

Dual Career Programme 2025-26

A University Dual Career is a pathway where sport and education are both valued and is an opportunity for an individual to reach their sporting, academic, work and life potential. The Dual Career Programme is therefore in place to support high performance athletes who are studying alongside their sporting commitments.

When the applications closed in August 2024 for the current academic year, the awards panel reviewed a record number of 101 applications. The programme is then separated into three tiers as follows:

- The Elite Tier of the Dual Career Programme supports student-athletes who have represented their country, performing on an international stage and/or at the highest-level in their sport.
- The Talent Tier of the Dual Career Programme supports student-athletes who are part of professional or national development programmes and/or shown potential to compete at the highest-level of their sport
- The Performance Tier of the Dual Career Programme supports high performing student-athletes who are also supported as a member of one of the eight High Performance Squads

Between the Talent and Elite Tiers, the Dual Career Programme is home to 55 national and international level athletes from 23 different sports and representing many different countries. In total, an astonishing 88 University of Surrey Students have been successfully selected as part of the Dual Career Programme, showcasing the depth and volume of achievements within the sporting talent in Team Surrey.

A tiered approach to funding and support services is made and therefore athletes will receive different support packages based on what tier they are in. If accepted onto the dual career programme and subject to which tier you are placed in, students can look forward to these types of benefits.

- Team Surrey Membership
- Surrey Sports Park Membership
- Performance Workshops
- 1-to-1 Practitioner Support (S&C, Physio, Nutrition, Psychology)
- Dedicated Lifestyle Advisor
- Competition, Travel, Equipment & Parking Fund
- Dual Career Kit
- Elite Athlete Fund Access

Applications for the 2025-2026 academic year will open on Monday 9th June and close on Friday 29th August 2025. A link will be found on this page when the application window opens.

Timeline:

- Monday 9th June 2025 – Application window opens
- Friday 29th August 2025 – Application window closes
- Monday 1st September 2025 – Application review begins
- Monday 8th September 2025 – Individual offers and agreements sent out
- Monday 15th September 2025 – Deadline for acceptance of offer and return of agreement

- Monday 15th September 2025 – Welcome week

Eligibility:

Applications for the Dual Career Programme will be considered if the student:

1. Is a prospective undergraduate/postgraduate student for entry into the University of Surrey 2025/26
2. Is a current student registered at the University of Surrey 2025/26
3. Currently competes at a national or international level in a sport or demonstrates a potential to do so
4. Is able to support and drive one of our sports teams or clubs to higher success

Applications for the dual career programme must be supported by either:

- A statement from a Team Surrey coach
- A statement from a coach within your NGB
- A statement from a team manager/NGB official

Selection Process:

Selection panel will meet in September 2025. Voting members include:

1. Performance Sport Manager
2. Performance Sport Coordinator
3. Student Sport and Performance Manager

Individuals will be emailed the outcome of their applications following the panel meetings. Support for successful applicants expires on the 31st of July annually. Returning student-athletes will need to re-apply for selection onto the programme each year to update their record of achievements.

For more information, please contact performance@teamsurrey.co.uk