

# Communication No. 2664

## ISU Centers of Excellence (CoEs)

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

The ISU continues to support the training and development of promising Skaters and their Coaches by offering opportunities for quality coaching and mentoring at ISU Centers of Excellence. The 2024 edition of the ISU CoE internship program is now open for applications.

#### 1. Selection Criteria

Developing ISU Members of both Figure Skating and Speed Skating Branches that fulfil the following criteria may send applications for their promising Skaters of the concerned Discipline(s) and their Coaches. The applications may also be submitted directly by Skaters and Coaches from eligible ISU Members as described below, on condition that the applying Skaters and Coaches are endorsed by the ISU Members concerned via a supporting letter.

**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 (2022/23 and 2023/24) 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 at ISU World Championships or World Cups in the past season (2023/2024) are eligible to apply.

Nominated Speed Skating or Short Track Skaters, or those applying directly, must have reached the age of eighteen before June 1, 2024. Skaters not having reached the required age may be considered if they are accompanied by a guardian/chaperone.

#### 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 Skater) 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 to be 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 September 1, 2024 and March 31, 2025. 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 will finance the approved internships for Skaters and accompanying Coaches, partially or fully covering on-and-off ice training, coaching and ice time. The ISU 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 insurance.

#### 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/rBMC8ShTsHWj9XzDA>

**Speed Skating Branch:** <https://forms.gle/xPYm8UpNxUFEKpVx9>

#### 7. Application submissions and selection processes

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

- Applications must be submitted online **by September 9, 2024**. 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 the ISU CoEs and/or 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 of the ISU as soon as possible.

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

- Applications must be submitted online at least two months prior to the desired start dates of the potential internships, but no later than December 31, 2024. Please take into consideration that the number of available spots and the budget may decrease with time.
- 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 the ISU CoEs and/or 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 of the ISU as soon as possible.

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

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

- Ice Lab in Bergamo, Italy - Single & Pair Skating
- Ice Rink in the Eissportzentrum Oberstdorf in Germany - Single & Pair Skating, Ice Dance
- IWIS International Training Center in Bangkok, Thailand - Single & Pair Skating, Ice Dance
- Skating School of Switzerland in 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).

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Jae Youl Kim, President

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