

MLAC Scholarship

Families in special circumstances and/or financial need may apply for reduction of dues by scholarship. The application is available on our website and is managed by the MLAC Vice President and VP of Membership.

- A. Scholarship does NOT cover the registration fee (\$250 in 2023), the USA Swimming Membership, the Family Service Requirement, and participation in club fundraising.
- B. Scholarship consists of up to 50% reduction of dues, typically charged according to the same installment plan as standard membership. Approval and reduction level is based on need **financial requirements maintained by Allegheny Mountain Swimming (AMS) and are outlined below** as well as scholarship budget for all requests received before Sept 15 of the current registration year. Late applications should be directed to the VP of Membership and will be considered if funds remain.
- C. Failure to complete service requirements will result in removal of scholarship in subsequent years.
- D. Equipment: the member/family is responsible for the purchase of all equipment (i.e. goggles, fins, paddles, etc.) as well as practice and team suits.
- E. Meet Entry Fees and Travel Meet Expenses: The meet fees (including travel expenses) and athlete surcharges are the responsibility of the family and will not be covered by MLAC. The accrued charges (meet fees, miscellaneous fees, etc.) in a swimmer's account must be paid each month. The account must remain in good standing with a valid credit card on file.
- F. Swimmer must remain in good standing with the program. Violations to MLAC's code of conduct and bullying policies (i.e. unsportsmanlike conduct and/or conduct detrimental to MLAC) by either recipient and/or family shall be grounds for removal of financial assistance.
- G. Swimmer(s) are expected to commit to the practice standards set by the coach of the roster group of the swimmer(s).
- H. MLAC reserves the right to terminate any and all scholarship assistance at any point during the fiscal year due to an extreme financial crisis of the club. MLAC will give a 30-day notification to the recipient before removal of scholarship assistance.

AMS Outreach

From AMS website:

- 1. USA Swimming offers a reduced registration fee for athletes from low-income families. The purpose of this program is to provide competitive swimming opportunities to the underrepresented and economically disadvantaged youth in the United States. The Outreach Program reduces the annual membership fee an athlete pays to USA Swimming from \$88 to \$5.00.*
- 2. Applicants for Outreach Membership must be eligible for food stamps, eligible for the free or reduced school lunch programs, or eligible for similar need based programs. “*

To register for this, the athlete's club will provide an "Outreach" link for application for membership to USA Swimming. This application requires a copy of the documentation proving eligibility for participation in the Outreach Program. Proof of financial need includes a letter

from the school district verifying participation/qualification for the free or reduced price lunches through the National School Lunch Program (NSLP). This registration is \$5 instead of \$88. In addition, not in conjunction with MLAC, AMS should not collect meet fees on these athletes.

Application:

- A. Applications for the current year should be submitted by September 15 for full consideration. The form is available on the MLAC website.
- B. For additional questions, please contact the Scholarship Committee (consisting of MLAC Vice President and VP of Membership)
- C. Provide Proof of Financial Need as stated in the Eligibility section for significant dues reduction. Additionally, the committee will consider special circumstances as funds allow.
- D. All information provided will be reviewed by the Scholarship Committee, recommended to the board for approval, and communicated to the Swim Director for implementation. Beyond this, all applications will be kept confidential.
- E. Scholarships are awarded for the current swim season only. An application must be submitted for each new full year season (September – August).

NEW in 2023 - 2024

Scholarship Opportunity for MLAC Programs (LTS, Piranhas)

MLAC will be piloting a scholarship opportunity for all programs, including most immediately Learn-to-Swim and Piranhas. The online application will be the same as that used for the competitive swimmers.

- A. Applications for the current Program should be submitted ONE FULL WEEK before registration opens for each session. Each scholarship is awarded for the current session ONLY and a new request must be submitted prior to each new session. The form is available on the MLAC website.
- B. Applications requires Proof of Financial Need as outlined by AMS and stated in the Eligibility section above (i.e. Free and Reduced Price Lunches eligibility paperwork).
- C. Scholarship consists of up to 50% reduction of registration fee, typically charged manually prior to opening of registration. Approval is based on a first-come-first-served basis for all those who have submitted a completed application prior to the deadline. Late applications should be directed to the VP of Membership and will be considered if funds/slots remain.
- D. All information provided will be reviewed by the Scholarship Committee, recommended to the board for approval, and communicated to the Program Director for implementation. Beyond this, all applications will be kept confidential.

For additional questions, please contact the Scholarship Committee (consisting of MLAC Vice President and VP of Membership)