



The Coach Don Watkins SWIM Award 2023 Application Form

The SI Diversity, Disability, Equity, and Inclusion Committee is now accepting applications to the Don Watkins SWIM Award for the 2021 season!

Introduction

The Coach Donald Watkins' SWIM Award was established in 2017 to enable person(s) of a diverse background, circumstance, ability, or hardship to participate in the sport of swimming. The Award will pay swim-related expenses for the chosen San Diego Imperial Swimming athlete(s). The intent of the award(s) is to encourage the growth of the sport of swimming through outreach to underserved and/or diverse communities in the San Diego region.

The Fund is named in honor of Coach Donald Watkins, who focused on each individual swimmer's unique abilities, and character. Don encouraged individual accomplishment through the values of: (FIRST) Fun, Integrity, Respect, Service, and Team.

Eligibility Criteria for Recipients

The intent of the award(s) is to enable person(s) of a diverse background, circumstance, ability, or hardship to participate in the sport of swimming.

Selection Criteria:

- At the time of award, the swimmer must be an active athlete, registered with USA Swimming under the San Diego Imperial Swimming (SI) region and registered with an approved SI team.
- The athlete must be a passionate swimmer that has consistently exhibited the character and values that Coach Donald H. Watkins taught through his coaching.
- Selection will focus on the character of the individual (regardless of competitive performance level).
- The selection of the recipient will consider the values of diversity and inclusion (background, circumstance, physical or mental disability, hardship).
- The selection of the recipient will consider financial need if documentation is provided.

How to Apply

All applicants must submit the following:

1. Completely filled-out Award Application Form
2. Evidence of financial need - OPTIONAL but recommended
3. Personal Statement

Award applicants should write a short personal statement (minimum 1 page, but no more than 5 pages) describing why they believe they are a good candidate for the Don Watkind's SWIM Award. The applying child must be the author of the statement. Parents may assist younger children, or English-speaking friends may assist with language translation. Consider including information about past experiences, why swimming is important to you, and/or how you think the award would benefit you. It is acceptable to submit media such as pictures, art, or video (please make sure they are in a standard easy-to-review format).

Please either upload the application and all supplementary materials to the [Google Form](#) OR mail to the address below no later than April 23, 2023, 11:59PM PST.

San Diego-Imperial Swimming DEI
c/o Don Watkind's Swim Award
120 Witton Ct. Apt 10
Charlottesville, VA 22903

Mailed applications must be postmarked by April 23, 2023 at the latest. Award recipients and their teams will be notified no later than May 16, 2023.