

England Athletics Junior Talent Programme Selection Policy 2024 to 2025

The England Athletics Junior Talent Programme (JTP) aims to increase the number of talented athletes/para-athletes who have the skills, competencies, knowledge and resilience to progress to World Class programmes, succeed at senior championships and gain a positive life enhancing experience from the journey.

The Junior Talent Programme aims to:

- Increase the number of athletes/para-athletes achieving consideration standards for selection for GB and NI teams at the relevant age group championships.
- Increase the number of athletes/para-athletes meeting the performance and behaviour standards required to progress to the UKA Futures programme or UKA World Class Programmes on the Olympic or Paralympic pathway.
- Retain more athletes/para-athletes within the talent pathway and sport.

For more information, please see the England Athletics Website link below.

[Talented Athlete and Coach Pathway - England Athletics](#)

The programme runs from 1st October 2024 until 30th September 2025.

Programme Name	Age Group	Year of Birth	Programme Size	Programme Duration	Delivery Model
Junior Talent Programme	Within the U20 competition age group upon selection.	2005/2006	Maximum 120 athletes Maximum of 3 athletes per event	1 year Athletes can be retained	Camp based Talent Hub Environment

Overview of Programme Benefits

	Junior Talent Programme	
Programme Contact	Individual athlete planning (IAP) with personal coach and athlete throughout the year. (x3) Regular communication with Point of Contact (POC).	
England Camps	Invitation for Athlete and Coach to domestic camps as appropriate including junior talent programme induction.	
International Teams	Small International England representation opportunities (TBC and as appropriate)	
Support Services	Support service agreement through England Talent Hub network (as appropriate)	
Medical Insurance	Optional buy-in TASS medical insurance scheme	

Athlete Education	Access to EA education curriculum Invitation to athlete workshops
Coach Education	Access to EA Coach Development workshops and support from POC Access to event specific communities of practise

Eligibility

To be considered for the England Junior Programme, an athlete/para-athlete must fulfil the following eligibility criteria:

- a) Be eligible to compete for England in the Commonwealth Games.
 - b) A British Passport holder.
 - c) Para athletes must hold a current national or international para-athletics classification.
 - d) Not currently serving a period of eligibility because of a transfer of allegiance.
 - e) Not currently serving a provisional or permanent suspension for a doping violation.
 - f) Has not, whether by an act or omission, brought England Athletics or UK Athletics into disrepute.
 - g) Not serving a period of ineligibility from the sport as determined by England Athletics or UK Athletics. For example, due to misconduct and / or disciplinary reasons.
 - h) Not be supported on the UK Athletics World Class Programme or UKA Futures Programme.
 - i) Signs and adheres to the England Athletics Junior Talent Programme Athlete Agreement.
 - j) The Junior Talent programme is only available to those who are UK Based.
- * Non UK based athletes that meet all criteria maybe offered an England Athletics point of contact for support as appropriate.

Selection Criteria Matrix

	Junior Talent Programme
Consideration Standard	Achieved the Performance Standard in the 2024 season. See specific standards for para-athletes broken down by classification and paralympic event.
Performance Consistency	Performance consistency will be assessed through reviewing their average performance of their top 4 outdoor performances within the 2024 season. (Combined events and endurance events from 5000m and above will not be expected to have 4 performances and will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
Performance Potential and progression	Evidence that it is realistic for the athlete/para-athlete to continue a developing performance profile. This will include but not exclusively review the following: a. performance in other relevant events b. rates of progress in performance and critical determinants of performance c. injury and training history d. lifestyle and training environment e. Previous engagement in England Athletics Programmes

Consideration Standards

Please see the England Athletics websites for selection standards. Para standards are broken down by classification and paralympic event.

Consideration standards are an entry point to the programme. The panel would expect to see athletes to progress beyond the consideration standard and demonstrate progression for each year they progress into the programme age range.

Junior Talent Programme Selection Process

The selection process is split across four stages:

Stage 1 – Athletes/para-athletes are shortlisted by England Athletics Pathway Team and have met the eligibility criteria;

Stage 2 – The selection panel will consider all the information and a selection decision will be made;

Stage 3 – Athlete invited to accept the selection place and is required to sign the pathway agreement by deadline;

Stage 4 – Induction.

Selection Panel

The Junior Talent Programme selection panel will have the following representatives:

England Athletics National Event Managers or Event Group Leads (Speed, Endurance, Throws, Jumps and Combined Events and Para-Athletics)

England Athletics National Para Manager

England Athletics Head of Talent Development (Selection Meeting Chair)

England Athletics Talent Pathway Manager

Independent Sport Observer & Note taker

Where there is conflict of interest for a panel member (i.e. coach/mentor/club relationship), the panel member will not be involved in the selection process.

Where voting takes place, the selection decision will be made on majority vote with the Talent Pathway Manager having the casting voting if required.

The Panel may choose to host more than programme selection meetings depending on the outcome of selection decisions of UKA programmes.

Programme Places and Duration

The number of places on the programme is limited and may vary from year to year.

Selection for the England Athletics Junior Talent programme takes places annually and places are guaranteed for one programme year (October to September) only.

The panel may retain athletes on the JTP even if they have not achieved a consideration standard in the previous season. There must be a rationale that the athlete can show progression in the upcoming calendar year and they must still be of the appropriate year of birth for the JTP.

- * **Non-UK based athletes/para-athletes will be considered under the same selection criteria and will be offered support that is appropriate to their situation.**

Notes

- There is no right to an appeal for non-selection
- To confirm their place on the programme athletes must
 - Complete all documents as requested by England Athletics by no later than October 31st 2024.
 - Attend England Athletics Pathway Induction or attend an online induction before October 31st 2024.
 - If the above conditions are not met the athlete will forfeit their place on the programme.
- Any athlete/para-athlete who has associated, or intends to associate, themselves with a coach, doctor or other medical or support person who England Athletics or UK Athletics reasonably considers it inappropriate for the athlete to associate with, shall not be eligible for selection for membership.