



NEW SUPPORT MEASURES FOR OLYMPIC, PARALYMPIC, DEAFLYMPIC AND HIGH-PERFORMANCE ATHLETES AFTER THE END OF THEIR SPORTING CAREERS

With the publication of Law n°. 13/2024 of 19th January, new support measures for Olympic, Paralympic, Deaflympic and high-performance athletes came into force after the end of their sporting careers.

When defining its scope, the text of the law is clear in excluding from these measures athletes who are serving or have served sanctions for violating anti-doping rules or serious or very serious disciplinary penalties. However, these impediments cease to have effect five years after the sentence has been served.

Athletes who have been part of the high-performance system, at levels A and B, for at least eight consecutive or interpolated years, are entitled to apply for the competitive procedures aimed at candidates with public employment contracts. To this end, a system of public employment quotas has been created for Olympic, Paralympic, Deaflympic or A and B level high-performance athletes. These measures will apply for up to two years after the end of the athletes high-performance career, and this period will be suspended for the purposes of completing the cycle of studies in secondary education or higher education, if it was started at an earlier time.

In tendering procedures aimed at candidates without a previously established public employment contract for an indefinite period of time, where the number of posts is equal to or greater than 15, a quota of 5 per cent of the total number of posts to be filled by these athletes must be set. On the other hand, in tendering procedures aimed at candidates without a previously established public employment contract of indefinite duration, where the number of posts put out to tender is equal to or greater than 3 and less than 15, the contracting authority may set a quota of one post to be filled by these athletes.

These procedures apply, with the necessary adjustments, to tendering procedures for the creation of fixed-term public employment relationships, whether certain or uncertain.

The open-ended employment contract signed with a athlete who has been in the high-performance system, at levels A or B, for at least eight consecutive or interpolated years, is considered, for the purposes of contributions to the social security system, to be an employment contract signed with a young person looking for their first job.

Olympic, Paralympic and Deaflympic athletes or those who have been at high performance level A or B for at least eight consecutive or interpolated years, who have the capacity and availability for work, with a minimum qualification of complete secondary education or level 3 qualification, or attending a qualification process leading to the attainment of that level of education or qualification, are considered recipients of the business creation support measures of the Entrepreneurship and Self-Employment Support Programme for two years from the end of their career.

These athletes benefit from an additional five years to the age limit laid down by law for competitions for admission to special careers in the Civil Service, excluding recruitment procedures for the various categories of the permanent staff of the Armed Forces. Candidates must have the legally required academic qualifications and fulfil the other general and special conditions for admission to the competition.

High-performance athletes who have been part of an Olympic, Paralympic or Deaflympic project for a minimum of six years, whether consecutively or interpolated, are guaranteed the right to a temporary reintegration grant after the end of their career. For the purposes of determining the value of the grant, the stipend values applied at the time of the last integration of high-performance sports practitioners are considered, with the following limits:

- a) If they have won a medal at the Olympic or Paralympic Games: a monthly grant of one month for each semester, up to a limit of 36 months;
- b) If they have obtained a diploma in the Olympic or Paralympic Games: a monthly grant corresponding to one month for each semester, up to a limit of 24 months;
- c) In all other cases: a monthly grant corresponding to one month per semester, up to a limit of 16 months.

This includes athletes who have competed on behalf of Portugal in summer or winter Olympic, Paralympic or Deaflympic Games, or who, having qualified for these competitions, did not take part for reasons of force majeure. These measures are also aimed at athletes who have been part of the high performance system, level A or B, for at least eight consecutive or interpolated years.



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