



QUALIFICATION SYSTEM – GAMES OF THE XXXII OLYMPIAD – TOKYO 2020

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ATHLETICS  
FEDERATIONS

Athletics

**A. EVENTS (48) AND ENTRY NUMBERS PER EVENT**

Men's Events (24)	Women's Events (23)	Mixed Events (1)
<b>Track</b> 100m (56) 200m (56) 400m (48) 800m (48) 1500m (45) 5000m (42) 10,000m (27) 110m Hurdles (40) 400m Hurdles (40) 3000m Steeplechase (45) 4 x 100m Relay (16) 4 x 400m Relay (16)	<b>Track</b> 100m (56) 200m (56) 400m (48) 800m (48) 1500m (45) 5000m (42) 10,000m (27) 100m Hurdles (40) 400m Hurdles (40) 3000m Steeplechase (45) 4 x 100m Relay (16) 4 x 400m Relay (16)	<b>Track</b> 4 x 400m Mixed Relay (16)
<b>Field</b> High Jump (32) Pole Vault (32) Long Jump (32) Triple Jump (32) Shot Put (32) Discus Throw (32) Hammer Throw (32) Javelin Throw (32)	<b>Field</b> High Jump (32) Pole Vault (32) Long Jump (32) Triple Jump (32) Shot Put (32) Discus Throw (32) Hammer Throw (32) Javelin Throw (32)	
<b>Combined</b> Decathlon (24)	<b>Combined</b> Heptathlon (24)	
<b>Road</b> 20km Race Walk (60) 50km Race Walk (60) Marathon (80)	<b>Road</b> 20km Race Walk (60) Marathon (80)	



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**B. ATHLETES QUOTA**

**1. Total Quota for Athletics:**

	Qualification Places	Universality Places (unqualified athletes)	Total
Men/Women	Total athletes quota of <b>1900</b>		

**2. Event Specific Quota per NOC:**

	Event Specific Quota
Individual Events	Maximum three (3) athletes
Relay Events	Maximum one (1) relay team per event

**Individual Events**

NOCs may enter up to three (3) qualified athletes for each event on the athletics programme. In addition, NOCs that fulfil the maximum quota per event can nominate a maximum of one (1) reserve or P alternate qualified athlete for the same event.

**Relay Events**

4x100m, 4x400m NOCs may enter one (1) team for each relay event. A total of five (5) athletes may be entered for a relay team. Should an NOC have entered a relay team and individual athletes in the corresponding individual event (100m and 400m), the entered individual athletes must be included in the total of five (5) athletes entered for the relay events. In addition, NOCs can nominate a maximum of one (1) P alternate athlete for each team.

4x400m Mixed NOCs may enter one (1) team for this relay event. A total of four (4) athletes, two (2) men and two (2) women, may be entered for the relay team. In addition, NOCs can nominate a maximum of two (2) P alternate athletes for each team, one (1) man and one (1) woman.

**3. Type of Allocation of Quota Places:**

The quota place is allocated to the athlete by name in individual events. However, if an NOC has more than three (3) qualified athletes in individual events, the NOC can decide which of these athletes will receive the quota places.

The quota place is allocated to the NOC in Relay events.

**C. ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY**

All athletes must comply with the provisions of the Olympic Charter currently in force, including but not limited to, Rule 41 (Nationality of Competitors) and Rule 43 (World Anti-Doping Code and the Olympic Movement

Code on the Prevention of Manipulation of Competitions). Only those athletes who have complied with the Olympic Charter may participate in the Olympic Games.



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### Age Requirements

- Senior Athletes:** Any athlete aged 20 on 31 December in the year of the competition (born in 2000 or earlier) may compete in any event
- Junior Athletes:** Any athlete aged 18 or 19 years on 31 December in the year of the competition (born in 2001 or 2002) may compete in any event except the Marathon and 50km Race Walk.
- Youth Athletes:** Any athlete aged 16 or 17 years on 31 December in the year of the competition (born in 2003 and 2004) may compete in any event except the throwing events, Heptathlon, Decathlon, 10,000m, Marathon and Race Walk.
- Athletes Younger than 16:** No athlete younger than 16 years of age on 31 December in the year of the competition (born in 2005 or later) may compete at the Olympic Games.

## D. QUALIFICATION PATHWAY

### QUALIFICATION PLACES

#### Individual Qualification

Number of Individual Quota Places	Qualification Event
1900 Athletes*	<p><b>Qualification process:</b> An athlete can qualify in one of two ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Achieve the entry standard within the respective qualification period</li> <li>• Qualify by virtue of his IAAF World Ranking Position in the selected event at the end of the respective qualification period.</li> </ul> <p>In both cases, the maximum quota per NOC per event must be respected and the number of entries per event (in section A.) cannot be exceeded.</p> <p><b>Qualification events:</b> <b>General</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All performances must be achieved during competitions organised or authorised by the IAAF during the qualification period as outlined in section H. Timeline, its Area Associations or its National Federations in conformity with IAAF Rules (<a href="https://www.iaaf.org/about-iaaf/documents/rules-regulations">https://www.iaaf.org/about-iaaf/documents/rules-regulations</a>).</li> <li>• For Marathons and Race Walks, IAAF publishes on its website a list of courses and competitions that comply with the below.</li> </ul> <p><b>Marathons</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Performances for qualifying purposes may only be achieved on a course measured by an IAAF/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.</li> <li>• For entry standards the overall decrease in elevation between the start and the finish shall not exceed 1:1000, i.e. 1m per km.</li> <li>• 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 of the drop.</li> </ul>



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- The first 10 runners in the Men's Marathon and in the Women's Marathon in the IAAF World Athletics Championships Doha 2019 and the top 5 finishers at the IAAF Gold Label Marathons and the top 10 finishers at the Marathon Major Series (Tokyo, Boston, London, Berlin, Chicago and New York) held during the qualification period will also be considered as having achieved the entry standard.

### Race Walks

- Performances for qualifying purposes may only be achieved on a course measured by an IAAF/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 International or Area Race Walking Judges must be on duty.
- For International Competitions defined under IAAF Rule 1.1 (i), or at National Competitions, Member Federations concerned must submit a specific application to the IAAF (Application Form available from the IAAF) before the race is conducted. Applications submitted for the IAAF World Championships Doha 2019 do not need to be submitted again.

### Special conditions for validity of performances:

- Performances achieved in **mixed competitions in track events** will not be accepted. Exceptionally, in accordance with IAAF Rule 147, 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.
- Performances which are **wind-assisted** or for which a wind reading is not available shall not be accepted for Entry Standard purposes (but will be valid for the IAAF 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.
- **Indoor performances** for all field events and for races of 200m and longer, will be accepted.
- For the running events of 200m and over (including combined events), performances achieved on **oversized tracks** shall not be accepted.
- For the Race Walks, track performances (20,000m or 50,000m) and performances achieved in competitions conducted with the penalty zone rule shall be accepted.
- For the Combined Events at least one of these conditions must be met:
  - The wind velocity in any individual event shall 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) shall not exceed plus 2 metres per second.

### Entry standards:

- They will be established in all individual events.

### Qualification period:

- **Marathon and 50km Race Walk: from 1 January 2019 to 31 May 2020**
- **10,000m, 20km Race Walk and Combined Events: from 1 January 2019 to 29 June 2020**
- **All other events: from 1 May 2019 to 29 June 2020**

To be noted that, regardless of their date, the last Area Championships will always count towards the IAAF World Rankings (if among the athlete's best five (5) performance scores). The Area Championships events count towards the ranking regardless of the date of the event. However, in case an athlete has already accumulated five (5) performance scores that are better than the results at the Area Championships then the result will not count towards the IAAF World Ranking.



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\* Includes the relay athletes and universality places

### Relay Qualification

Number of Team Quota Places	Qualification Event
80 Teams	<p><b>Qualification Process:</b> There shall be a maximum of 16 qualified teams in each relay event.</p> <p><b>IAAF World Championships, September/October 2019</b> The first eight (8) placed NOCs at the IAAF World Championships Doha 2019 shall automatically qualify for the relay events at the 2020 Olympic Games.</p> <p><b>IAAF World Top Lists (29 June 2020)</b> The remaining eight (8) teams will be selected according to IAAF World Top Lists of 29 June 2020 (link to be added April 2020). For the results to be valid for qualification purposes, a minimum of two different international teams, representing at least two countries, must compete in the race.</p> <p>The IAAF will inform the NOCs of each of these national teams of their eligibility to compete in the Olympic Games relay competitions.</p> <p><b>Qualification period:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 May 2019 to 29 June 2020</li> </ul>

### UNIVERSALITY PLACES (UNQUALIFIED ATHLETES)

- a. NOCs with no male or female qualified athlete or relay team will be allowed to enter their best ranked male athlete or their best ranked female athlete in one athletic event, with the exception of the Combined Events, 10,000m and 3000m Steeplechase.
- b. This applies equally to unqualified female entries from an NOC with qualified males, and vice versa.
- c. Acceptance of unqualified entries in Field Events and Road Events will be at the discretion of the IAAF Technical Delegates, based on the technical standard of the athlete and the numbers of qualified athletes in the respective event. In order to allow the IAAF Technical Delegates to assess the technical level of such athletes, a specific application form indicating the event in which the entry is requested and the proof of the technical level and international participation of the nominated athlete must be submitted to the IAAF. The IAAF shall subsequently confirm, in writing to NOCs, with a copy to the Tokyo 2020 Sport Entries Department, the approval or otherwise of the entry of the specified athlete(s).
- d. The application forms of all unqualified athletes must be submitted by NOCs to the IAAF no later than 22 June 2020. For Marathon and 50km Race Walk the application form for unqualified athletes must be submitted by NOCs to the IAAF no later than 24 May 2020.

### E. CONFIRMATION PROCESS FOR QUOTA PLACES

Following the end of the qualification period, the IAAF shall confirm the number of athletes having achieved the entry standard plus the approved unqualified athletes and shall subsequently determine the athletes qualified by virtue of their IAAF World Ranking position. The IAAF World Rankings for each event shall be



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published on the IAAF website on 1 July 2020. NOCs shall enter all athletes to Tokyo 2020 by the entries deadline of 6 July 2020.

### F. REALLOCATION OF UNUSED QUOTA PLACES

#### REALLOCATION OF UNUSED QUALIFICATION PLACES

If an allocated individual quota place is declined by an NOC, the quota place will be reallocated to the next best ranked athlete in the same event according to the IAAF World Rankings of 1 July 2020, respecting the maximum quota by NOC per event.

If an allocated team relay quota place is not confirmed by the NOC by the confirmation of quota place deadline or is declined by the NOC, the quota place will be reallocated to the NOC with a relay team which has recorded the next fastest time in the same event in accordance with the IAAF's criteria for the qualification of relay teams.

#### REALLOCATION OF UNUSED UNIVERSALITY PLACES

There will be no reallocation of Universality Places.

### G. GENERAL PRINCIPLES REGARDING THE USE OF RESERVE AND P ALTERNATE ATHLETES

#### RESERVE ATHLETES

Reserve athletes are competing athletes who have an Aa accreditation and who are entered by their NOC in a specific event where they have qualified.

As reserve, they may be selected to replace another entered athlete in a different event until the time of the final confirmation for that event provided:

- they were nominated as reserve for that event at the time of the final entry deadline
- they have achieved the entry standard or have qualified by virtue of their IAAF World Rankings position
- that the NOC quota for that event is respected

Reserve athletes must comply with the same eligibility rules as competing athletes as described in above paragraph **C. Athlete Eligibility**.

#### P ALTERNATE ATHLETES

P alternate athletes are non-competing athletes, and are not included within the athletes' quota as described in paragraph **B. Athletes Quota**.

If an NOC has entered three (3) athletes in one event, they are entitled to nominate one (1) P alternate athlete for the same event provided:

- he/she was nominated as alternate for that event at the time of the final entry deadline
- he/she has achieved the entry standard or has qualified by virtue of the IAAF World Rankings position



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P alternate athletes must comply with the same eligibility rules as competing athletes as described in above paragraph **C. Athlete Eligibility**.

More detailed information about entitlements and quotas can be found in the 'Accreditation at the Olympic Games – Users Guide'. P alternate athletes can only become competing athletes as per the conditions outlined in the 'IOC/Tokyo 2020 Late Athlete Replacement policy'.

### H. QUALIFICATION TIMELINE

Date	Milestone
1 January 2019	Start of the qualification period for 10,000m, Marathon, Race Walk, Combined Events and Relays.
March 2019	IAAF to confirm the entry standards for all events. The standards will be distributed to all NOCs and NFs.
1 May 2019	Start of the qualification period for all other events.
24 May 2020	Deadline for NOCs with no qualified athletes to apply for unqualified entries (only for Marathon and 50km Race Walk)
31 May 2020	End of qualification period for Marathon and 50km Race Walk
3 June 2020	IAAF to (only for Marathon and 50km Race Walk) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- confirm the list of approved Unqualified athletes</li><li>- confirm the list of athletes qualified by Entry Standard</li><li>- publish the IAAF World Rankings and qualified athletes</li></ul>
22 June 2020	Deadline for NOCs with no qualified athletes to apply for unqualified entries.
29 June 2020	End of qualification period.
1 July 2020	IAAF to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- confirm the list of approved Unqualified athletes</li><li>- confirm the list of athletes qualified by Entry Standard</li><li>- publish the IAAF World Rankings and qualified athletes</li><li>- publish the list of qualified Relay Teams</li></ul>
2-5 July 2020	IAAF to reallocate all unused quota places
6 July 2020	Tokyo 2020 Sport Entries deadline
24 July - 9 August 2020	Olympic Games Tokyo 2020



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### I. ENTRY STANDARDS

The entry standards below were approved by IAAF Council in March 2019 in Doha.

Men	Event	Women
10.05	100m	11.15
20.24	200m	22.80
44.90	400m	51.35
1:45.20	800m	1:59.50
3:35.00	1500m	4:04.20
13:13.50	5000m	15:10.00
27:28.00	10,000m	31:25.00
13.32	110m Hurdles / 100m Hurdles	12.84
48.90	400m Hurdles	55.40
8:22.00	3000m Steeplechase	9:30.00
2.33	High Jump	1.96
5.80	Pole Vault	4.70
8.22	Long Jump	6.82
17.14	Triple Jump	14.32
21.10	Shot Put	18.50
66.00	Discus Throw	63.50
77.50	Hammer Throw	72.50
85.00	Javelin Throw	64.00
8350	Decathlon / Heptathlon	6420
1:21:00	20km Race Walk	1:31:00
3:50:00	50km Race Walk	
2:11:30	Marathon	2:29:30