

# Communication No. 2709

## ISU Centers of Excellence (CoEs)

### Training internships in ISU Centers of Excellence for promising Skaters and Coaches from developing ISU Members

The ISU remains committed to supporting the training and development of promising Skaters and their Coaches through quality coaching and mentoring opportunities at ISU Centers of Excellence. In alignment with the Olympic season, the 2025 ISU CoE internship program is being launched ahead of schedule and is now open for applications.

#### 1. Selection Criteria

**Figure Skating Branch** - ISU Figure Skating Members that have not entered Skaters in one or more ISU Disciplines (Single & Pair Skating and Ice Dance) to either the ISU World Figure Skating Championships or the ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships in the respective Discipline(s) during the past two consecutive seasons (2023/24 and 2024/25) are eligible to apply.

The nominated Skaters may be in either the senior or junior age category.

**Speed Skating Branch** – ISU Speed Skating Members that have not won a medal during the 2024/2025 season at any of the following events are eligible to apply:

- ISU Senior World Championships
- ISU Short Track World Tour
- ISU World Cup Speed Skating

The nominated Skaters must have reached the age of eighteen before June 1, 2025. Skaters not having reached the required age may be considered if they are accompanied by a guardian/chaperone.

ISU Member federations from both Figure Skating and Speed Skating Branch that meet the above defined criteria may submit applications on behalf of their promising Skaters and Coaches in the relevant discipline(s). Skaters and Coaches from eligible ISU Members may also apply directly, provided their application includes a letter of endorsement from their respective ISU Member federation.

#### 2. Coaches

**Figure Skating Branch** – It is a requirement that the local Coach of the selected Skater(s) (1 per Skater, or 1 per Pair/Couple for Pairs/Ice Dance in Figure Skating) shall join all or part of the internship of their Skater(s) to learn from the ISU CoE Coaches.

**Speed Skating Branch** – it is recommended that the local Coach of the selected Skater (1 per ISU Member) shall join all or part of the internship of their Skater(s) to learn from the ISU CoE Coaches.

#### 3. Capacity

The number of available spots depends on the applications received, the potential training programs, and the overall available budget.

#### 4. Time Frame

Each training internship may last for a minimum of 2 weeks up to a maximum of 90 days, depending on need and availability, and will take place at one of the ISU CoEs between July 15, 2025 and March 31, 2026. The exact timing and duration of each internship will be mutually agreed upon between the Skater/Coach/ISU Member and the respective CoE, and approved by the ISU.

#### 5. ISU Funding

The ISU Development Program will finance the approved internships for Skaters and accompanying Coaches, partially or fully covering on-and-off ice training, coaching and ice time. The Development Program financial contribution will be paid directly to the hosting CoEs. The selected Skaters and Coaches will therefore benefit from their stays at the CoEs at no or reduced cost.

The ISU Members concerned, selected Skaters and their Coaches are expected to cover any additional internship costs. Please also take into consideration that international travel, accommodation, and any private coaching sessions, physiotherapy etc., are at the expense of the Skaters, Coaches or their ISU Members.

The ISU CoEs will provide any necessary assistance with visa applications, accommodation, and other related local arrangements. Participants must arrange their own health and accident insurances.

#### 6. Application requirement

Eligible ISU Members and Skaters/Coaches who apply directly are required to complete an application form (one per Skater or Coach) via the following links:

**Figure Skating Branch:** <https://forms.gle/mQPg2x8kUvxCr3nz9>

**Speed Skating Branch:** <https://forms.gle/EzcckQUhDS8XnFjQ9>

#### 7. Application submission and selection process

##### **Figure Skating Branch**

- Applications must be submitted online **by June 15, 2025**. All applications will be reviewed by the ISU CoEs concerned in consultation with the ISU Development Commission.
- In the event of unfilled spots through the initial selection process, the CoEs or ISU Development Commission may nominate additional candidates throughout the season. All applications will be reviewed by the ISU CoEs concerned in consultation with the ISU Development Commission.
- Online interviews with Skaters and their Coaches may be required by respective ISU CoEs and/or the ISU Development Commission.
- Based on the recommendations of the CoEs, the ISU will decide on the final selection of Skaters and Coaches to join the ISU CoE Internship Program. Nominating ISU Members and applying Skaters/Coaches will be informed of the decision as soon as possible.

##### **Speed Skating Branch**

- Applications must be submitted online **by June 15, 2025**. All applications will be reviewed by the ISU CoEs concerned in consultation with the ISU Development Commission.
- In the event of unfilled spots through the initial selection process, the CoEs or ISU Development Commission may nominate additional candidates throughout the season. All applications will be reviewed by the ISU CoEs concerned in consultation with the ISU Development Commission.

- Online interviews with Skaters and their Coaches may be required by respective ISU CoEs and/or the ISU Development Commission.
- Based on the recommendations of the CoEs, the ISU will decide on the final selection of Skaters and Coaches to join the ISU CoE Internship Program. Nominating ISU Members and applying Skaters/Coaches will be informed of the decision as soon as possible.

## **8. ISU CoEs open for training internships**

### ***Figure Skating Branch (by alphabetical order of the names of the entities)***

- Eissportzentrum Oberstdorf, Germany - Single & Pair Skating, Ice Dance
- Ice Lab, Bergamo, Italy - Single & Pair Skating
- IWIS International Training Center, Bangkok, Thailand - Single & Pair Skating, Ice Dance
- Skating School of Switzerland, Champéry, Switzerland - Single & Pair Skating

### ***Speed Skating Branch (by alphabetical order of the names of the entities)***

- Calgary Olympic Oval, Canada - Speed Skating and Short Track
- Heerenveen, Netherlands - Speed Skating and Short Track
- Utah Olympic Oval, Salt Lake City, USA - Speed Skating and Short Track

For any additional information or questions, please email [coe@isu.ch](mailto:coe@isu.ch).

May 16, 2025

Jae Youl Kim, President

Colin Smith, Director General