Olympic Scholarship

Following consultation with the NOC, Olympic Solidarity reserves the right to terminate any Olympic scholarship at any time in cases where there is:

- non-qualification for the London Olympic Games;
- decline of technical level;
- medical reason, including injury;
- a conflict of sporting ethics (discipline, doping etc...) or
- any other reasons in mutual agreement with the NOC or in contravention of the Olympic Solidarity/NOC/athlete contract.

### Deadline

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This programme will be operational from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2010 until 31<sup>st</sup> August 2012 (2 years prior to the London Olympic Games):

- **January to August 2010:** NOC: National selection process and submission of candidatures.  
Olympic Solidarity: Evaluation of candidates with lfs.  
NOCs and Olympic Solidarity: Consultation and discussion on the choice of scholarship holders and training option.  
Olympic Solidarity: Final selection and award of Olympic scholarships.
- **1<sup>st</sup> September 2010 :** First batch of scholarships awarded and operational.
- **1<sup>st</sup> January 2011 :** Second batch of scholarships awarded and operational.