
WFDF ATHLETE THERAPEUTIC USE EXEMPTION PROCESS 2022

WHAT IS A THERAPEUTIC USE EXEMPTION (TUE)?

Athletes, like all people, may have illnesses or conditions that require them to take particular medications or undergo procedures. If the medication or method an athlete is required to take to treat an illness or condition happens to fall on the World Anti-Doping Agency's (WADA) Prohibited List, a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) may give that athlete the authorisation to take a substance or use a method that is prohibited.

Applications for TUEs are reviewed by a panel of experts, the TUE Committee (TUEC) who may give such permission.

WHAT ARE THE CRITERIA FOR GRANTING A TUE?

All four following criteria must be met:

- The athlete has a clear diagnosed medical condition which requires treatment using a prohibited substance or method;
- The therapeutic use of the substance would not produce significant enhancement of performance;
- There is no reasonable therapeutic alternative to the use of the prohibited substance or method;
- The necessity to use that substance or method is not a consequence of the prior use (without a TUE), of a substance or method which was prohibited at the time of use.

WHO SHOULD APPLY FOR A TUE TO WFDF, WHERE AND WHEN?

First, check if the medication or method you intend to take or use appears on the Prohibited List:

<https://www.wada-ama.org/en/prohibited-list>

You have the responsibility to inform your doctors that you are an athlete subject to doping control, and your doctors should check the Prohibited List whenever they prescribe a medication / method to you.

If the substance / method is prohibited, check with your doctors if there are any alternative treatments that are not prohibited. If not, you have to apply for a TUE.

Second, check your competition level to determine to which organisation, and when to apply for a TUE.

==> If you are an International-Level Athlete who wishes to compete in WFDF sanctioned events you must apply to WFDF in advance, as soon as the need arises, **unless there are emergency or exceptional circumstances.**

For substances prohibited In-Competition only, you should apply for a TUE at least 30 days before your next competition.

Please refer to the section "How to apply to WFDF for a TUE?" below.

If you already have already a TUE granted by your National Anti-Doping Organisation (NADO):

WFDF automatically recognizes that TUE, provided that it is valid. You do not need to take any further action.

==> If you are NOT an International-Level Athlete, WFDF recognizes a valid TUE granted by your NADO. If you are also not a National-Level Athlete as defined by your NADO, you must apply for a retroactive TUE after being tested by WFDF.

Important note:

Unless your competition level requires or permits that you apply for a TUE retroactively, taking a prohibited substance before being granted a TUE could result in an Adverse Analytical Finding and potential anti-doping rule violation.

However, as stated above, a retroactive TUE may be granted where a medical emergency or an acute medical condition occurs, where failure to immediately administer a prohibited substance or method could significantly put an athlete's health at risk.

HOW TO APPLY TO WFDF FOR A TUE?

Through ADAMS or paper format

WFDF encourages TUE applications using the form available in ADAMS and submitting the required medical file through ADAMS. If you do not have an ADAMS account yet, please contact antidoping@wfdf.sport to have your account set up.

Otherwise, please download WFDF's TUE Application Form:

https://wfdf.sport/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/U-WFDF-tue_application_form_template_2021_en.pdf

and once duly completed and signed, send it together with the required medical file to:

antidoping@wfdf.sport

Your TUE application must be submitted in legible English (or French) using capital letters or typing.

The medical file includes:

- A comprehensive medical history, including documentation from the original diagnosing physician(s) (where possible),
- The results of all examinations, laboratory investigations and imaging studies relevant to the application.
- If the medical file is not in English or French, a summary explaining, in English or French, the key elements of the diagnosis, clinical examinations, medical tests and treatment plan must be provided.
- The costs for the application are responsibility of the athlete including additional documentation which may be requested.

Any TUE application that is not complete or legible will not be dealt with and will be returned for completion and re-submission.

To assist you and your doctor in providing the correct medical documentation, we suggest consulting the WADA's [Checklists for TUE applications](#) for guidance and support during the TUE application process, and [Medical Information to Support the Decisions of TUECs](#) for guidance on specific common medical conditions, treatments, substances, etc.

Keep a complete copy of the TUE application form and all medical information submitted in support of your application, and proof that it has been sent.

WHEN WILL I RECEIVE A DECISION ON MY TUE APPLICATION [OR REQUEST FOR RECOGNITION]?

WFDF's TUEC's decision will be communicated in writing to you within 21 days from the date of receipt of the complete TUE application, including the required medical information, by WFDF.

HOW ABOUT THE RENEWAL OF MY TUE?

Each TUE has a specific duration, at the end of which it expires automatically. Should you need to continue to use the prohibited substance or method, it is your responsibility to submit a new application for a TUE with updated medical information ahead the expiry date, so that there is sufficient time for a decision to be made prior to the expiry of the current TUE.

WHAT IF MY WFDF'S TUE APPLICATION IS DENIED?

A decision to deny a TUE application includes an explanation of the reason for the denial. If it is not clear to you, please contact WFDF to understand exactly why the TUE was denied. Sometimes, there may be a critical piece of information, diagnostic test, laboratory results missing, etc. Failing this:

You or your NADO may refer the matter to WADA for review no later than 21 days after the decision was rendered by the TUEC by sending the same information that you submitted to your TUEC and on which they based their decision to deny the TUE via registered mail at:

WADA Medical Director
World Anti-Doping Agency
800 Square Victoria
Montreal H4Z 1B7, QC
Canada

However, WADA is not obliged to proceed with such review. In that case, you or your NADO may appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).

HOW ABOUT CONFIDENTIALITY?

All the information contained in a TUE application and file including the supporting medical information, and any other information related to the evaluation of your TUE request is kept strictly confidential and treated in accordance with the Athlete's Declaration contained in the ADAMS TUE process

<https://adams-help.wada-ama.org/hc/en-us/articles/360017777419-How-do-I-submit-a-Therapeutic-Use-Exemption->

and in the WFDF's TUE Application Form.

All members of the TUEC and any other authorized recipients of your TUE request and related information (as described in the Athlete's Declaration) are required to sign confidentiality agreements and/or are subject to professional confidentiality obligations.

Please review the terms of the Athlete's Declaration carefully. In particular, please note that should you wish to revoke the right of WFDF's TUEC to obtain the information related to your TUE request in accordance with the Athlete's Declaration, your TUE application will be deemed withdrawn without approval being granted.

Your TUE request-related information will be retained by WFDF and any other authorized recipients for no longer than necessary for the purposes stated in the Athlete's Declaration, in accordance with the International Standard for the Protection of Privacy and Personal Information.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For any further information and questions in relation to WFDF's personal information practices, please contact:

dataprotection@wfd.f.sport

If you have a doubt as regards to which organisation you should apply for a TUE, or as to the recognition process, or any other question with regard to TUEs, please contact:

antidoping@wfd.f.sport

OTHER USEFUL LINKS:

[WADA International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions \(ISTUE\)](#)

[WADA Guidelines for Therapeutic Use Exemptions](#)

[WADA Q&A on Therapeutic Use Exemptions](#)

[WADA Checklists for TUE applications](#)

[2022 WFDF TUE application form for Therapeutic Use Exemption](#)

+++