

Safe Sport Fellowship FAQs



What is the Safe Sport Fellowship?

The Safe Sport Fellowship is a 13-month leadership development program designed for high school aged athlete members of USA Swimming who wish to gain leadership skills, be more involved in the Safe Sport movement, and become a liaison between USA Swimming national headquarters and local swim clubs. Fellows will work closely with Safe Sport leadership to develop projects to bring the Safe Sport message to local swim clubs and increase awareness of the Safe Sport movement. The Fellowship is anchored by three Leadership Institutes, where fellows will have the opportunity to engage in a thoughtful curriculum of leadership development practices and set personal goals.

Who can apply?

Any high school age athlete member of USA Swimming who is 15 years old or older is eligible to apply by completing the online application at www.usaswimming.org/protect.

What is a Leadership Institute?

A Leadership Institute is a two-day intensive workshop designed to help fellows grow and develop leadership skills. During this time, fellows will have the opportunity to work alongside members of the Safe Sport staff and other USA Swimming leaders. At least one Leadership Institute will be hosted at the United States Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs.

What is the time commitment?

The Fellowship is a one year commitment from January 2017 to January 2018. Participation in the three Leadership Institutes is mandatory. Additionally, fellows will be expected to implement Safe Sport projects in the time between Leadership Institutes, including hosting trainings for local swim clubs, launching social media campaigns, and/or developing sustainable Safe Sport programming within his/her LSC. Fellows will be in regular communication with Safe Sport staff members for guidance and support to complete identified projects.

Do I need prior leadership experience to become a fellow?

Not necessarily. USA Swimming will be looking for individuals who display a strong desire to develop leadership skills and identify new methods to advance the message of Safe Sport within the swimming community.

Is there a cost to participate?

No. Travel, room, and board for the Leadership Institutes will be provided by USA Swimming. Supplies needed for Safe Sport projects will also be provided.

Is it a paid fellowship?

There are no financial rewards for fellows, however, travel, room, and board will be provided by USA Swimming. You will gain valuable experience, create new professional connections, and experience an opportunity to plug into the governance of USA Swimming in an unprecedented way.

Important Dates:

- Application window September 20-October 28, 2016
- Leadership Institute #1 January 20-22, 2017
- Leadership Institute #2 May/June 2017 (date TBD)
- Leadership Institute #3 January 2018 (date TBD)

Questions?

Contact Maggie Vail, Safe Sport Education Specialist, with questions at (719) 866-3552 or mvail@usaswimming.org.