



Women's Triathlon NCAA Emerging Sport Fact Sheet

Why Women's Triathlon?

- Women's Triathlon is an Olympic sport with broad national participation and appeal, allowing schools to attract a unique set of elite student-athletes.
- A way for an institution to differentiate itself from others, be on the forefront of the NCAA triathlon movement, and attract triathlon's affluent demographic.
- If an institution has a pool and a track, facility costs associated with a triathlon program are low, manageable, and sustainable.
- Relatively low startup requirement exists (<\$100k-\$300k).

Is there large equipment costs associated with a Women's Triathlon program?

- Instead of institutions incurring the cost of purchasing expensive equipment like bikes, it is proposed that student-athletes are offered an equipment and maintenance allowance to maintain their personal equipment.
- Minimal equipment would need to be purchased by the institution.
 - One-expense of Indoor bike trainers.
 - Race wheels and travel bike box if the student-athlete is not already in possession of such items.
- Apparel expenses are comparable with other collegiate sports, requiring an investment for racing uniform, training apparel, and warm-ups. Pre-established sponsorship agreements can be utilized to reduce cost of such items, as well as running shoes and bike helmets.

What recruiting pool exists already for Women's Triathlon?

- USA Triathlon's Youth and Junior Elite series functions as a pipeline for elite young triathletes between the ages of 13 and 19. In this series, young talented athletes are exposed to elite draft-legal racing; the same format found in NCAA Triathlon.

Quick Facts

- Startup costs for a Women's Triathlon program can be minimized if facilities (pool and track) are pre-existing, and could be relatively low in the range of <\$100k-\$300k.
- Women's Triathlon is an affordable way to provide opportunities for females in sport.
- Equipment allowances can be offered to reduce the monetary amount an Institution has to invest when sponsoring a Women's Triathlon program. This would result in the Institution sponsoring equipment upgrades, not the purchase of new and costly equipment.
- Existing sponsorship agreements can be utilized to reduce cost of apparel and equipment.
- NCAA-specific waves will be implemented in pre-existing triathlon competitions, reducing the financial responsibility that the institution would incur if hosting an event.
- A minimum of three (3) athletes must compete in NCAA Draft-Legal Varsity races.

USA Triathlon Women's Triathlon Emerging Sport Grant

The USA Triathlon Women's Triathlon Emerging Sport Grant is a three-year grant that provides funding to select Division I, II and III institutions to develop, implement, grow and sustain a Women's Triathlon program at the NCAA level.

- A \$2.59M infusion of dollars over a four-year period to institutions to develop Women's Triathlon programs at the collegiate varsity level.
- The division and monetary breakdown per institution will be designated as illustrated below:

	2015	2016	2017	2018
Division I	\$80k	\$40k	\$20k	-
Division II	\$40k	\$20k	\$10k	-
Division III	\$40k	\$20k	\$10k	-
Additional Grants	-	DI: \$80k DII/III: \$40k	DI: \$40k DII/III: \$20k	DI: \$20k DII/III: \$10k



FAQ

Athletic scholarships

- For the 2015-2016 academic year, a Division I and II Women's Triathlon program is allowed the equivalence of 4.5 scholarships. They are increased by one full scholarship a year until a maximum is met in the 2017-2018 academic year of 6.5 scholarships. Scholarships are not mandatory and do not need to be met in full.

Date and structure of Women's Triathlon competitions

- The first date of allowed competition is September 1.
- Teams must compete in a minimum of four (4) and a maximum of six (6) competitions. It is permissible for participation in Regional Qualifiers and the National Championship to exceed maximum contest numbers.
- NCAA Women's Triathlon will be a draft-legal event consisting of a 750m Swim, 20k Bike, and 5k Run.
- The Collegiate National Championship for Women will be held on the Saturday of the first full weekend in November.
 - Qualification for the Collegiate National Championship for Women will take place at three separate Regional Qualifiers. Twelve (12) five-person teams and fifteen (15) individuals will qualify totaling 75 athletes.
- A total of five (5) athletes from each team are allowed to compete in an NCAA Draft Legal Varsity race, with the top three (3) finishers of each team counting towards scoring.
- While institutions may produce their own competitions, NCAA-specific waves will be implemented in pre-existing races to eliminate the financial burden of institutional-production of NCAA competition.

Women's Triathlon team size

- A minimum of three (3) athletes are required to compete in a NCAA Varsity Draft-legal race, while the minimum team size of an Emerging Sport is five (5) athletes.
- Estimated team size is 7-12 student-athletes.

Women's Triathlon Coaching Composition

- A list of USA Triathlon certified coaches is available if desired by an Institution for hiring purposes.
- Institutions are allowed to financially employ two (2) coaches. Graduate and Undergraduate Assistants do not count towards these limits.
- Institutions are allowed one volunteer coach for each respective element, totaling a maximum of three (3) volunteer coaches.

Event Management

- USA Triathlon will oversee the event management portion of the NCAA season while Women's Triathlon is an Emerging Sport.
- Through a draft-legal sanctioning process, USAT will be responsible for approving that all events are NCAA compliant and conducted in a safe and fair manner.
- All NCAA-approved events will be available at usatriathlon.org/ncaa.

If you have any additional questions or would like to request additional information, please contact:

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USATriathlon.org/NCAA