



QUALIFICATION SYSTEM – GAMES OF THE XXXI OLYMPIAD – RIO 2016

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE NATATION

Swimming

A. EVENTS (32)

Men's Events (16)	Women's Events (16)
50m Freestyle	50m Freestyle
100m Freestyle	100m Freestyle
200m Freestyle	200m Freestyle
400m Freestyle	400m Freestyle
1500m Freestyle	800m Freestyle
100m Backstroke	100m Backstroke
200m Backstroke	200m Backstroke
100m Breaststroke	100m Breaststroke
200m Breaststroke	200m Breaststroke
100m Butterfly	100m Butterfly
200m Butterfly	200m Butterfly
200m Individual Medley	200m Individual Medley
400m Individual Medley	400m Individual Medley
4 x 100m Freestyle Relay	4 x 100m Freestyle Relay
4 x 200m Freestyle Relay	4 x 200m Freestyle Relay
4 x 100m Medley Relay	4 x 100m Medley Relay

B. ATHLETES QUOTA

1. Total number of Athletes for Swimming:

	Qualification Places	Universality Places	Total Places
Total	900*		

* The total number of NOCs entered in Swimming events in Rio will be at least equal to the number of NOCs represented at the 2015 World Championships in Kazan (RUS), provided all athletes are eligible for the Games.

2. Maximum Number of Athletes per NOC:

	Quota per NOC	Event Specific Quota
Men	Max. 26 swimmers	Maximum 2 athletes per event Maximum 1 relay team per event
Women	Max. 26 swimmers	Maximum 2 athletes per event Maximum 1 relay team per event



QUALIFICATION SYSTEM – GAMES OF THE XXXI OLYMPIAD – RIO 2016

NOCs/NFs without any qualified athlete or relay team may enter a maximum of two (2) athletes – one (1) man and one (1) woman (Universality Places) in one (1) event each (see section “Universality Places” below).

3. Type of Allocation of Quota Places:

The quota place is allocated to the athlete by name in individual events.

The quota place is allocated to the NOC in Relay events.

C. ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

All athletes must comply with the provisions of the Olympic Charter currently in force, including but not limited to, Rule 41 (Nationality of Competitors). Only those athletes who have complied with the Olympic Charter may participate in the Olympic Games.

Only the athletes who are eligible to participate at the official FINA competitions, in accordance with the [FINA Rules](#), are entitled to participate in the Olympic Games.

Only athletes who have participated in the 16th FINA World Championships in Kazan in 2015 and who are approved by FINA to compete are eligible for Universality Places.

D. QUALIFICATION PATHWAY

The priority order for qualification places into the Olympic Games will be (FINA Rule BL 9.3.6.4.2):

1. All athletes with Olympic Qualifying Times
2. Athletes in relays
3. Universality Places
4. Invited athletes who have achieved an Olympic Selection Time

Individual Qualification

Qualification Events

Olympic Qualifying Time (OQT / “A” Time) and Olympic Selection Time (OST / “B” time)

For each individual event at the Olympic Games, the FINA Bureau will establish Standard Entry Times of two (2) types: an “*Olympic Qualifying Time*” (OQT / “A” Time) and a “*Olympic Selection Time*” (OST / “B” Time) of which the OST / “B” Time shall be easier to achieve. Standard entry times can only be achieved in competitions approved for that purpose by FINA during the qualification period from **1 March 2015 to 1 July 2016**.

FINA will establish a calendar with approved qualification events for individual entries. The calendar will be published on www.fina.org by 28 February 2015; it includes FINA World Championships; Continental Championships; Continental Qualification Events; National Championships and Trials; Qualification Events approved by FINA. At all qualifying events approved by FINA, only Referees and Starters on FINA Officials Lists are eligible. The timing system for the events must also be described by the Organiser. The list of the qualification times to be achieved by the athletes per event and per standard will be approved by the FINA Bureau in December 2014.



QUALIFICATION SYSTEM – GAMES OF THE XXXI OLYMPIAD – RIO 2016

Athletes who have achieved the Olympic Qualifying Time (OQT / “A” Time)

Swimmers who achieve the OQT / “A” Time in one or more individual events are automatically qualified to participate in the Olympic Games.

NOCs can enter two (2) athletes in the same event, only if both athletes have achieved the OQT / “A” Time.

Invited athletes who have achieved an Olympic Selection Time (OST / “B” Time)

Following the end of the qualification period, FINA will assess the number of athletes having achieved the OQT / “A” Time, the number of relay-only swimmers and the number of Universality Places.

FINA will then invite athletes who have achieved an OST / “B” time, until the total quota of 900 is reached. OST places will be distributed by event, according to the position on the FINA World Ranking of 1 July 2016.

Additional swimmers having achieved an OST / “B” time may be invited to ensure that all NOCs represented at the 2015 World Championships in Kazan (RUS) will have an eligible swimmer to participate in the Olympic Games.

NOCs can only enter one (1) athlete per event having achieved an OST/“B” Time. Swimmers invited through OST/“B” Time are only allowed to compete in the events for which they received the FINA invitation.

Relay Qualification

Qualification Events

There shall be a maximum of sixteen (16) qualified teams in each relay event, for a total of 96 relay teams.

Each NOC may enter only one (1) team in each relay event.

FINA World Championships

The first 12 placed teams in each relay event at the 16th FINA World Championships in Kazan (RUS) in 2015 shall automatically qualify for the relay events at the 2016 Olympic Games.

Fastest Time during the qualification period

The remaining four (4) teams per relay event will be the teams with the fastest times in the FINA World Rankings of 31 May 2016 achieved during the qualification period, in the qualifying events approved by FINA, from **1 March 2015 to 31 May 2016**.

If any of the qualified teams, both from the FINA World Championships Kazan 2015 or the remaining four teams with the fastest times in the FINA World Rankings of 31 May 2016, are not able to participate for any reason, the next fastest eligible team from the FINA World Rankings, in the qualifying events approved by FINA, from **1 March 2015 to 31 May 2016** in the respective event will be offered the relay team quota place.

All swimmers entered in individual events can be used in relays, even if they have not achieved the OST / “B” Time for the corresponding stroke and distance of the relay in which they are entered.

Each NOC may enter additional swimmers for relays only (Relay-Only Swimmers), provided that they have achieved at least the OST / “B” Time for the corresponding stroke and distance of the relay in which they are entered.



QUALIFICATION SYSTEM – GAMES OF THE XXXI OLYMPIAD – RIO 2016

The following formula shall apply:

- One (1) Relay - two (2) additional swimmers
- Two (2) Relays - four (4) additional swimmers
- Three (3) Relays - six (6) additional swimmers
- Four (4) Relays - eight (8) additional swimmers
- Five (5) Relays - ten (10) additional swimmers
- Six (6) Relays - twelve (12) additional swimmers

If an NOC enters relay-only swimmers for a specific event, these swimmers must swim either in the heat or final of that relay event. Should a relay-only swimmer not compete, this will lead to the disqualification of the respective team in the final.

The NOCs must confirm to FINA the participation of their qualified relay team by no later than **10 June 2016**.

The NOCs must confirm their relay-only swimmers to FINA by no later than **1 July 2016**.

UNIVERSALITY PLACES (UNQUALIFIED ATHLETES)

NOCs with no swimmers who have achieved an OQT / "A" Time or who have been selected by FINA for an OST / "B" Time may enter a maximum of one (1) man *and* one (1) woman (Universality Places), provided that those swimmers participated in the 16th FINA World Championships in Kazan in 2015 and are approved by FINA to compete. These swimmers may be entered in one (1) individual event each.

NOCs with swimmers having achieved an OQT / "A" Time or selected by FINA for an OST / "B" Time only in one (1) gender may also enter one (1) universality swimmer in the other gender, who can participate in one (1) event.

NOCs must submit their applications for Universality Places to FINA for approval by 1 July 2016. FINA will confirm the Universality Places to NOCs by 3 July 2016.

E. CONFIRMATION PROCESS FOR QUOTA PLACES

Following the end of the qualification period, FINA shall assess the number of athletes having achieved the OQT / "A" Time, the number of relay-only athletes and the number of Universality Places. In order to complete the overall athletes' quota, FINA shall then invite athletes having achieved OST / "B" Time and inform each NOC accordingly by 5 July 2016. An online tracking tool shall be published on the FINA website showing the athletes qualified in each event. FINA will also seek confirmation from NOCs/NFs concerning the participation of swimmers with OQT.

NOCs will then have to confirm if they wish to use these invitation places, as detailed in paragraph **G. Qualification Timeline**.

The confirmation process for NOCs which have qualified relay teams and obtained Universality Places can be found in the abovementioned sections.



QUALIFICATION SYSTEM – GAMES OF THE XXXI OLYMPIAD – RIO 2016

F. REALLOCATION OF UNUSED QUOTA PLACES

REALLOCATION OF UNUSED QUALIFICATION PLACES

If an allocated team relay quota place is not confirmed by the NOC by the confirmation of quota place deadline or is declined by the NOC, the quota place will be reallocated to the next ranked team in the FINA World Rankings of 31 May 2016.

If an individual quota place is declined by an NOC, the quota place will be reallocated to the next best ranked athlete in the FINA World Rankings of 1 July 2016.

REALLOCATION OF UNUSED UNIVERSALITY PLACES

Unused Universality Place will be reallocated to the next best ranked athlete in the FINA World Rankings of 1 July 2016.

G. QUALIFICATION TIMELINE

Date	Milestone
December 2014	FINA to confirm the qualification time standards for all events. Standards to be distributed to all NOCs/NFs.
28 February 2015	List of qualification events to be established and published on www.fina.org
1 March 2015 to 1 July 2016	Period to achieve qualification time standards for individual events
1 March 2015 to 31 May 2016	Period to achieve qualification time standards for relay events
24 July – 9 August 2015	16 th FINA World Championships – Kazan, Russia
31 August 2015	FINA to inform NOCs/NFs of qualified relay teams from the World Championships
30 September 2015	NOC/NF to confirm participation of their relay teams qualified from the FINA World Championships Kazan 2015
31 May 2016	End of period to achieve qualification time standards for relay events
3 June 2016	FINA to inform NOCs/NFs of qualified relay teams after qualification period
10 June 2016	NOCs to confirm the participation of their relay teams to FINA
15 June 2016	FINA to reallocate unused relay teams quotas
1 July 2016	NOCs to confirm relay-only athletes to FINA
1 July 2016	Deadline for NOCs to submit to FINA their application for Universality Places
1 July 2016	End of period to achieve qualification time standards for individual events
3 July 2016	FINA to inform NOCs/NFs of OQT athletes and to confirm the allocation of Universality Places to NOCs
5 July 2016	FINA to inform NOCs/NFs of OST athlete invitations



QUALIFICATION SYSTEM – GAMES OF THE XXXI OLYMPIAD – RIO 2016

8 July 2016	NOCs to confirm use of OQT athletes and OST athlete invitations to FINA
10 July 2016	FINA to reallocate unused OST athletes invitations
By 18 July 2016	FINA to reallocate all unused quota places
18 July 2016	Rio 2016 Sport Entries deadline

H. QUALIFICATION TIME STANDARDS

To be approved by the FINA Bureau in December 2014.