



Dear F.L.A.M.E. Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in the 2008 F.L.A.M.E. (Finding Leaders Among Minorities Everywhere) program, hosted by the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) on June 4-7, 2008. Celebrating its 15th year, F.L.A.M.E. is a dynamic, educational program packed with leadership enhancement opportunities, the chance to learn from USOC leaders, Olympians and Paralympians, engage in sports demonstrations and enhance self-discovery.

Participants will spend four inspirational-filled days at the U.S. Olympic Complex in Colorado Springs, Colorado with other college student leaders from around the country. Participants receive **FREE** roundtrip airfare from their hometowns to Colorado Springs, Colorado, and live like Olympic hopefuls in the athlete dormitory. Additional program expenses are also covered by the USOC.

Please thoroughly read the enclosed packet prior to completing the application.

The Application Process

- There are several components to the application materials including the basic application, required essay, letter of recommendation and transcripts. All materials must be submitted at the same time **in one envelope**.
- Application materials must be postmarked by **April 11, 2008**.
- The enclosed F.L.A.M.E. **fact sheet** provides basic information about the program.
- The enclosed **criteria fact sheet** provides information about the selection process for the program.
- If you have any questions, please call F.L.A.M.E. Committee Chairperson, Erica Hutchinson, at 719-866-4604 or e-mail Erica at flame@usoc.org.
- Notification letters will be postmarked and sent to all applicants no later than **May 15, 2008**.

Thank you again for your interest in F.L.A.M.E. Program.

Sincerely,

Erica Hutchinson
F.L.A.M.E. Committee Chairperson



F.L.A.M.E. Program Fact Sheet

Program Location/Dates: U.S. Olympic Complex
Colorado Springs, Colorado
June 4 – 7, 2008

Mission: In the spirit of the Olympic Ideals (Persistence, Vision, Focus, Discipline, and Commitment) F.L.A.M.E. inspires minority college students to cultivate their desire to succeed and rise above the ordinary level of expectations. F.L.A.M.E. will enhance the mind, body and spirit by providing minority student leaders with:

- Opportunities for personal and professional growth
- An inside look at the USOC, its structure and processes
- Exposure to other student leaders from throughout the nation
- Information about the USOC College Internship Program
- Role models (Olympians, Paralympians and others) to whom they can relate and aspire to emulate

Participants: Applicants are undergraduate or graduate students (ages 18-24) who have demonstrated leadership through academics, athletics and community involvement and have a particular interest in the field of sport management.

History: F.L.A.M.E. was founded in 1994 as a national outreach program for minority youth. The program was originally designed for ages 13-18. The program focused on educating and exposing youth to the Olympic Movement and its ideals. Beginning in 2006, the F.L.A.M.E. program was targeted toward college students in an effort to better tie the program to future USOC college internship and employment opportunities.

The F.L.A.M.E. Program is unique and includes seminars and workshops taught by USOC leaders, Olympic and Paralympic athletes, and community leaders who have achieved personal, professional or athletic successes in life. Participants learn how to set and achieve goals and increase their self-confidence through:

- Enhancing leadership skills
- Building group dynamics
- Establishing a discipline of self discovery and preparation
- Improving communication strategies
- Attending motivational seminars
- Participating in interactive sport demonstrations

For more information please contact Erica Hutchinson at 719-866-4604 or by e-mail at flame@usoc.org.

F.L.A.M.E. Program Criteria

1) Applicants must be of an ethnic minority.

For the purposes of the F.L.A.M.E. program, ethnic minority is defined as African-American, Native American, Latino, Asian, Pacific-Islander or the descendant of non-European based countries such as Africa, India, the Middle-East, etc.

2) Applicants must be enrolled as a full-time student in an undergraduate or graduate degree program at an accredited college or university and be within the ages of 18-24.

3) Applicants must have a college grade point average (G.P.A.) of at least 2.75 or above on a 4.0 scale (or equivalent).

Student must submit their most recent unofficial transcript as proof of their college G.P.A. Students attending schools with a G.P.A. scale higher than 4.0 must list the G.P.A. scale (example: 4.0 on 5.0 scale).

4) Applicants must have at least a minimal athletic background.

Student should have participated at some level in a high school or college interscholastic sport activity or a community sport program.

5) Applicants must demonstrate leadership and community involvement.

Qualified applicants will be involved with school leadership and community service activities from any outlet including, but not limited to, school organizations, church, synagogue, or mosque, non-profit organizations, etc. Examples of activities include student government, feeding the homeless, peer tutoring, outdoor clean-up projects, etc. Applicants may include involvement in activities during their senior year in high school as well as college.

6) Preference is given to students interested in a career in sport management.

Applicants should demonstrate an interest in a sport management career. This can be evidenced through the degree being pursued (i.e., a degree in sport management) or by providing a written explanation of long-term career goals).

7) Applications must be complete and post-marked by April 11, 2008.

The signed application form, (1) one-page essay, (1) letter of recommendation and an unofficial college transcript should all be submitted in **one** application packet to the U.S. Olympic Committee by the due date. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted.

Applications should be clearly printed or typed.

APPLICATION FORM
(PAGE 2)

Emergency Contact Information

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Relationship to applicant: _____

Extra-Curricular Activities (Include senior year in high school and college)

Honors, Awards & Achievements (Include senior year in high school and college)

Long Term Career Goals (Please use an additional sheet paper, if necessary)

APPLICATION FORM
(PAGE 3)

ESSAY QUESTIONS

Please select one (1) the following questions and answer it on a separate sheet of paper. Limit one page.

- 1) What is your definition of leadership? If you had the opportunity, how would you apply your leadership skills in your own community?
- 2) Write about an experience that you considered to be difficult or did not turn out exactly as you expected.(i.e., work, school or community project). Briefly explain the circumstances and how you overcame the obstacles. What did you learn?
- 3) The five Olympic ideals are vision, persistence, commitment, discipline and focus. Which one best describes you and your goals for your future?

As a condition of acceptance as a participant of the U.S. Olympic Committee's F.L.A.M.E. Program, I, the undersigned, agree that the information provided is correct and factual to the best of my knowledge. I understand that I must be an ethnic minority* and a citizen of the United States. I also understand that to be considered for the program I must submit a fully completed application. I understand that accepted applicants must be able to participate in the full four-day program.

**For the purposes of the F.L.A.M.E. program, ethnic minority defined as African-American, Native American, Latino, Asian, Pacific-Islander or the descendant of non-European based countries such as Africa, India, the Middle-East, etc.*

Print Name: _____

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

If accepted to the program which airport would you fly from? _____

T-shirt size: _____

All application packets must be fully completed with a letter of recommendation and essay enclosed. **Current "unofficial" transcripts must also be enclosed. This complete application must be submitted and postmarked no later than April 11, 2008.**

Mail to: Application and Selection Committee
USOC F.L.A.M.E. Program
1 Olympic Plaza
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80909
Attn: Erica Hutchinson

Should you have any questions about the program, please contact Erica Hutchinson at (719) 866-4604 or by e-mail at flame@usoc.org.

Thank you for applying. Notifications will be postmarked no later than May 15, 2008.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

All recommendations should be returned to the applicant for inclusion in the application packet. Please return your recommendation to the applicant prior to April 11, 2008.

Please submit the recommendation letter in a sealed envelope with your signature across the seal to ensure confidentiality. Thank you.

