



Las Cruces Aquatic Club Scholarship Program Financial Assistance

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: Las Cruces Aquatic Club (LCAC) strongly believes that community members should have the opportunity to participate with a competitive swim team regardless of financial status.

I. Eligibility.

- A. Applicant's family must qualify for Free or Reduced Price lunches thru the National School Lunch Program (NSLP).
- B. Applicants who qualify for Free Price lunches thru NSLP may be eligible for a waiver of monthly Team dues.
- C. A scholarship will not cover the following costs associated with swim team membership:
 - annual fundraising requirement & family volunteer requirement
 - USA Swimming and New Mexico Swimming Registrations
 - meet entry fees
 - required practice equipment

II. Verification.

- A. A Letter from the appropriate school district verifying participation in the Free NSLP Lunch Program for the current or upcoming school year.
- B. Current verification requirements must be met before consideration of the application for the upcoming fiscal year. LCAC's fiscal year runs from September 1st to August 31st.

III. Application.

- A. Individuals may obtain a Financial Assistance application form at the LCAC Website lcatpride.com. The completed application form must be accompanied by one of the above forms of verification.
- B. The Las Cruces Aquatic Team Head Coach and LCAC Board of Directors shall review Financial Assistance applications. All information provided shall otherwise be kept confidential.
- C. All applications must allow thirty days for processing. Applicants will be notified by email, mail or phone of their funding status.

IV. Guidelines for the Scholarship Approval Process.

- A. The LCAC Board of Directors shall determine the availability of scholarship funds within the upcoming fiscal year's budget each September.
- B. Financial Assistance Application must contain complete and true information. Incomplete or falsified information shall result in denial of requests.
- C. Applicants must meet the requirements of eligibility described in Section I, Eligibility.
- D. Financial assistance shall not be granted for meet entries, USA Swimming Memberships, or equipment purchase.
- E. All program participants granted financial assistance shall remain in good standing with program instructors and USA Swimming. Unsportsmanlike conduct and/or conduct detrimental to the program shall be grounds for removal of all financial assistance present and future. Failure to meet LCAC's fundraising or volunteer requirements may also be grounds for dismissal from program. Revocation of scholarship assistance may be effective immediately, without advance notice for the above instances.
- F. All interested participants must reapply annually for the Scholarship Program. Applications from individuals, who have not fulfilled LCAC's fundraising or volunteer requirements for the previous year, shall be denied.
- G. LCAC 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. LCAC shall give 30 days notification to the member upon revocation of the scholarship assistance in this instance.

- H. In the event that the maximum scholarship funds available have been disbursed 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.
- I. This list shall not be considered all-inclusive, and LCAC reserves the right to refuse financial assistance.