



Northern Lights Swim Club Boosters Need Based Scholarship Program

Purpose: This policy is intended to regulate the granting of financial assistance in the form of fee reductions for individuals and families financially unable to pay the established program fee.

Philosophy: NLSC strongly believes that community members should have the opportunity to participate in a competitive swim team regardless of financial status.

Scholarship Options:*

1. Full Scholarship
 - a. Swim fees paid in full
 - b. Reduced USA swimming registration fee (see Application section #5 below)
 - c. Meet fees:
 - i. No cost to attend NLSC hosted meets
 - ii. Maximum \$100 toward other meet fees
2. Partial Scholarship
 - a. Swim fees reduced by 50%
 - b. Meet fees:
 - i. No cost to attend NLSC hosted meets
3. Meet Fees Only

At the discretion of the committee, waive fees associated with NLSC hosted meets, and if funds remain in the Scholarship Program after awarding all eligible requests, meet fees only can be awarded up to a limit of \$100 per family per scholarship cycle.
4. Youth Swim Lessons (Learn to Swim or Stroke School)
 - a. Swim fees reduced 50-100%
 - b. Awarded per session with the option of extension through the scholarship cycle

*NLSC will not cover the following costs associated with swim team membership:

- Costs associated with travel to/from swim meets, although this may be considered under special circumstances
- Volunteering Program fines

Scholarship Cycle: Scholarships will be awarded in 2 cycles.

1. February 1st through August 31st (Application due January 15th)
2. September 1st through January 31st (Application due August 15th)

Eligibility:

1. Full Scholarship: Applicant's family must qualify for one or more of these programs:
 - a. Lifeline Phone/Internet Program
 - b. Free/reduced price lunches through the National School Lunch Program
 - c. Other assistance program that illustrates a financial need
2. Partial Scholarship: Applicant's family must qualify for one of the programs listed above under Full Scholarship OR submit a letter explaining the need for financial assistance to participate in the swim club.

Verification:

1. Documentation verifying participation in the appropriate program or letter explaining financial need.
2. Current verification requirements must be met before application is processed.



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Application:

1. Individuals may obtain a NLSC Need Based Scholarship Application from the Team Unify website or NLSC Booster Board Member. The completed application form must be accompanied by verification documentation.
2. Applications for the February through August cycle are due January 15th. Applications for the September through December cycle are due August 15th.
3. The Scholarship Committee of NLSC shall review scholarship applications. All information provided shall otherwise be kept confidential.
4. Applicants will be notified by email, mail, or telephone of their funding status within 14 days of application due date.
5. Individuals may also apply for reduced fee USA Swimming registration. Fill out the Outreach Athlete Registration Application form and submit along with verification documentation to a coach or Booster board member.

Guidelines for the Scholarship Approval Process:

1. Scholarship awards will be given up to the max/cap of \$5000 annually, although this may be exceeded under special circumstances with Board approval if funds are available.
2. Full scholarships are awarded one per family only, although additional full scholarship awards may be considered for additional family member(s) with Board approval if funds are available.
3. Scholarship applications will be reviewed twice a year as per the Scholarship Cycle, January 15th-31st and August 15th-31st, although consideration may be given to applications received outside the deadline for extenuating circumstances, if funds available.
4. Scholarship application must contain complete and true information. Incomplete or falsified information shall result in denial of requests.
5. Applicants must meet the requirements of eligibility described above.
6. All program participants granted financial assistance shall remain in good standing with the NLSC Coaches, USA Swimming and adhere to the NLSC Code of Conduct. Unsportsmanlike conduct and/or conduct detrimental to the program shall be grounds for removal of all financial assistance present and future. Revocation of scholarship assistance may be effective immediately, without advance notice for the above instances.
7. All program participants are expected to attend practice regularly and complete the term for which the award is given.
8. Families of scholarship recipients are expected to participate in the Volunteering Program and fulfill requirements. Unfulfilled volunteer hours may jeopardize a scholarship award.
9. All interested participants must reapply for the Scholarship Program each cycle. Money does not carry over from one cycle to next. Applications from individuals who have not fulfilled NLSC's volunteer requirements from the previous cycle shall be denied.
10. NLSC reserves the right to terminate any and all scholarship assistance at any point during the fiscal year, due to extreme financial crisis of the team. NLSC shall give 30 day's notification to the member upon revocation of the scholarship assistance in this instance.
11. In the event that the maximum scholarship funds available have been dispersed and additional applications are received, a waiting list shall be established based on the date of approval of the application. Upon dismissal of a scholarship member or availability of additional funds, scholarship assistance shall be offered based on position on the waiting list.
12. This list shall not be considered all-inclusive, and the NLSC Boosters reserves the right to refuse financial assistance.



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