1. OBJECTIVE

The main objective of this IOC OSC grant programme is to promote advanced research with a humanities or social sciences perspective by established researchers in priority fields of research identified annually by the IOC.

For the 2015/2016 edition, the priority fields of research are as follows:

1. Bid and host cities – Key factors to ensure that staging the Olympic Games will remain attractive, feasible and sustainable for many cities and countries throughout the world.
2. The Olympic Games as a platform for spreading the Olympic values worldwide – Roles and responsibilities of the Olympic Movement stakeholders and society’s perception.
3. Key factors in the engagement of the host city and country governing bodies and population to contribute to the success of the Olympic Games and a sustainable positive legacy.
4. The link between art, culture and the Olympic Games – Ways of improvement.
5. The Youth Olympic Games - Impact, evolution, challenges and opportunities.
6. Sports governing bodies’ responsibilities in supporting the dual career of athletes - Practical and ethical approach.
7. Supporting the athletes – Agents’ and sponsors’ roles, responsibilities and interaction with the Olympic Movement stakeholders.
8. The use of technology in high-level sport – Ethical and sporting considerations.
9. The international sports calendar and possible means of improved coordination – Impact for athletes and sports organisations.
11. Doping in sport – Attitudes among amateur and professional athletes and in society.
12. Hosting of events, commercial partnerships and/or communication strategies as a means to strengthening National Olympic Committees’ organisational and operational capacity – Opportunities and challenges.
13. Opportunities and challenges of the criminalisation of competition –fixing.
14. From sport spectators to sport practitioners – Key factors to actively engage people in sport through sports events.
15. Evaluate the impact of campaigns promoting participation in physical activity and sport.
16. The opportunities and challenges of establishing effective policies to empower girls and women in and through sport.
17. Young people and their relationship with physical activity, sport and Olympism - Perception, interest, participation and engagement.
18. How can values best be imported and reinforced through sport both at the grassroots and elite levels of sports practice in different cultures?

A secondary objective of this programme is to encourage the applicants to consult the IOC’s historical archives, library collections and audio-visual fonds, through the OSC, when they bring added value to the research.

2. ELIGIBILITY

All university professors, lecturers and research fellows who have completed their doctorate and who currently hold an academic/research appointment covering the period of the grant (from submission of the application to delivery of the final report) are eligible to apply.

Applicants must submit a proposal directly linked to at least one of the priority fields of research listed above. Research projects will only be accepted if the applicants clearly demonstrate that the results will be relevant to the current situation of the priority field concerned.

Other eligibility criteria to be fulfilled are as follows:

- Applicants must be fluent in either French or English.
- Applicants may submit a proposal with the same research subject on only two occasions. However, on the second occasion, they must clearly explain how it differs from and improves the first proposal.
Applicants may apply on an individual or collective basis. In the second case, all research group members have to fulfil all the eligibility criteria. In addition, one member of the group should be nominated as the coordinator and remain the main contact person for the IOC OSC. Interdisciplinary and intercultural collective applications are encouraged.

These eligibility criteria will be strictly applied.

3. APPLICATION PROCEDURES AND DEADLINE

Completed application files, including the application form and the appendix(s), must be sent by e-mail no later than 9 February 2015. After the deadline, incomplete or new applications will not be accepted. A candidature acceptance confirmation e-mail will be sent at the latest one week after the application is received.

Applications and all supporting documentation must be submitted in either French or English, the two official languages of the Olympic Movement.

The official application form (available through the OSC website or from the OSC upon written request) must be duly completed and must include:

1. General information on the applicant(s).
   1.1 Individual or, in the event of a collective application, the coordinator's information.
   1.2 In the event of a collective application, the other member's/members' general information.

2. Information concerning the academic institution (employer) of the applicant.

3. General information concerning the research project.

   Within this chapter, the applicant(s) is (are) required to give the name and contact details of two academic referees, who could assess, at the IOC OSC's request, the applicant's/applicants' capacity and the quality of the project submitted. The referees must not have any professional relationship with the applicant(s) (from submission of the application to delivery of the final report).

4. Detailed information on the research proposal:
   4.1 Description of the research topic and objectives (1 page maximum).
   4.2 Description of the project's contribution to academic knowledge (1 page maximum).
   4.3 Description of the relevance of the study proposal to at least one of the IOC priority fields of research (1 page maximum).
4.4 Description of the applicant’s/applicants’ training and preparation for this project, any work already undertaken by the applicant(s) on the concerned field of research and a list of any of the applicant’s/applicants’ relevant publications. In the event of a collective application, a brief explanation of the specific contribution of each member to the project is requested (maximum 2 pages per person).

4.5 Description of the methodology to be applied and the working schedule for the project, including key tasks, deliverables and milestones (2 pages maximum). In the event that the applicant’s/applicants’ research proposal involves interviews or surveys, he/she must explain how access to the data or to the people to be interviewed has been assured in advance. In addition, if ethical approval is requested by his/her university, the application file must include a certificate written on the university letterhead, signed by the head of the appropriate university division and stating that all ethical requirements have been fulfilled (Appendix 3).

4.6 Description of previous academic work undertaken by others in this field of study, including a detailed analysis of the relevant literature and a description of how the applicant’s research builds on the existing scholarship (2 pages maximum).

4.7 Detailed bibliography of the most relevant sources and studies related to the research (5 pages maximum).

4.8 If the applicant(s) wish(es) to use the OSC collections, the application must include justification of the need to use these collections and the proposed length of stay in Lausanne, including details of the documents to be studied (with this in mind, it is highly recommended that applicants consult the OSC’s website to find out about the general content of the collections available and the IOC Archives Access Rules).

4.9 Statement of the applicant’s/applicants’ plans for scholarly publication of the research results (1 page maximum).

4.10 A detailed budget in Swiss francs and justification of the amount requested for the grant. Applicants should include in the budget at least one visit to the IOC headquarters in Lausanne in order to meet the IOC staff interested in the project¹. For those planning to consult the OSC collections, it is highly recommended to combine in a single trip to Lausanne the meeting with the IOC staff and the stay at the OSC. In the event of a collective application, only the coordinator will be required to travel to Lausanne for this meeting.

5. Appendices to be included in the application file are:

5.1 Official recognition of employment including the academic/research status validated by the applicant’s/applicants’ university(ies) on the institutional letterhead (Appendix 1).

¹ For the stay in Lausanne, we suggest considering a daily budget of CHF 200 including food, accommodation and transport.
5.2 In the event of a collective application, a brief curriculum vitae (maximum 2 pages per member), providing basic information about education, former and current academic responsibilities and employment history of the member(s) collaborating with the coordinator on the project (Appendix 2).

5.3 If ethical approval is requested by the applicant’s/applicants’ university (see 4.5), a certificate written on the university letterhead, signed by the head of the appropriate university division and stating that all ethical requirements have been fulfilled (Appendix 3).

General comments on completing and sending the application form:

Please note that instructions for completing the Research Grant Programmes application forms are available on our website.

4. GRANT AWARDS

Successful applicants will receive a research grant of a maximum of CHF 20,000 per project. The total amount to be awarded will be decided by the Grant Programme Selection Committee after having analysed all the elements of the application.

Expenses permitted:

Research expenses directly related and essential to the project as follows:

- Travel (economy class) and living expenses when outside the applicant’s place of residence;
- Translation costs for relevant research materials;
- Other relevant research expenditures.

Research assistance will be funded when essential and properly justified. Details of the number of days and tasks to be performed at a daily rate must be provided.

Expenses regarding participation at conferences with peer-reviewers where applicants are presenting results of this research must not exceed 10 per cent of the total budget within a limit of CHF 1,000.

Expenses not permitted:

- Salary and/or fringe benefits, including insurance;
- Tuition and study fees;
- Institutional overheads or institutional support;
- Expenses incurred prior to the effective date of the grant;
- Purchase of technological material (laptop, camera, etc.).
The grant will be paid through the academic institution of the successful applicant (coordinator) according to the following schedule: one-half when awarded, one-quarter after an intermediate progress report and one-quarter on receipt of the final research report.

5. SELECTION AND NOTIFICATION

The Grant Programme Selection Committee is composed of experts who are internationally renowned for their involvement in Olympic studies, and of OSC officers and professionals. The IOC administration and a selection of peer reviewers are also involved in the selection process. Decisions are based upon the quality of the application file, the significance of the proposed research to at least one of the priority fields of research, the feasibility of the project and the candidate’s/candidates’ ability to carry out the research satisfactorily.

The same criteria will be taken into consideration by the OSC to determine the maximum number of grants available each year.

Applicants will be notified of the results of their application by 5 June 2015. For those selected applicants who have requested to consult the OSC collections, the Centre will schedule their research visits in consultation with them.

6. PUBLICATIONS AND UNDERTAKINGS

All grants are conditional upon the successful applicant’s signature of an agreement describing the terms and conditions of the collaboration between the grant holder and the IOC OSC.

Grant holders will undertake to provide the OSC with the following documents, in either French or English:

- A progress report six months after notification of the award. This report will include a description of the project’s development, including an explanation of any major changes to the research project since submission to the grant programme; an updated working schedule, describing the work already done, on-going and yet to be done until completion of the research; and identification of any difficulties the grant holder faces in conducting the project (2,000 words maximum);

- A final research report (electronic version) before 27 May 2016. The final report, which may be used by the IOC for publication, must be presented on A4 paper, numbered consecutively, typed in Arial size 12 font type and using single spacing. It will be made up of five parts:
  
  - An abstract (200 words maximum), a list of key words and an executive summary of the research results;
  - A 30-40 page (12,000 – 16,000 word) document including the research subject and objectives; the academic significance of the project and its impact on the priority fields of research; the methodology applied; and the key information sources consulted for the project;
- A detailed presentation of the results, conclusions and recommendations of the research project (6,000 – 8,000 words);
- The annexes, including any additional information of interest for the project;
- A financial accounting report for all funds provided by the OSC (including receipts for expenses exceeding CHF 500). This last part must be sent in a separate document (template to be provided by the OSC).

Grant holders will undertake to publish/disseminate their research results within the academic world. They will also undertake to ensure that all subsequent publications or productions, using all or part of the results obtained under the auspices of the research grant, will appropriately acknowledge the IOC OSC and the Advanced Olympic Research Grant Programme. In addition, they will share with the OSC any such publications or productions.

7. SECRETARIAT

For any additional information concerning the Advanced Olympic Research Grant Programme, please contact the OSC via email or phone (+41 21 621 6611).

To find out more about the activities and collections of the IOC Olympic Studies Centre, please consult our website.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For the 2014/2015 Advanced Olympic Research Grant Programme, the IOC Olympic Studies Centre received 44 candidatures and awarded 6 grants. The Selection Committee, responsible for recommending the projects to be awarded to the IOC OSC, was composed of the following experts:

- Gudrun DOLL-TEPPER (Freie Universität Berlin, Germany),
- Beatriz GARCÍA (University of Liverpool, Great Britain),
- Ian HENRY (Loughborough University, Great Britain),
- Bruce KIDD (University of Toronto, Canada),
- Françoise PAPA (Université Stendhal Grenoble 3, France),
- Cesar TORRES (State University of New York, United States) and
- Thierry ZINTZ (Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium).

This committee has taken in consideration the assessments provided by a selection of peer reviewers and the relevant IOC departments.
RESEARCH SUBJECTS OF THE 2014/2015 GRANT HOLDERS

- Governing to maintain legacies: Urban governance, policies and the long-term impacts of the Olympics
  Mark DAVIDSON (Clark University, USA)

- Implicit and explicit perception of the Olympic Values and Olympic Movement in different cultures
  Holger PREUSS (Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz, Germany), Lamartine P. DACOSTA (Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil) and Norbert SCHÜTTE (Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz, Germany)

- Leveraging the Olympic Games for capacity building of National Sport Governing Bodies
  Vassil GIRGINOV (Brunel University, Great Britain) and Nikolay PESHIN (Russian International Olympic University, Russia)

- Profiling sport for development strategies of Olympic Movement stakeholders in eight SADEC countries
  Cora BURNETT-LOUW (University of Johannesburg, South Africa)

- The legacies of the Innsbruck 2012 Winter Youth Olympic Games perceived by the local youth
  Martin SCHNITZER (Universität Innsbruck, Austria)

- The role of the entourage in supporting elite athlete performance and educational outcomes
  Camilla KNIGHT (Swansea University, Great Britain) and Chris HARWOOD (Loughborough University, Great Britain)