Steel City Aquatics

Financially Distressed Scholarship

A family’s economic and/or financial hardship can have a devastating impact upon a swimmer’s ability to continue to develop skill sets that can have a very positive, long-term influence upon an athlete. When families are facing a financial crisis, Steel City Aquatics is willing to provide temporary support to the family by reviewing and awarding partial or full membership coverage to 1 family per site location. The following procedures/criteria are to be considered when providing some economic support:

1. The family should be willing to share some financial information regarding their status with the Board President (ex. Free reduced lunch, medical costs to family etc.)
2. The family must continue to fulfill their volunteer time at meets and the scholarship swimmer should participate in all volunteer activities for steel city aquatics where applicable as well.
3. Steel City Aquatics has the right to review the swimmer’s status with the coaching staff
4. If the family’s financial situation changes a review based upon need will be evaluated and eligibility will be determined.
5. This scholarship will offer financial assistance towards the membership fee for the club. The % of membership fee coverage is determined in the application process and is based on the family need and club funding availability for one recipient per annual swimming year.

**Application Process**

1. Eligibility
	1. To qualify for this scholarship, swimmers must demonstrate financial need by providing evidence of either of the following:
		1. The family has met the criteria for the AMS Outreach Program as listed in the link attached [HERE](https://drive.google.com/file/d/15Yg6KVR2bjVVN-3dJpwwg31gDqTvsOm4/view) OR
		2. Due to sudden or extenuating circumstance or a life changing event swimmer(s) family must receive assistance to continue in the swim program.
	2. Swimmers shall demonstrate a firm commitment to their own development as a swimmer as well as to the team.
	3. Swimmers and family members must fulfill all volunteer & fundraising requirements over the course of the season. Swimmers not participating in volunteer or fundraising activities will be assessed fees without discount.
	4. Steel City Aquatics will not cover the costs associated with other swimming organizations (e.g. USA-Swimming, LSC, Meet fees) however, USA Swimming and LSC fees will be assessed via the AMS outreach membership program, which may help to cover any costs associated with meet entry fees or required equipment depending upon on the circumstances.
	5. Recipients will not be eligible for any other competing (family) discounts.
	6. 1 Swimmer per site may be offered this Financial Distressed scholarship offering.
2. Interested applicants or their family members should:
	1. Review the scholarship information and sign the agreement below.
	2. Complete the financial application form or provide a financial summary (which will be kept confidential) providing proof of eligibility as stated in section A1.
	3. Provide a copy of the submitted AMS Outreach Form (if family qualifies under the 1i eligibility rule)
	4. Write a short statement indicating:
		1. Why their swimmer wants to swim.
		2. How the swimmer will demonstrate their commitment to their own development as a swimmer.
		3. How the swimmer and family will demonstrate their commitment to the team.
	5. E-mail all 4 above requests to president@steelcityaquatics.org by September 15th.
		1. The awarded recipient will be extended an annual membership (either discounted or in full) by October 1st.

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Signature of Parents or Guardian

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Signature of Steel City Aquatics Board President

**Financially Distressed Application**Top of Form

1. Name of Swimmer \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Name of Parents \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Street Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. City \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
6. Age of Swimmer \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Current Group of Swimmer \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
7. Which School will you attend this year: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
8. Gross Family Annual Income: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Documentation must be available upon request) *\*\* Family income must not exceed 15% above the current Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines for Free and Reduced Lunch\*\**
9. What portion of Steel City Aquatics Annual Team Dues are you able to provide for this season? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Varsity Registration – Annual Member)
10. Applicant understands that Steel City Aquatics Financial Distress Scholarship recipients are responsible for providing the USA Swimming Athlete Registration Fee, Meet Fees where applicable, apparel, and Volunteer & Fundraising requirements/fees.
* Yes
* No

1. Steel City Aquatics Financial Distressed Scholarship includes an attached 1 page short summery explaining what swimming means to our swimmer.
	1. Yes
	2. No
2. Bottom of Form
3. I attest that the information above is truthful and completed to the best of my knowledge.

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Signature of Parents or Guardian

\*\*\* Please email completed application form along with essay and signed scholarship agreement to president@steelcityaquatics.org & hr@steelcityaquatics.org.