

Qualification System and Entry Standards

Entry conditions

- **Individual Events**
 - Each Member Federation will be allowed to participate with up to a maximum of three qualified athletes (four in case of a Wild Card) in each event, subject to the below. A fourth (fifth in case of a Wild Card) qualified athlete can be entered as a reserve.
- **Relay Events**
 - Each Member Federation will be allowed to enter one qualified team in each relay event, subject to the below. A total of six athletes may be entered. These must include the individual athletes (up to four) entered in the respective individual event (100m and 400m) – note that this does not apply to the Mixed 4x400m.
- **Unqualified athletes**
 - Members who have no:
 - male and/or no female athletes who have achieved the Entry Standard or considered as having achieved the Entry Standard (see below);
 - male and/or no female athletes qualified by World Rankings;
 - qualified relay team;may enter one unqualified male athlete OR one unqualified female athlete in one individual event of the Championships (except the Road Events and Field Events [see below], Combined Events, 10,000m and 3000m Steeplechase).
 - Members whose best athlete excels in a Field Event or Road Event, may submit to World Athletics the name of their athlete whom they would like to enter together with their best performance during the qualification period. The Technical Delegates will decide whether or not to accept such an entry and, to do so, may seek the opinion of the relevant Area Association.
 - If the Host Country does not have an athlete who has achieved the Entry Standard in an event, or a qualified Relay Team, it may enter one athlete (or Relay Team) in that event, with the exception of the Combined Events and Field Events where the above will apply.
 - Unqualified athletes will be added to the quota of qualified athletes.
 - Where the approval by the Technical Delegates is required, preference will be given to the athletes in the best world rankings position as at the closing date for applications (to be sent to teamservices@worldathletics.org):
 - **4 May 2025** for the Marathon
 - **24 August 2025** for the 20km Race Walk and Field Events
- **Age categories**
 - Under 20 Athletes – Athletes aged 18 or 19 years on 31 December 2025, (i.e., born in 2006 or 2007), may compete in any event except the Marathon and the 35km Race Walk.
 - Under 18 Athletes – Athletes aged 16 or 17 years on 31 December 2025 (born in 2008 or 2009), may compete in any event except the throwing events, the Combined Events, 10,000m, Marathon and the Race Walks.
 - Athletes younger than 16 – No athlete younger than 16 years of age on 31 December 2025 (born in 2010 or later) may be entered.

Qualification System

- **General**
 - The Qualification System will be based mainly on a combination of Entry Standards and World Rankings. The first will be set to qualify about 50% of the athletes.
 - The Entry Standards for the Events with an 18 months' qualification period, were approved by the World Athletics Council in February 2024.
 - The Entry Standards for the Events with a 12 months' qualification period, will be approved by the World Athletics Council in July 2024.
- **Qualification period valid for Entry Standards and World Rankings**
 - For the Marathon and 35km Race Walk: 18 months from 5 November 2023 to midnight 4 May 2025 (regardless of the time zone).
 - For the 10,000m, 20km Race Walk, Combined Events and Relays: 18 months from 25 February 2024 to midnight 24 August 2025 (regardless of the time zone).
 - For all other events: Entry Standards can be achieved from 1 August 2024 to midnight 24 August 2025 (regardless of the time zone). Current event ranking rules and period will apply for World Ranking. Results achieved during Olympic Games Paris 24 will also be considered valid for World Ranking even if outside of the one-year period.
- **Qualification in Individual Events**
 - Athletes can qualify in one of four ways:
 - By achieving the **Entry Standard** within the qualification period in accordance with the criteria detailed below.
 - By virtue of the **Finishing Position** at designated competitions as follows (in these cases the athletes shall also be considered as having achieved the Entry Standard):
 - The Area Champions in all the individual events (except for the Marathons) on condition that there is no better entry (by World Rankings) of another athlete from the same Area in the same event. The Member Federation of the Area Champion will have the ultimate authority to enter the athlete or not, based on its own selection criteria. See specific additional conditions below.
 - The top 5 finishers at the Platinum Label Marathons held during the qualification period and the winners of the Gold Label Marathons held on 2025.
 - By **Wild Card** as:
 - Defending World Champion from 2023
 - Winner of the 2024
 1. Diamond League
 2. World Race Walking Tour (to participate in the 20km OR the 35km)
 3. World Combined Events Tour
 4. Leading hammer performers (by result) on the Continental Tour

If two athletes from the same country would qualify for a Wild Card in the same event, only one of the two can be entered with this Wild Card. If a Member Federation has four athletes in one event as a result of this regulation, all four will be permitted to compete.
 - By virtue of the **World Rankings Position** achieved at the end of the qualification period according to the respective Event Ranking Rules (and ranking periods). In case of ties, athletes with the next best Performance Score will prevail.
 - For the 10,000m, a quota of 3 athletes will be assigned to the top positioned athletes, not otherwise qualified through entry standards or other ways, in the senior Men's and Women's Cross-Country Tour Ranking at the end of the qualification period. In case of ties (after having already considered the next best performance score), this is broken in favour of the athlete with the best time in the 10,000m in the

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qualification period. In case of places declined, the quota will go to the next best in the 10,000m World Rankings.

- World Athletics will keep a regularly updated running list of the qualification situation for each event in the lead up to the World Athletics Championships. This will be published in due course on the Stat Zone section of the World Athletics Website (www.worldathletics.org/stats-zone).
- Individual Athletes Ranking Process
 - Following the end of the qualification period, based on the target numbers, for each event World Athletics will determine:
 - the number of athletes having achieved the entry standard (either directly or by finishing position at the selected competitions, including approved Area Champions);
 - the eligible wild cards;
 - the athletes subsequently qualified by virtue of their World Ranking position to complete the target number in each event – should the target number of athletes in any event be reached (or surpassed) through entry standards and wild cards, no athletes would qualify by virtue of their World Rankings position;
 - the athletes in the next best World Ranking position.
 - The list so determined will be published on 27 August 2025
 - Member Federations shall be invited to pre-submit their entries by 29 August 2025 (midnight Monaco time) and to include, in addition to the qualified athletes, also the next best by World Rankings they would be willing to enter.
 - Based on the pre-entries submitted, World Athletics shall determine the number of next best athletes by World Rankings proposed for entry to be accepted and shall notify the respective Member Federation accordingly by 30 August 2025 (midnight Monaco time).
 - Member Federations shall review and complete their final entries by the entry deadline of 1 September 2025 (midnight Monaco time).
- **Qualification in Relay Events**
 - Relay Teams can qualify in one of two ways
 - First fourteen placed teams at the **World Athletics Relays** Guangzhou 25.
 - Be one of the best ranked teams at the end of the qualification period to fill the two remaining places. For the purpose of being ranked, the results of relay races will be valid only on the condition that they are part of a competition staged in compliance with World Athletics Rules and that at least two different international teams, representing at least two countries, compete in the event. In case of a tie the results will be separated by the thousands. If the tie remains, the best performance achieved in the World Relays will be take precedence.
 - Relays Ranking Process
 - Following the end of the qualification period (i.e., 25 August 2025) and knowing the Relay Teams that have qualified from the 2025 World Athletics Relays, World Athletics will identify the teams qualified by virtue of their position in the World Athletics Top Lists (according to the best performances in the whole qualification period).
 - World Athletics, within 48 hours of the closing of the Qualification Period, will notify the Member Federations concerned by email to their World Athletics email address (xxx@mf.worldathletics.org) and replies will be expected within 24 hours.
 - Upon refusals, cancellations or no reply, the next eligible relay team will be identified and invited. The invitation process will end on 29 August 2025, midnight Monaco time.
 - Any unqualified host country team will not take a quota place.



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Target number of athletes / teams by event
(not including the unqualified athletes)

Events	Target Number
100m	48
200m 400m	48
800m	56
1500m	56
3000mSC	36
5000m	42
10,000m	27
100mH, 110mH, 400mH	40
Field Events	36
Combined Events	24
Marathon	100
20km Race Walk	50
35km Race Walk	50
Relays	16

Entry Standards

Men	Event	Women
10,00	100m	11,07
20,16	200m	22,57
44,85	400m	50,75
1.44.50	800m	1.59.00
3.33.00 (3.50.00)	1500m (Mile / Road Mile standard)	4.01.50 (4.19.90)
13.01.00	5000m / 5km road	14.50.00
27:00:00	10,000m / 10km road	30:20:00
2:06:30	Marathon	2:23:30
8.15.00	3000m SC	9.18.00
13,27	110mH / 100mH	12,73
48,50	400m H	54,65
2,33	High Jump	1,97
5,82	Pole Vault	4,73
8,27	Long Jump	6,86
17,22	Triple Jump	14,55
21,50	Shot Put	18,80
67,50	Discus Throw	64,50
78,20	Hammer Throw	74,00
85,50	Javelin Throw	64,00
	Heptathlon	6500

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8550	Decathlon	
1:19:20	20km Race Walk	1:29:00
2:28:00	35km Race Walk	2:48:00
Top 14 at WRE + 2 from Top Lists	4x100m	Top 14 at WRE + 2 from Top Lists
Top 14 at WRE + 2 from Top Lists	4x400m	Top 14 at WRE + 2 from Top Lists
Top 14 at WRE + 2 from Top Lists	4x400m Mixed	Top 14 at WRE + 2 from Top Lists

Conditions for the validity of performances

- All performances must be achieved during competitions organised or authorised by World Athletics, its Area Associations or its National Federations and conducted in conformity with World Athletics Rules.
- Starting **1 January 2023**, in the case of National Permit competitions, in addition to compliance with the above, all performances must be achieved in a competition for which an application has been submitted in advance to World Athletics through the established platform. The list of such competitions will be published on the Global Calendar pages of the World Athletics website.
- For Track and Field Events, the following applies:
 - Performances achieved in mixed competitions in track events will not be accepted. Exceptionally, in accordance with Rule 9 of the World Athletics Technical Rules, performances achieved in events of 5000m and 10,000m may be accepted in circumstances where there were insufficient athletes of one or both genders competing to justify the conduct of separate races and there was no pacing or assistance given by an athlete(s) of one gender to an athlete(s) of the other gender. If applicable, Member Federations must submit a specific request to the World Athletics Competitions department (competition@worldathletics.org) providing the documentation as required.
 - Performances which are wind assisted or for which a wind reading is not available will not be accepted for Entry Standards purposes (but will be valid for the World Rankings with the appropriate adjustments).
 - Hand timing performances in 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 110m/100m Hurdles, 400m Hurdles and 4x100m Relay will not be accepted.
 - Short Track performances for races of 200m and longer, will be accepted.
 - Performances in running events conducted on an oversized Short Track (its length is greater than 201.2m [220 yards] but no greater than 400m) shall be valid and recognised as if they were achieved on a standard 400m track.
 - For the Combined Events at least one of these conditions must be met:
 - The wind velocity in any individual event will not exceed plus 4 metres per second.
 - The average wind velocity (based on the algebraic sum of the wind velocities, as measured for each individual event, divided by the number of such events) will not exceed plus 2 metres per second.
- For Road Races and Race Walks, the following applies:
 - Road Races (Marathons, Half Marathons, 10km, 5km and Road Mile)
 - Performances for qualifying purposes may only be achieved on a course measured by a World Athletics/AIMS Grade “A” or “B” International Road Race Course Measurer with the measurement certificate established no more than 5 years before the date of the race.
 - For Entry Standards the overall decrease in elevation between the start and the finish will not exceed 1:1000, i.e., 1m per km.
 - For Entry Standards in the Mile, 5km and 10km, women’s performances achieved in Mixed races will not be accepted.”
 - For World Rankings in case of performances achieved on courses with a drop in elevation which exceeds 1:1000, a correction will be made in the result score from which points will be deducted depending on the drop.
 - The contact email address for any matters related to qualifying marathon courses is alessio.punzi@worldathletics.org.



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- Race Walks
 - Performances for qualifying purposes may only be achieved on a course measured by a World Athletics/AIMS Grade “A” or “B” International Road Race Course Measurer with the measurement certificate established no more than 5 years before the date of the race.
 - A minimum of 3 World Athletics Gold, Silver or Bronze Level Race Walking Judges must be on duty.
 - Track performances (20,000m or 35,000m) will be accepted.
 - Performances achieved in competitions conducted with the penalty zone rule will be accepted.
 - The contact email address for any matters related to qualifying race walk competitions is competition@worldathletics.org.

Area Champions

The following regulations shall apply for Automatic Qualification to the World Athletics Championships (not applicable for relays and marathon):

1. The Area Champion (in each individual event to be contested at the World Championships) automatically qualifies for the World Championships, irrespective of whether his performance has reached the Entry Standard, on condition that there is no better entry (by World Rankings) of another athlete from the same Area in the same event.
2. The Area Champion shall be the one who won the title at the last Area Championships, either in 2023, 2024 or 2025.
3. The Member Federation of the Area Champion will have the ultimate authority to enter the athlete or not, based on its own domestic standard or qualification system.
4. If the Member Federation of the Area Champion enters the athlete, he will be considered as having achieved the Entry Standard.
5. If the Area Champion, for whatever reason, is not entered, his place will not be delegated to the second placed athlete and the normal entry rules and conditions apply.
6. For those Area Championships that do not have certain events, the Area Associations can organise alternate Area-specific event Championships with conditions conforming to Area Championships Regulations. World Athletics shall be notified of such alternative Championships at least two months in advance of the event being held.

Competition Manipulation Watchlist

The World Athletics Council, in July 2022, has established a Competition Manipulation watchlist of Member Federations.

For the purpose of qualification to Tokyo 2025, whether by Entry Standard or by World Rankings, World Athletics will only recognise results achieved at the following competitions hosted by such Member Federations:

- Official International or Area Championships;
- Competitions which form part of the following International Competition structures:
 - Diamond League
 - Continental Tour
 - World Indoor Tour
 - World Race Walking Tour
 - World Combined Events Tour
 - World Cross Country Tour
 - World Athletics Label Road Race



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For any other competition (including National Senior Championships subject to a specific application to be submitted to World Athletics at least 30 days in advance (competition@worldathletics.org), World Athletics reserves the right, at its sole discretion and if it so requires, to appoint up to a maximum of three International Technical Officials (World Athletics Referees) to officiate at any of these competitions at the cost of the host Member Federation. This will be considered a condition for their inclusion in the Global Calendar.