



Olympic Solidarity 2021-2024 Plan

Refugee Athlete Support

Programme Guidelines

Objective

To offer National Olympic Committees (NOCs) the opportunity to identify and support a limited number of refugee athletes living in their countries to prepare for and participate in high-level competitions.

Beneficiaries

National Olympic Committees

The programme is available to all the NOCs of countries hosting refugees and wishing to join the IOC in its effort to support and protect athletes.

Athletes

All candidates proposed must:

- Be recognised refugees or beneficiaries of international protection according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) agency.
- Have proven high-level competition results in an individual sport.

NOCs must ensure that candidates fulfil both these conditions before submitting an application on RELAY for them.

Description

A limited number of individual scholarships will be made available for elite-level refugee athletes to prepare for and participate in high-level competitions according to their individual situations.

The type of support will be similar to the Olympic scholarship programme for athletes:

- A fixed monthly grant to contribute to the costs of the athlete's training and the costs of participation in high-level and Olympic qualification competitions.



Once a scholarship has been awarded by Olympic Solidarity, the host NOC is responsible for agreeing on the use of the funds with the athlete, the subsequent management of these funds, and the periodic reporting to Olympic Solidarity.

Olympic Solidarity understands that refugee athletes have very unique and difficult situations, and the intention is therefore to offer the NOCs the possibility of managing the programme in an individualised manner.

External Partners

The NOCs of the countries hosting the refugee athletes will be considered as the “Host NOC” and will be responsible for identifying athletes and managing the scholarships at local level.

UNHCR is the only interlocutor of Olympic Solidarity for matters related to refugees in refugee camps. Should an athlete in a refugee camp be identified as having the profile and sporting level to potentially benefit from an individual training grant, the Host NOC may be consulted in view of including the athlete in the programme through a scholarship.

Allocation Procedure

Application

NOCs with athletes fulfilling the criteria noted above may submit candidatures for scholarships using the application form.

Analysis

Olympic Solidarity will analyse each candidature submitted in collaboration with the relevant International Sports Federation and the UNHCR.

The NOCs of the athletes’ countries of origin will also be consulted during the application phase.

Approval

Olympic Solidarity will be responsible for the final approval of the scholarships.

Once the scholarship has been approved, a confirmation will be sent to the Host NOC listing the responsibilities of each party.

Financial Conditions

The quadrennial budget allocated to this programme amounts to USD 4,000,000.
The standard individual scholarship budget is USD 1,500 per month per scholarship holder.