

**Swimming Australia
Athlete Contribution for Future Performance**

Background

Swimming Australia (SA) for the past five years has fully funded all activities within the Performance Pathway Program (PPP). For eligible athletes, the PPP provides access to high quality coaching at national and international camps and competitions. It also will introduce Sport Science and medicine support as well as the Athlete Wellbeing and Engagement. In addition, through the Coach Leadership Team, each swimmer’s home coach can access technical and personal development from the National Youth Coach and State Technical Directors.

The PPP is heavily subsidised by Swimming Australia and can accelerate a swimmer’s development. The dollar value each swimmer receives equates to \$15,000 to \$40,000, depending on the program level. This includes the cost of coach and program staff, sport science support, access to world leading facilities and international competitions. The cost for a domestic training camp can be \$1,200 - \$1,500 per person while international tour costs can reach \$4,000 - \$5,500 per person.

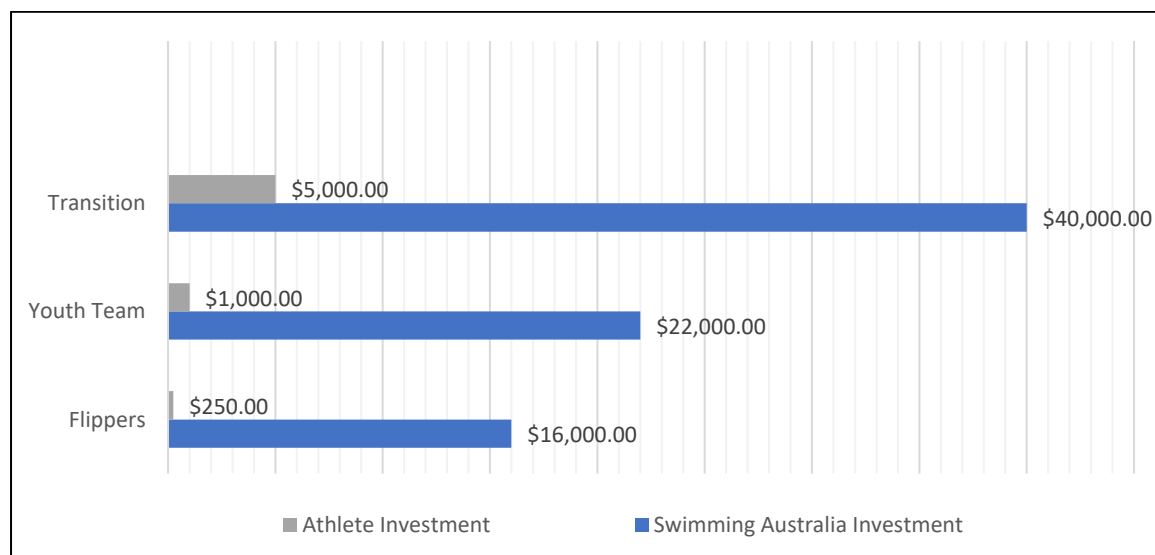
PPP support provides tremendous opportunities for both coaches and athletes to grow and improve.

This is demonstrated by the fact that, over the past five years, 36 swimmers have progressed through the PPP and onto the Australian Dolphins Swim Teams at the Olympics, World Championships, Pan Pacific Championships and Commonwealth Games.

Athlete contribution for future performance

Swimmers’ investing into their development at the start of their journey can benefit significantly in the later stages of the swimmer pathway. This is demonstrated by the table below.

Typically, swimmers who have been on the PPP for three to five years and before progressing to the Dolphins Team have had between \$75,000 - \$100,000 spent on their future potential by Swimming Australia.



Athlete Contributions and Self-Funded Tours

In order to ensure the sustainability of the PPP, SA would like athletes to partner with us and invest in their current and future achievements.

From September 1, 2019, SA will include an athlete contribution for swimmers selected the PPP while some tours will be self-funded. The Flippers and Youth/Junior Team PPP's are activities where a contribution will be required. Self-funded tours also are listed below.

Swimming Australia Pathway Flipper Program -	\$250 per year
Swimming Australia Junior/Youth Team/Program - competition)	\$1000 per year (\$250 camp/\$750 International
Swimming Australia World University Games Team	Self-Funded (approx. \$4000 - \$5000)
Swimming Australia Oceania Championships Team	Self-Funded (approx. \$3500 - \$4500)

Athlete Grants

Opportunities exist for swimmers to receive funding through various State bodies to assist with costs associated with their sport endeavours. Sport Australia's web site link below details organisations which might provide funding opportunities. SA does not administer any of the funding opportunities listed and as such is not responsible for their eligibility criteria. However, we can endorse any applications if required.

https://www.sportaus.gov.au/grants_and_funding

Athlete Fundraising

The Australian Sport Foundation for more than thirty years has helped sporting clubs and organisations fundraise for sports, and now individual athletes can receive tax-deductible donations to support sporting careers. Click on the link below to find further information on how to apply and who can benefit from athlete fundraising.

<https://asf.org.au/fundraise-with-us/athlete-fundraising/>

Hardship Fund

Financial Hardship Assistance Policy

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines and procedures for families experiencing financial hardship to help ensure every athlete can participate equally, regardless of their financial situation.

Background

Swimming Australia is a non-profit organisation dedicated to fostering and promoting a safe, disciplined, respectful, team-oriented programme where athletes can learn to reach their potential in our sport. Swimming Australia understands that our community, families, households and individuals may suffer financial difficulty from time to time. Financial hardship can present challenges to meeting primary needs, much less discretionary activities. Swimming Australia acknowledges the role of sports in the personal, physical and emotional development of a child. It is the philosophy of Swimming Australia that no child should be turned away from Swimming Australia Pathway Program activities due to cost or affordability.

It is important to note that:

- The lodgement of an application for Financial Hardship support is a confidential process.
- The details of your application will only be discussed by the Swimming Australia Hardship Panel.
- The Panel will not disclose any information to any other third parties such as coaches or athletes at any time.
- The lodgement of a Financial Hardship Support Application does not guarantee that the application will be approved.
- The lodgement of a Financial Hardship Support Application should be made within one month of the first selection letter.

Process

To be considered for Financial Hardship Assistance, the parent or guardian of the athlete must submit a request (by letter or email) to the General Manager Performance Pathway (GMPP), Jamie Salter (via Elisabet.Osk@swimming.org.au). The financial hardship request will be confidential. Only members of the Swimming Australia Hardship Panel will have knowledge of the request.

The letter should include the following:

- Athlete's name and age.
- Parent/Guardian's name, address, phone number and e-mail address
- Reason for the request.
- Programs impacted (e.g. Pathway Flippers or Youth Program-Team).
- Proposed payment plan, if any.

Upon receipt of the letter, the GMPP will convene the Swimming Australia Hardship Panel and review the application. The Panel members will be the following Swimming Australia staff - General Manager Performance Pathway, General Manager Performance, and the National Youth Coach. The Panel will vote to approve, counter or deny the request.

The GMPP will communicate the decision and any related payment plan by letter or email to the Applicant. The Applicant shall make payment, if any, as stipulated in the decision letter, to Swimming Australia.

Limitation on Financial Assistance

- Financial hardship assistance is only available to athletes selected for Swimming Australia PPP's.
- All approved Financial Hardship Arrangements only will be valid in the calendar year in which they have been granted.
- Swimming Australia may require the applicant to submit a request for a relevant participation grant.
- The athlete must consistently attend all program activities.
- Payment arrangements may include volunteering and fundraising in support of Swimming Australia. For example:
 - o Participating in Swimming Australia supported fundraising events or volunteer opportunities.

The decision to offer Financial Hardship Assistance is solely at the discretion of the Swimming Australia Hardship Panel