

OVERVIEW

Fran believed that sport has the power to transcend barriers, both those between people and those within oneself. No dream was too big for Fran, and he believed that there was no barrier that could not be overcome, including one so often faced by elite swimmers striving to achieve their goals: **funding**.

Like many elite athletes, Fran's approach to training required the utmost dedication, which all but precluded him from working a traditional job. The Crippen family did everything they could to support Fran and his three sisters in their swimming careers, but innumerable others also chipped in to help in many different ways. From the financial aid office at Germantown Academy to the long lines of alumni who endowed his University of Virginia scholarship, from intercollegiate grants to USA Swimming stipends, and from the teams that offered him flexible employment opportunities to the families that gave him places to live, Fran truly was raised by the "village" that is the international swimming community. He was ever aware of the generosity that others showed him and he considered himself blessed every step of the way. As part of his effort to repay the swimming community that so generously supported him, Fran dedicated himself to being an ambassador of the sport and to being of service whenever the opportunity arose. In his thank-you letter to the family that hosted him the year before Olympic Trials in 2008, Fran explained his intention to return the favor of their generosity and hospitality by paying it forward to other athletes achieve their goals.

In that spirit, the Fran Crippen Elevation Foundation is soliciting applications for the Work the Dream Grant. This grant is intended for men and women who are struggling to find sufficient financial support to help them pursue their dreams to the best of their abilities. The FCEF hopes to support swimmers who embody Fran's dedication to all aspects of the sport. **The Grant will be in the amount of \$12,000 which will be periodically paid to the athlete between November 2020 and July 2021.**

Application Inclusion

Along with your application, please submit an **essay**. The ideal "Work the Dream" grant recipient is a leader both in and out of the pool. Please help us get to know you by answering the 3 below questions. (Note: Essays are limited to 3,000 words and must be submitted as a PDF file)

1. Explain how, over the course of your career, you have been an advocate for the sport of swimming. Examples can include, but are not limited to: being an advocate for water safety, national/international camaraderie, or youth swimming.
2. If you had been the grant recipient the previous year, what would that money afforded you the opportunity to do that you did not have the means to do at the time?
3. Why do you feel you are an ideal representative for the Fran Crippen Elevation Foundation?

For inspiration and to understand more about Fran, follow these links and watch the video:

<http://francrippen.org/2013/02/workthedream>

<http://youtu.be/xsi7E3dQl00>



ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Athlete Criteria

Any swimmer who was selected to represent Team USA as a national team member at any point between the 2017 to 2020 time frame. Swimmer does not currently have to be on the national team, but swimmer must be actively training and planning on competing through the 2021 USA Swimming Olympic Trials. Swimmer must have exhausted or given up his/her NCAA eligibility. This grant is available to members of the US National team in pool swimming and open water swimming during this time frame. The athlete must make a maximum of three promotional appearances for the FCEF. The appearances may take place outside the grant award period. The FCEF will facilitate/coordinate activities/appearances. Athlete will also be asked to promote the foundation and grant using social media outlets.

Examples of promotional appearances include

- Swim Clinics
- Trans Tahoe Relay Team Member (post US Swimming obligations)
- Autograph signing sessions

Financial Criteria

The Work the Dream Grant is intended to benefit an athlete who has a demonstrated financial need to continue in his/her athletic pursuit. Please include a copy of your previous year 1099 and/or W-2 forms. If you are listed as dependents on your parent's tax forms, please state your dependence. Do not send your parent's 1099 or W-2 forms.

APPLICATION PROCESS

How to apply?

Applications must include:

- The attached Work the Dream Grant official application form
- An essay (max 3000 words sent as a PDF file) which answers the questions outlined in the overview.
- Please describe your financial need in only general terms.
- Three (3) "top priority" goals for 2020/2021 season and tentative meet schedule for 2020/2021 season
- Tentative training trips for 2020/2021 Season
- Expectations for how you will use the Work the Dream Grant funds

Please provide a brief insight into your intentions after 2021. Do you plan to continue swimming? Will you be retiring? Going back to school? Joining the workforce? Your decision whether or not to swim past 2021 does not affect your standing for the Work the Dream grant.

- Copy of previous year 1099 and/or W-2 forms.
- W-9 form

Completed application packages must be emailed no later than October 15, 2020. Please submit all files as Adobe PDFs to:

teamfran@francrippen.org

Application Review

Applications will be reviewed by a grant review board which will include, but are not limited to:

- Two (2) members of the Crippen Family
- Three (3) former swimmers

Award

Installments will be paid from November 2020 through July 2021 totaling \$12,000 for the grant period.



2020-2021 Fran Crippen Elevation Foundation Work the Dream Grant Application

DEADLINE: October 15, 2020

Athlete Information

Name _____ **Club** _____
Address _____
Phone number _____ **E-Mail** _____
Date of Birth _____
Coach's Name _____ **Coach phone number** _____

Tax Information

Did you file your own taxes for 2019? Yes No
Were you listed as a dependent on your parents' taxes for 2019? Yes No
Did you file your taxes jointly with your spouse for 2019? Yes No
If you were not listed as a dependent on your parents' taxes and you did not file your own taxes individually or jointly with a spouse for 2019 please initial here: _____ Yes No

Application Information

The following items must be included in application packet. Initial next to each item included:

Note: Complete copies of forms (in their entirety) are required.

Copy of 2019 1099 and/or W-2 forms	<input type="checkbox"/>
Completed W-9 form	<input type="checkbox"/>
Required essay (maximum 3000 words)	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 "top priority" goals for 2020 /2021 Swimming Season and tentative meet	<input type="checkbox"/>
Schedule for 2020 /2021 Season	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tentative training trips for 2020- 2021 Season	<input type="checkbox"/>
Expectations for how you will use Work the Dream Grant funds	<input type="checkbox"/>

I _____ verify that the information provided is accurate to the best of my knowledge. By signing this application, I agree to develop and maintain a level of fitness and health that will enable me to perform at a high level and progress toward my ultimate goal and my stated objectives to achieve that goal. In the event I become injured or ill to the extent which I cannot practice or compete I understand that I must demonstrate a continued commitment to fitness and rehabilitation, or I will be required to return any Work the Dream Grant funds I receive to the Fran Crippen Elevation Foundation. I understand that in the event I decide to stop training and competing I will be required to return all Work the Dream Grant funds I receive to the Fran Crippen Elevation Foundation immediately.

(Applicant signature)

(Date)

Completed application packages must be emailed as a pdf file no later than October 15, 2020 to teamfran@francrippen.org