



International Olympic Academy
USOC Application Guidelines for:
50th International Session for Young Participants
June 16 – June 30, 2010

Mission of the International Olympic Academy

The aim of the International Olympic Academy is to create an international cultural centre in Olympia, to preserve and spread the Olympic Spirit, study and implement the educational and social principles of Olympism and consolidate the scientific basis of the Olympic Ideal, in conformity with the principles laid down by the ancient Greeks and the revivers of the contemporary Olympic Movement, through Baron de Coubertin's initiative.

The mission of the IOA is:

- To function as an International Academic Centre for Olympic Studies, Education and Research.
- To act as an International Forum for free expression and exchange of ideas among the Olympic Family, intellectuals, scientists, athletes, sport administrators, educators, artists and the youth of the world.
- To bring together people from all over the world, in a spirit of friendship and cooperation.
- To motivate people to use the experiences and knowledge gained in the IOA productively, in promoting the Olympic Ideals in their respective countries.
- To serve and promote the Ideals and principles of the Olympic Movement.
- To cooperate with and assist the National Olympic Academies and any other institutions devoted to Olympic Education.
- To further explore and enhance the contribution of Olympism to humanity.

Objectives

Provide an opportunity to U.S. Olympic Movement team members to live and share the Olympic ideals in the spirit of friendship and cooperation with NOC representatives from all over the world, and to bring back to their every day lives and jobs a renewed enthusiasm and perspective of Olympism and what it means to be a part of the International Olympic Movement; To effectively and honourably represent the United States and the U.S. Olympic Movement in an energetic and humble way and in so doing uphold the highest values of Olympism and international goodwill.

Eligible Candidates

USOC staff, NGB staff and athletes who embody the Olympic ideals and are between the ages of 20 to 35 years are eligible to apply to participate in this year's IOA Session. The USOC is eligible to submit a maximum of three persons.



Description

A two week annual session is designed as an introduction to Olympism and the Olympic Movement. The IOA brings together a large international group of young people who are primary students, Olympic athletes, people active in sport, teaching or active in their respective NOCs or NOAs.

The aim of the IOA is to educate, but more importantly, to motivate young people to use their experiences and knowledge gained from the Session productively in promoting the Olympic ideals and educating others in their own countries. The main topic of this year's Session is *The Olympic Movement as a platform for peace*.

Application Procedure

USOC staff: Following the IOA requirements, applicants must fill out a Participant's Personal History Form and submit a one to two page (double-spaced) paper on: *Olympism and what it means to you. How do you incorporate the principles of Olympism into your everyday life? How do you see the Olympic Movement as a platform for Peace?* Additionally, applicants should include a letter of recommendation from their manager based on the applicant's 2009 performance and stating how the candidate embodies the USOC and Olympic core values. A maximum of one candidate may be presented by each USOC division.

NGB staff: Following the IOA requirements, applicants must fill out a Participant's Personal History Form and submit a one to two page (double-spaced) paper on *Olympism and what it means to you. How do you incorporate the principles of Olympism into your everyday life? How do you see the Olympic Movement as a platform for Peace?* Additionally, applicants should include a letter of recommendation from their manager based on the applicant's 2009 performance and stating how the candidate embodies the Olympic values. A maximum of one candidate may be presented per NGB.

Athletes: Following the IOA requirements, applicants must fill out a Participant's Personal History Form and submit a one to two page (double-spaced) paper on *Olympism and what it means to you. How do you incorporate the principles of Olympism into your everyday life? How do you see the Olympic Movement as a platform for Peace?* Additionally, applicants should include a letter of support from their coach stating how the athlete embodies the Olympic values.

Application Submission

Complete applications must be received by the USOC's International Relations Division no later than **Monday, March 15, 2010**. Hard copies will not be accepted.

Please submit an electronic copy to Annie Grabarsky, Project Manager, International Relations: annie.grabarsky@usoc.org, and be sure to including the following (incomplete applications will not be accepted):

- Participant's Personal History Form
- One to two page paper on: *Olympism and what it means to you. How do you incorporate the principles of Olympism into your everyday life? How do you see the Olympic Movement as a platform for Peace?*
- Manager / NGB / coach support letter



Analysis and Approval

Selection of candidates will be decided by a USOC Committee represented by the International Relations Division, Communications Division, and past attendees of the International Olympic Academy.

Financial Conditions

Accommodation and Boarding

Accommodation and boarding expenses of the participants, both in Athens and in Olympia, for the duration of the Session, will be covered by the International Olympic Academy.

Transportation

Olympic Solidarity will cover the cost of 50% of the air-ticket(s) for one male and one female participant per NOC. The cost of the airline-ticket for the additional participant will be covered by the USOC International Relations Division, as well as the additional 50% cost of the other two tickets.

Participation

Participation costs for one male/one female participant per NOC are covered by Olympic Solidarity. The USOC will cover the additional cost of EUR 850 for the third participant.

Follow up

Report following IOA Session:

Within two weeks following the conclusion of the IOA Session, participants must submit to the USOC International Relations Division a one page paper on their overall experience, and how attending the IOA Session has helped them gain a new perspective on living the Olympic ideals on a personal and professional basis.

Timeframe

Application deadline

March 15, 2010

Candidate Selection

Candidates selected to attend the IOA will be informed by the USOC on March 22, 2010.

Annexes

Application Forms

- Participant's Personal History Form for Applicants to 50th International Session for Young Participants (2 page form)