

# Lexington County Recreation & Aging Commission Scholarship Program

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## **Our Mission Statement:**

Our mission is to improve the quality of life for all citizens through creative and meaningful life enriching experiences. This is done through the provisions of program services, facilities and education.

## **Purpose:**

The Lexington County Recreation & Aging Commission is dedicated to helping all of our residents improve their quality of life. We want our Scholarship Program to provide the opportunity for every Lexington County resident, regardless of household financial conditions, to participate in recreational activities.

## **What is a scholarship:**

The Scholarship Program is designed to provide supplemental financial assistance to anyone who may not otherwise be able to participate in activities offered by Lexington County Recreation & Aging Commission and Independent Community Leagues.

Lexington County residents can apply for financial assistance to cover registration cost. Once scholarships are approved, residents will be able to receive vouchers for 50%, 75% or 90% of all registration costs. The amount of the award will be determined by the total household income and size. There are certain fees associated with programs and activities that will not be covered by the scholarship program. Recipients of the scholarship will be responsible for paying those fees.

This program will serve all residents of Lexington County.

## **Available programs for scholarship:**

The Lexington County Scholarship Program is available for any activity, program or class sponsored by the Lexington County Recreation & Aging Commission. It is also available for any recreational programs sponsored by Independent Community Leagues<sup>1</sup>. Scholarships cannot be used for all-star or try-out teams.

Scholarship assistance is not available for licensed care programs such as: After-School Camps or Summer Camps. Scholarships cannot be used for gym memberships, facility rentals, team registrations or daily charges to use any Lexington County Recreation & Aging Commission facilities.

## **Who can apply:**

The scholarship program is open to any current resident of Lexington County. All applicants must provide proof of residency to be considered for a scholarship. Parents/ Guardians must provide proof of residency for all minors applying for scholarships.

Lexington County Recreation & Aging Commission will accept the following items as proof of residency: copy of current driver's license, state-issued identification card, tax bill, voter's registration card, utility bill,

## **How to Apply:**

Below are the required steps that must be taken to apply for the scholarship program. Any application that is not completed or submitted in a timely manner will not be considered. Applications are available at the Lexington County Recreation & Aging Commission main office, website and through email upon request.

1. Complete the Scholarship Program application form. Parents/Guardians must complete and sign the application for anyone under the age of 18.
2. Attach the proof of residency to the application.
3. Attach the completed program registration form.

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<sup>1</sup> See section on Independent Community Leagues for further details on specific applications requirements.

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4. Attach copies of proof of income. All applicants must provide a copy of your most recent tax return. If applying for a youth scholarship, parents/guardians must provide a copy of their most recent tax return showing the participant as a dependent child.
5. Application and all required paperwork must be submitted to the Athletics Office prior to the end of the registration period for the specific program or activity. Any application submitted after the registration deadline will not be considered for any financial help.
6. Applicants will be notified within five (5) business days with the decision on your scholarship application. Placement in the program or activity is contingent on space availability at the time of registration and the availability of scholarship funds.
7. If applicable, Parents/Guardians must complete any Youth Independent Community League application and submit the application along with the Scholarship Program Application.

## **Scholarship Requirements:**

If applicants are awarded a scholarship, there are certain requirements that must be met to maintain scholarship eligibility. If recipients fail to meet the following requirements, awarded scholarships may be revoked. Recipients would be required to pay the full amount of the awarded scholarship before they are allowed to continue participation in the program or activity. All future scholarships and registrations will be suspended until the balance is paid in full.

1. Participants, Parents/Guardians or families must participate in any fundraisers offered by the program
2. Participants, Parents/Guardians or families are expected, if asked, to participate in volunteer activities to help offset the cost of the scholarship.
3. Participants are required to attend at least 80% of the scheduled practices, games, and or lessons.
4. Participants are required to submit a program evaluation at the completion of the activity or program
5. Payment of any fees associated with the program or activity that is not covered by the scholarship.

## **Scholarship Length:**

Scholarships are limited to two awards per family per year. The total amount of the scholarships provided will not exceed a total of \$150 per calendar year per family. If special circumstances or situations arise, participants may notify Lexington County Recreation & Aging Commission in a timely manner for special consideration for additional funds. Monthly or recurring classes will count as one award for each new session. Programs that extend between calendar years will count towards the year in which the program begins (ie: Youth Basketball). All scholarships are awarded on a first-come, funding and space available basis.

## **Independent Community Leagues:**

The Lexington County Recreation & Aging Commission Scholarship Program is available to participants of Youth Independent Community Leagues. In order for youth to qualify for the Scholarship Program, a parent or guardian must complete all the necessary paperwork and submit all the necessary forms in order to be considered for a scholarship.

Parents/Guardians must also fill out any necessary paperwork for the Youth Independent Community League. A copy of the Youth Independent Community League application must be attached to the Scholarship Program application.

The Scholarship Program will only cover the registration cost for the recreational season play in Youth Independent Community Leagues. Parents/Guardians will be responsible for any other cost associated with participation in the Youth Independent Community League. They will also still be required to meet the Scholarship Program requirements set forth by Lexington County Recreation & Aging Commission.

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The Scholarship Program will not cover any registration cost or fees associated with any Select, Travel, AAU or any try-out based teams. The Lexington County Recreation & Aging Commission will determine the eligibility of any non Independent Community League team.

## Income Chart:

Below is the Lexington County Recreation & Aging Commission Total Annual Family Income Chart. This chart will determine the amount of the Scholarship award if the applicant is accepted. Recipients will be responsible for paying the remaining balance of any registration cost. This chart will compare the total family annual income from all sources before deductions for taxes, insurance premiums, bonds and other employee deductions.

Family Size	90% of Cost	75% Of Cost	50% Of Cost
One Person Household	\$18,720	\$22,880	\$27,040
Two Person Household	\$21,525	\$27,742	\$33,959
Three Person Household	\$24,330	\$32,604	\$40,878
Four Person Household	\$27,135	\$37,466	\$47,797
Five Person Household	\$29,940	\$42,328	\$54,716
Six Person Household	\$32,745	\$47,190	\$61,635
Seven Person Household	\$35,550	\$52,052	\$68,554
Eight Person Household	\$38,355	\$56,914	\$75,473
For each additional member, add:	\$2,805	\$4,862	\$6,919

## Fee Waiver:

If participants are awarded a scholarship and cannot pay the remaining balance for a program, they must submit a written letter to the commission explaining why the remaining fees cannot be paid. This letter must be submitted at least one (1) week before any payment deadlines. Lexington County Recreation & Aging Commission will determine if any additional funds will be made available to the participant. If additional funds are made available but do not cover the entire cost of the program, participants are still required to pay for the remaining balance of the program.

## Contact information:

For any questions or concerns about the Lexington County Scholarship Programs please feel free to contact us at 803-359-4048. You may also check our website at [www.lcrac.com](http://www.lcrac.com)

## Confidentiality of application process:

Lexington County Recreation & Aging Commission will use the information on the application only to decide if you or your child qualifies to receive a scholarship. Confidentiality will be maintained at all times. Applicants are guaranteed that personal finances will not be discussed outside of the organization. Coaches, instructors, program leaders, or Community Leagues will not be informed of a participants financial situation.