

## COVID-19 RELIEF SCHOLARSHIP

### GUIDELINES AND APPLICATION FOR TORNAOES SWIM TEAM SCHOLARSHIP

With the help of USA Swimming and the COVID-19 Relieve Grant, the Tornadoes Swim Team is able to offer full and partial scholarship programs to assist swimmers and families who are unable to afford the monthly dues of a commitment to competitive swimming due to financial constraints caused by COVID-19.

Note: to ensure privacy and confidentiality, all information associated with scholarship applications and awards is kept in strict confidence by the Tornadoes Swim Team Board of Directors.

**To apply for a COVID-19 scholarship**, submit a signed copy of the application form along with essay and documentation if applicable to the Tornadoes Swim Team Board of Directors **by March 31, 2021** : a. Applicant and a parent/guardian must review and agree to the benefit and expectations of scholarship.

- b. Submit an essay why the candidate should be considered for a seasonal scholarship from the Tornadoes Swim Team.
  - i. Why their swimmer wants to swim
  - ii. How the swimmer will demonstrate their commitment to their own development as a swimmer.
  - iii. How the swimmer will demonstrate their commitment to the team.
- c. If available, provide documentation to support financial need-based scholarship
  - i. A letter from the appropriate school district verifying participation in the Free or Reduced Price NSLP for either the current or upcoming school year.
  - ii. A completed application for Free or Reduced Price Lunches from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) web site. The application must be completed and signed by an adult member of the household.

#### Guidelines For Approval/Denial

- a. All applications must allow two weeks for processing. Applicants will be notified by email or phone of their funding status.
- 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 below.
- d. Financial assistance may be denied when granting such assistance shall have a significant detrimental effect on the operation of the program.
- e. Financial assistance shall not be granted for Meet Entries, YMCA Memberships, USA-Swimming Memberships, or Equipment Purchase.
- f. All program participants granted financial assistance shall remain in good standing with program instructors and Tornadoes Swim Team. Unsportsmanlike conduct and/or conduct detrimental to the program shall be grounds for removal of all financial assistance present and future.
- g. This list shall not be considered all-inclusive, and Tornadoes Swim Team reserves the right to refuse financial assistance.

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### Scholarship eligibility, benefits and expectations:

#### Eligibility

- a. Must be a year round team swimmer and in good standing for at least 3 months prior to request.
- b. Swimmers shall demonstrate a firm commitment to their own development as a swimmer as well as to the team.
- c. Swimmers must demonstrate financial need due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- d. Monthly dues are always paid in advance. The scholarship dollars that are awarded will be applied to your account after you pay your portion of the dues. Failure to pay your portion by the 5th of each month may result in loss of your scholarship.
- e. Scholarship recipients will not be eligible for any other (family) discounts.

#### Benefits:

- a. USA Swimming registration fee: \$15, if applicant's family is a recipient of benefits from any government subsidized program such as free or reduced lunches, which then qualifies the applicant for the USA Swimming Outreach membership price; otherwise \$74
- b. Monthly dues: Up to a 100% discount on monthly dues as determined by the Tornadoes Swim Team Board of Directors
- c. Meet fees: family must pay fees as they are accrued
- d. Equipment and swim suit: family is responsible for purchase of equipment (e.g. goggles, fins, etc) and swim suit

#### Expectations:

- a. Scholarship period is the length of the present swim season (e.g. short course or long course) Short course runs 9/1 - 3/31, Long course 4/1 - 8/31 unless otherwise stipulated, scholarship compliance will be monitored on a monthly basis, and the scholarship may be extended for the following season through successful re-application. **Re-application must be received 30 days prior to the start of a swim season.**
- b. Account must be kept up-to-date (no outstanding balance beyond 30 days)
- c. Swimmer must maintain a membership in good standing at the YMCA. Must pay YMCA directly; current rate per swimmer is \$10.00 per month.
- d. Scholarship recipient is expected to demonstrate good attendance and commit to attend the number of practices agreed upon with the head coach. Head coach will inform swimmer and parent/guardian of expectations including number of practices per week in writing.
- e. Scholarship recipient is expected to attend and participate in meets during scholarship season; number of meets and number of days in multi-day meets to be agreed upon with head coach
- f. Scholarship recipient and a minimum of one parent/guardian are expected to participate in all team functions, including mandatory fundraising activities. Financial fundraising requirements will be clearly stated at the beginning of each swim season.
- g. A minimum of one parent/guardian is expected to actively participate in Parent's Club and volunteer as a locker room monitor for at least 2 shifts per month; minimum volunteer hours will be clearly established for the scholarship season

## COVID-19 RELIEF SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Swim Season: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name of Scholarship Candidate: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade in School: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of School: \_\_\_\_\_

Has Candidate received a scholarship in the past? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, please list the season(s) candidate received a scholarship and which scholarship(s) was awarded. \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Candidate's Parents/Guardians: Home Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home/Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Initial each item below before submitting this application.

\_\_\_\_\_ Applicant and a parent/guardian has read and agrees to the benefits & expectations of the scholarship being applied for.

\_\_\_\_\_ Submit an essay (not to exceed 250 words) why the candidate should be considered for a seasonal scholarship from the Tornadoes Swim Team.

\_\_\_\_\_ If applicable, attached to application is documentation to support financial need-based scholarship.

By signing below, applicant and a parent/guardian agree that the information above is correct.

Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Swimmer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_