

UNCLASSIFIED STATE 00030762

SUBJECT: Waiver of Visa Fees for 2014 Special Olympics Summer Games Invitational, Los Angeles, CA and 2015 Special Olympics World Summer Games, Los Angeles, CA

1. (U) Deputy Secretary Burns has authorized a waiver of application (i.e., MRV) and visa issuance (i.e., reciprocity) fees for participants in the 2014 Special Olympics Summer Games Invitational taking place in Los Angeles, CA, from June 6 to 8, 2014, and the 2015 Special Olympics World Summer Games taking place in Los Angeles, CA, from July 25 to August 2, 2015. Approximately 250 accredited delegation members will attend the 2014 Special Olympics Summer Games Invitational, and 6,500 accredited delegation members will attend the 2015 Special Olympic World Summer Games. End Summary.

2. (U) Consistent with 8 U.S.C. 1351, the Deputy Secretary has authorized a waiver of all reciprocity and MRV fees for the members of delegations traveling to the 2014 Special Olympics Summer Games Invitational and the 2015 Special Olympics World Summer Games, including:

- (1) Athletes and Unified Partners (athletes without an intellectual disability who train and compete on teams with persons with intellectual disabilities);
- (2) Coaches, trainers, referees, and judges;
- (3) Other supporting staff accredited to the Games (such as medical doctors, nurses, and therapists, Special Olympic staff from the regional offices, and technical delegates to oversee each sport);
- (4) Heads of the Delegation and the Assistant Head(s) of the Delegation;
- (5) Medical doctors participating in the Healthy Athletes Program;
- (6) Global Messengers (former athletes acting as spokespersons during the Games); and
- (7) Police officers who will participate in the final leg of the Torch Run.

The seven categories of accredited individuals listed above constitute the only groups of "Special Olympics National Program Members" (SONPMS) eligible for waiver of visa fees. Those requiring visas will need to complete all other visa processing requirements, including appearance for an interview and biometric collection.

3. (U) All reciprocity and MRV fees shall be waived for the above seven groups. Posts worldwide are authorized to issue multiple-entry "B-1/B-2" visas to qualifying applicants. For the 2014 Special Olympic Summer Games Invitational visa validity shall be from May 23 to June 22, 2014, and visas shall be annotated: "Accredited to the 2014 Special Olympics Summer Games Invitational, Los Angeles, CA." For the 2015 Special Olympic World Summer Games visa validity shall be from July 11, 2015 to August 16, 2015, and visas shall be annotated: "Accredited to the 2015 Special Olympic World Summer Games, Los Angeles, CA." Accredited delegation members who plan to attend both the 2014 Special Olympic Summer Games Invitational and the 2015 Special Olympic World Summer Games must apply separately for each Game.

4. (U) International media seeking visas to cover this event are not included in the fee waiver and will need to apply and qualify in their own right for I visas. The same holds true for all petitionable classifications, such as temporary workers, entertainers, and cultural exchange groups.

Kerry

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