



ATHLETICS SELECTION CRITERIA



2020-2021 NSWIS SELECTION GUIDELINES - ATHLETICS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

NSWIS Aim

The NSW Institute of Sport (NSWIS) will work in partnership with sport to deliver programs that will develop and assist identified high performance NSW athletes and coaches to achieve excellence and success at international level.

NSWIS will be a major player in the delivery of internationally recognised programs, coaching and services to achieve world-class performance as a part of an effective, nationally coordinated, high performance sport network.

Program Purpose

The **NSWIS Athletics Program** will work in partnership with Athletics Australia (AA) and Athletics NSW (ANSW) to deliver AA's National Athletes Support Structure (**NASS**). NASS is a system that supports Australian Athletes who have the greatest potential to achieve the sports HP Program goals and targets at the Olympic Games, Paralympic Games, World Championships and Commonwealth Games.

The NASS selection process identifies athletes and uses the Australian Institute of Sport (**AIS**) categorisation to place each selected athlete within a nationally tiered support model. Under the AIS athlete categorisation model, to be prioritised for support, an athlete must demonstrate potential for future success; as past results are not the sole consideration, especially at the initial levels of NASS (Pathway Stream).

The structure is built into three Streams – Medal Stream, Pathway Stream and the Representational Stream. These Streams identify the medal capable athletes within the current 4-year cycle, our medal capable athletes for the future cycle and our prospective senior team athletes for the coming Championships and then prioritise the resources available to support our elite athletes.

NASS selections occur every six months, through a NASS Selection Meeting, usually after the Australian domestic season, and after the international season/benchmark event (**BME**).

The NSWIS Athletics program will work partnership with AA, to contribute to the National High Performance goals:

- To achieve 1-3 medals, supported by an additional 6-10 top eight places, at the Olympic Games and World Athletics (WA) World Championships in Olympic events.
- To achieve 4-8 gold medals, supported by an additional 16-20 silver and bronze medals, at the Paralympic Games and World Para Athletics (WPA) World Championships, in Paralympic events.
- To finish the top nation on the Commonwealth Games athletics medal table and win WA and WPA World Championships Gold medals in non-Olympic/non-Paralympic Events.

The NSWIS Athletics Program will support the daily training needs of these identified NASS athletes in NSW and the network of personal coaches to achieve NASS aims.

Selection Aim

The NASS program aims to enhance coaching and performance support systems in each selected athlete's Daily Training Environment (**DTE**) and to provide domestic and/or international competition opportunities.





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Athletics Scholarship Program Description

Target Athlete Group

The NSWIS Athletics Program is split into three programs:

Medal Stream	This program is targeted at athletes with the most realistic chance to meet the goals and aims of the NASS program; now or in the future. The athletes and their coaches in these categories of NASS will receive Performance Support through their State Performance Advisor and the NSWIS performance servicing staff.
Pathway Stream	This program includes the Developing and Emerging levels of NASS. These athletes and their coaches receive will Performance Support through their State Performance Advisor and the NSWIS performance servicing staff.
Representative Stream	This program is targeted at athletes who do not meet the membership criteria of the main NASS program but who, nevertheless, are likely to be selected to represent Australia in the next Senior BME. The level of support of the Representative Stream is subject to the capacity of NSWIS resources.

Structure

The NSWIS Athletics Program is a decentralised program that supports NASS athletes from NSW and a network of their personal coaches operating from the identified daily training environment (DTE).

Selection Criteria

Athletes will be eligible for inclusion into the NSWIS Athletics Squad, based on their classification within the NASS structure as determined by Athletics Australia.

For full details on the NASS Program and selection guidelines, please see Athletics Australia's website, click on link for NASS Policy.

NB: 'Eligibility' does not necessarily guarantee an NSWIS scholarship offer. This will be dependent on the number of scholarships available and athletes will be ranked by performance accordingly and will need to gain approval by the Program Partners.





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NSWIS Scholarship Categories

There are **6** scholarship categories within the NSWIS Athletics Program, with an additional **2** support categories:

AA Stream	AIS Category	Criteria
MEDAL STREAM	GOLD	Athletes with the realistic capacity to win a Gold medal at the next Podium Benchmark Event , and have won a Gold medal at the most recent Podium Benchmark Event .
	MEDAL	Athletes with the realistic capacity to win a Silver or Bronze medal at the next Podium Benchmark Event , and have won a Silver or Bronze medal at the most recent Podium Benchmark Event .
	PODIUM READY	Athletes with the realistic capacity to reach the Medal level within two years , and have finished Fourth to eighth place at the most recent Podium Benchmark Event .
	PODIUM POTENTIAL	Athletes with the realistic capacity to reach the Podium Ready level in an individual event within two years and have achieved the Podium Potential performance level.
PATHWAYS	DEVELOPMENT	Athletes with the realistic capacity to reach the Podium Potential level in an individual event within two – four years .
	EMERGING	Athletes with the realistic capacity to reach the Podium Potential level in an individual event within four years .
REPRESENTATIONAL	Athletes selected to represent Australia in identified senior championships.	
MEDICAL	Athletes on the NASS Medal and Pathways Stream that have suffered an illness or injury who the selectors believe can still meet the Goals and aims of the program. Athletes may continue to receive medical support to return to competition.	

The **Benchmark Events (BME)** are the **Olympic Games, Paralympic Games, World Athletics Championships, and World Para Athletics Championships**.

NB: Athlete training access and support will vary between scholarship categories

Selection Timeframes

The NSWIS program year generally runs from 1 October to 30 September of the following year, with a review immediately after the senior National Championships (March/April). The athlete's status within the program will be subject to ongoing performances.

Team Selection Timeframes

Athletes will be added to the NSWIS scholarship program following advisement from AA and subject to approval by the Program Partners





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General Selection of NSWIS Athletes

Scholarships will be filled by NSW athletes identified in Athletics Australia's NASS program.

Athlete Support

Athlete training schedules and support will vary between scholarship categories, and will be confirmed based on an athlete's individual performance plan (IPP) and NSWIS's consultation with Athletics Australia's General Manager of High Performance and / or other designated representative/s.

NSWIS Selection Guidelines

Squad Selection Ratification

The Program Coordinator will nominate potential scholarship holders to the key program partners, including the nominated Program Partners signatories from the State and National sporting organisations (ANSW & AA), based on the NASS program membership. The nominated scholarship athletes must be approved by the Program Partners prior to athlete notification and induction.

NB: Selection criteria will be reviewed annually by the Program Partners.

Athletes are under no obligation to accept a NSWIS scholarship offer.

Accepting and Maintaining a NSWIS Scholarship

NSWIS Scholarship athletes must first have completed and signed paperwork from AA. Following this, athletes must sign (within the first 28 day of being offered their scholarship) and abide by a NSWIS Athlete Agreement and Athlete Code of Conduct for the term of the scholarship. It is the responsibility of the athlete to ensure all conditions of the Agreement are met at all times, including maintenance of a healthy lifestyle and fitness.

The composition of the squad may be amended by the Program Partners where a non-scholarship athlete meets the selection criteria during the course of a scholarship year or an athlete's scholarship is withdrawn based on the athlete's performance review which generally take place in April and October.

Following each review, NSWIS athletes will either remain at their current scholarship level or be nominated elevated or demoted to another scholarship level based on their NASS status. Athletes who perform below expectation and do not meet expected performance indicators may have their scholarship withdrawn.

Athlete Withdrawal from NSWIS Sport Squad Scholarship

An athlete wishing to withdraw from their NSWIS Scholarship may do so by informing the NSWIS Program Coordinator in writing at any time.

Any equipment loaned to an athlete through the NSWIS Program must be returned to the Program Coordinator upon withdrawal of a scholarship. Athletes who do not return equipment will be liable for the cost of all outstanding equipment.





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Scholarship Suspension / Termination

An athlete's scholarship may be suspended or terminated where s/he breaches the NSWIS Athlete Agreement, Code of Conduct, Sport Code of Conduct (or equivalent) and / or brings the Institute and / or the Sport into disrepute.

In this instance the NSWIS CEO, in consultation with the Program Partners will recommend to the NSWIS Board, the suspension or termination of the athletes scholarship.

The NSWIS Board is the only body that has the power to terminate or suspend an athlete scholarship. The athlete, Program Coordinator and Program Partners will be advised in writing of the outcome.

Athlete Appeals Process Relating to Non Selection of NSWIS Scholarship

As NSWIS scholarships are based on AA's NASS memberships, athletes may appeal to the NASS Selection Panel as outlined in NASS Selection Policy, under the heading - **Appeals**