



TOP-CLASS ATHLETES SCHEME OF THE UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM

Article 1 Top-class athletes

1. The following are eligible for regular top-class athlete status:
 - a. students who have been awarded high-potential or top-class athlete status by the Netherlands Olympic Committee*Netherlands Sport Federation (NOC*NSF);
 - b. students who have a positive recommendation issued by Topsport Amsterdam;
 - c. students who play football in a selection team of a paid football organisation.
2. The following are eligible for top-class athlete project status: students who travel abroad for training and competitions at the highest level, but who are not or not yet eligible for regular top-class athlete status. The project status only applies to the periods during which the student is training and participating in competitions abroad. The project status will be issued in consultation with Topsport Amsterdam.
3. The level of an international student who is not eligible for a status with the NOC*NSF due to their nationality will be compared to the level of Dutch top-class athletes. The regular top-class athlete status or top-class athlete project status will be issued to an international student in consultation with Topsport Amsterdam.

Article 2 Top-class Sport Coordinator

On the recommendation of the director of Student Services, the Executive Board will appoint a student counsellor as the Top-class Sport Coordinator of the University of Amsterdam. The Executive Board will appoint one of its members as the contact point for matters relating to top-class sport.

Article 3 Requesting top-class athlete status

Students must submit a request for top-class athlete status to the Top-class Sport Coordinator of the Student Services department. An intake interview with the Top-class Sport Coordinator will take place prior to the potential awarding of top-class athlete status or top-class athlete project status. The status is valid for one academic year and can be renewed annually on request. The status applies to all the education that the student is following at the UvA.

Article 4 Notification to the study adviser

A student who has been awarded top-class athlete status or top-class athlete project status and who wishes to qualify for facilitation, will hold an annual meeting with the study adviser of their degree programme at the beginning of the academic year. During the meeting, the student will show the confirmation of the top-class athlete status or top-class athlete project status issued by the Top-class Sport Coordinator and an overview of the current and future training and/or competition times.

Article 5 Facilitating top-class athletes

1. Wherever possible, the UvA will facilitate students with top-class athlete status in combining top-class sport with their studies. This will take place within reasonable limits and will be decided at the ultimate discretion of the Examinations Boards of any degree programmes followed.
2. As early as possible, the student will discuss with the study adviser how to submit a request to the Examinations Board.
3. Depending on the specified learning objectives, technical possibilities and attendance requirements, the faculties and degree programmes have various options for alternatives and adjustments in the areas of teaching and examinations.

Article 6 Financial support during the performance-related grant period

Students with regular top-class athlete status may be eligible for financial support if practising top-class sport leads to study completion delays as described in the Profiling Fund regulations.

Article 7 Registration of study completion delays

On an annual basis, a student with regular or other top-class athlete status will ask the study adviser(s) of their degree programme(s) to register the study completion delay caused by practising top-class sport. Registration must be carried out in accordance with the procedure described in the Profiling Fund regulations.

Article 8 Entry into effect, transitional provisions and official title

This scheme replaces the '2010 Top-class Athletes Scheme' as adopted on 1 September 2010. The updated Scheme for Top-class Athletes at UvA was adopted by decision no. 2022-028205 of the Executive Board on 5 April 2022 and will enter into effect on 1 September 2022. This scheme can be cited as the 'UvA Top-class Athletes Scheme'.

Notes to the UvA Top-class Athletes Scheme

General

By means of this scheme, the University of Amsterdam (UvA) is providing clarity about the support that the university offers to students who wish to combine studying and practising top-class sport. During information sessions and in communication regarding study choices, the UvA pays due attention to this topic to ensure that prospective students are able to make a good choice between higher education institutions and degree programmes at the UvA.

When this scheme enters into force, the UvA will distinguish between regular top-class athlete status and top-class athlete project status. The project status only applies to short periods during the academic year in which the student travels abroad for training combined with international competitions.

A student who has been recognised by the UvA's Top-class Sport Coordinator as a top-class athlete and is experiencing a study completion delay as a result of activities that have a direct relationship with the aforementioned performance, may submit a request for financial support in accordance with the provisions of the Profiling Fund regulations.

Explanatory notes on individual sections

Article 1b

If a student is not eligible for NOC*NSF status because the sport practised by the student is not included in the NOC*NSF system, the student does not have Dutch nationality, the student is in the run-up phase to NOC*NSF status or the student is in a transition phase from a junior to senior status, advice will be requested from Topsport Amsterdam. This advice will be requested from Topsport Amsterdam by the Top-class Sport Coordinator on behalf of the student.

Article 1c

Paid football (men) is not included in the NOC*NSF system, so different rules apply.

Article 2

The Top-class Sport Coordinator can be reached at the following email address: topsportcoordinator-sts@uva.nl. An appointment with the Top-class Sport Coordinator can be made via the appointment system of the student counsellors on the website.

Article 5

Examples of adjustments include: switching between tutorials, offering online education and/or examinations, offering an additional opportunity to take examinations, offering alternative assignments in the event of absence and changes in the sequence in which courses can be taken.

Article 6

For more information on the conditions, the maximum amount of the payment and the application procedure, please refer to the applicable UvA Profiling Fund regulations.