



**Games of the XXXIII Olympiad, Paris 2024**  
**Olympic Games Tripartite Commission Universality Places**  
**Allocation Procedure and Regulations**  
**(Hereinafter the “Regulations”)**

**PREAMBLE**

Qualification systems are the rules established by IFs, in consultation with the IOC, which consist of rules, procedures and criteria for participation in the competitions of the Olympic Games. They are established to give a fair and equal opportunity for the best athletes in the world to participate in the Olympic Games, as well as to ensure universal representation. Universality, as specified in the Olympic Charter, is a fundamental aspect of the Olympic Games.

The principle of universality is reflected in the qualification systems through the continental representation of athletes and teams. The IOC also seeks to provide additional opportunities with the allocation of Tripartite Commission Universality Places (hereafter the “**Universality Places**”) through the Olympic Games Tripartite Commission (IOC / ANOC / ASOIF) for the Olympic Games (hereafter the “**Commission**”).

**1. OBJECTIVES, COMPOSITION AND COMPETENCE OF THE COMMISSION**

**A. Objectives**

The objective of the Commission is to manage the allocation procedure for Universality Places offering the opportunity to NOCs, which have traditionally sent small delegations to the Olympic Games, to be represented at the next edition of the Games. A further objective of the Commission is to contribute to enhancing and reflecting universality by selecting athletes from such NOCs, which have not been able to qualify, so that they may have an opportunity to be invited to compete in sports and disciplines for which Universality Places have been reserved.

**B. Composition**

The Commission is composed of a representative from the National Olympic Committees (NOCs), a representative from the International Federations (IFs) and a representative from the IOC. The NOCs are represented within the Commission by the Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC) and the IFs by the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF). The allocation of Universality Places is concluded with each NOC and IF individually with the Commission approving the final allocation



### C. Competence

The allocation of Universality Places is the responsibility of the Commission.

The Commission has full authority to take decisions regarding the allocation of Universality Places. All decisions taken by the Commission in relation to these Regulations or to the allocation of Universality Places are final. Any dispute relating to any application or interpretation of any Commission decision may be resolved solely by the IOC Executive Board, whose decision shall be final.

## 2. UNIVERSALITY PLACES FOR THE OLYMPIC GAMES PARIS 2024

Universality Places are quota places which have been reserved within the total athletes' quota for the concerned sport/discipline and for which the allocation process is managed by the Commission, instead of by the relevant IF.

There are two types of Universality Places that are made available within this process:

- Universality Places allocated directly within the athletes' quota (see Section 2A below)
- Universality Places confirmed through the reallocation process of unused quota places (see Section 2B below).

The unqualified entries/universality places in Athletics and Swimming are not managed by the Commission, these places are allocated by the WA and FINA, respectively. NOCs must refer to the detailed qualification systems for Athletics and Swimming to obtain further detailed information regarding the process and timelines for the allocation of these unqualified entries/universality places.

Details regarding these Universality Places are described in the respective qualification systems by sport.

### A. Universality Places included within the athletes' quota:

A total of **102\*** places in **21** individual sports will be available for allocation to all eligible NOCs. The number of Universality Places to be allocated to an eligible NOC, if any, remains at the full discretion of the Commission, depending on the availability of places, NOC and athlete eligibility, as well as the allocation criteria for Universality Places (ref. Sections 3, 4 and 5 below).

The Commission will review all applications received from eligible NOCs with the support of the IFs and the final allocation of Universality Places will be made in relation to the end of the qualification period of each sport in agreement with each concerned IF as detailed in the qualification systems per sport. The Universality Places will need to be approved by the Commission before the allocation can be confirmed to the NOCs.

All Universality Places that cannot be allocated to eligible NOCs will be returned to the relevant IFs for reallocation according to the principles defined in their qualification systems.

\*See Annex 1 for sports with Universality Places



## **B. Universality Places subject to the principle of reallocation of unused quota places:**

At the completion of the qualification events, NOCs must confirm whether they accept or decline the qualification places they obtain through the qualification events. A number of unused qualification places (hereafter “**Unused Qualification Places**”) or unused host country places (hereafter “**Unused Host Country Places**”) (if any) may be reallocated as Universality Places to athletes from eligible NOCs fulfilling the eligibility requirements of the given sport/discipline. Such reallocations may concern either Unused Qualification Places or Unused Host Country Places.

The Commission will review all applications received from eligible NOCs and establish a priority list of athletes to whom any Unused Qualification Places or Unused Host Country Places could be reallocated. In agreement with each concerned IF, the Universality Places must be approved by the Commission before any allocation of Universality Places can be confirmed to the NOCs.

*See Annex 1 for list of sports with Universality Places*

### **3. NOC ELIGIBILITY**

Universality Places **will not be allocated to NOCs with an average of more than eight (8) athletes in individual sports/disciplines** at the last two editions of the Olympic Games (Rio and Tokyo).

As Universality Places are available only in individual sports, the following team sports are not included in the calculation of NOC delegation sizes: Basketball (including 3x3 Basketball), Football, Handball, Hockey, Rugby, Volleyball (incl. Beach Volleyball), Baseball/Softball and Water Polo.

*See Annex 2 for list of eligible NOCs*

### **4. ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY**

The athletes proposed by their respective NOCs must have:

- international competition experience in one of the sports/disciplines offering Universality Places
- an adequate sporting technical level
- shown willingness to qualify for the Olympic Games by participating in the relevant qualifying events

It is important to note that there are minimum eligibility requirements for athletes in each sport/discipline, including for those applying for, or receiving, Universality Places. These requirements are defined in the qualification system of each sport/discipline concerned, which can be accessed on the NOCnet.

The level of each athlete will be assessed by the Commission in collaboration with the respective IFs.

### **5. ALLOCATION CRITERIA**

The main criteria for the allocation of Universality Places are the following:

- NOC priority: based on NOC preferences, as specified in the applications submitted



- IF priority: based on the assessment of the athletes' technical level and sporting merit during the qualification period
- IOC priority: based on various principles in relation to the objectives of the Commission, including:
  - Universality (by allowing more NOCs to participate in a given sport)
  - Continental balance
  - Gender balance
  - NOC and athlete eligibility
  - Technical level to compete safely and with dignity (based on the IF's assessment)
  - Olympic scholarships for athletes (provided by Olympic Solidarity)

The abovementioned criteria are taken into consideration by the Commission altogether, without any pre-established order of priority or preference.

The Commission will endeavor to respect the priorities of all its represented stakeholders when possible and will do its utmost to satisfy as many requests as possible. However, as the number of applications is generally higher than the number of Universality Places available, not all eligible NOCs may be awarded a Universality Place.

## 6. ALLOCATION PROCEDURE

### A. Notice to Apply for a Universality Place:

The IOC will contact only the eligible NOCs to notify them that the application process for Universality Places has been launched.

### B. Submission of Application Requests:

Eligible NOCs are invited to submit their requests for Universality Places indicating their priority order and including a complete application per athlete. All requests must be submitted to Olympic Solidarity using the relevant application form which will be made available ahead of the launch of the application process in October 2023.

### C. Analysis of Submitted Applications:

Once received, the NOC application requests will be analysed by the Commission in collaboration with each respective IF, until the end of the qualification period of each sport.

### D. Allocation of Universality Places:

The final allocations will be made in relation to the end of the qualification period of each sport/discipline, as specified in each qualification system and agreed with each IF. The IOC will confirm allocated Universality Places to all concerned NOCs in writing.



**E. Confirmation of NOCs – 2 weeks after notification:**

If an NOC's request for an Universality Place has been approved by the Commission, such NOC's must, within two weeks after receiving notification of approval or one week prior to the final entry deadline (whichever occurs first), confirm their intention to use their Universality Place.

**7. FINAL PROVISIONS**

The Commission reserves the right, at its absolute discretion, to make any amendments it deems necessary to these Regulations in order to ensure that the Commission's objectives are reached.

All matters related to the Universality Places or the Commission must be addressed to the "Universality" Unit of Olympic Solidarity.



**ALLOCATION PROCEDURE SUMMARY FOR THE OLYMPIC GAMES PARIS 2024**

