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## YMCA of the USA 2016 Travel Assistance Guidelines

YMCA-of-the-USA recognizes the commitment an athlete makes to training and competing in swimming and diving competitions. We realize the financial strain these competitions can have on families. The YMCA-of-the-USA hopes to alleviate some of the financial pressures associated with participation by making financial assistance available to local YMCA's to help offset an athlete's **transportation and lodging expenses** to a YMCA National competition event.

***Note:** Local YMCA matching funds are no longer required.*

Travel and lodging financial assistance **shall not exceed \$600.00 per applicant**. The funds will be distributed to the athlete's local YMCA by the YMCA-of-the-USA approximately 6 weeks after the YMCA National competition.

### **Eligibility Requirements:**

1. The local YMCA must be in compliance with "The Rules that Govern YMCA Competitive Sports" and in good standing with YMCA-of-the-USA.
2. Applicants and/or their families must be receiving assistance under their local YMCA's official Financial Assistance Program.
3. The Travel Assistance Request form (see below) must be completed. The local YMCA must specify the level of financial need they are requesting to help offset the applicant's travel and lodging expenses (note: a fund request cannot to exceed \$600 per applicant).
4. The Head Coach must provide proof that the applicant has qualified for the YMCA National competition.
5. The local YMCA Executive Director and Head Coach must submit a signed letter(s) supporting and recommending the applicant's participation
  - A statement indicating why a request for financial assistance is needed.
  - A statement of support and/or recommendation for the applicant.



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## Application Procedure:

The application form must be filled out completely with **all** the necessary documents attached before it can be considered. The YMCA National Travel Assistance committee will only consider the requested submission materials. Applicants and their local YMCA Head Coach will be notified by mail and/or e-mail regarding the status of their application. The Committee reserves the right to adjust the dollars approved based on the number of applicants and the details of the applicant's situation. If approved, ***Fund Allocation will be sent directly to the applicant's local YMCA for Distribution.***

## Deadline and Notification Dates

### Short Course:

Submission deadline for National Short Course Championships is **March 22, 2016 (received and/or postmarked)**. Notifications of approval or denial of financial assistance awards will be given **March 25, 2016**.

### Long Course:

Submission deadline for National Long Course Championships is **July 12, 2016 (received and/or postmarked)**. Notifications of approval or denial of financial assistance awards will be given **July 15, 2016**

## Submission Materials:

- Completed Travel Assistance Application Form
- YMCA Nationals competition qualification verification
- Recommendation letter(s) signed by Head Coach and Executive Director

## Submission

Submission materials should be sent to either:

- Electronically: **Susan Smith: [iwcfsusan@gmail.com](mailto:iwcfsusan@gmail.com)**
- or
- Hard copy: **Tom Warrick, 1657 Stephens Drive, Wayne, PA 19087**

## Acknowledgment

Please note: After travel assistance funds have been distributed, the YMCA National Travel Assistance Committee encourages acknowledgement of the receipt of funds by the applicant, their parents/guardian, or their local YMCA to the committee.



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## YMCA of the USA 2016 Travel Assistance Funds Application Form

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of National Competition: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Is the applicant receiving assistance under your YMCA's official assistance program (Y/N) \_\_\_\_

No. of years participating in YMCA Swimming and/or Diving \_\_\_\_\_

No. of years competing at a National YMCA Swimming/Diving competition \_\_\_\_\_

Name of High School \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Graduation \_\_\_\_\_

Local YMCA: \_\_\_\_\_ Y Association Number \_\_\_\_\_

Local YMCA Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Head Coach: \_\_\_\_\_

Head Coach's Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Requested Travel Assistance Funds (*Not to exceed \$600*): \_\_\_\_\_

(*Note: Requested funds are only to cover travel and lodging costs*)