SCHOLARSHIP ASSISTANCE POLICY

PURPOSE: The scholarship assistance program is designed to provide financial assistance to persons who might not otherwise be able to participate in certain programs and activities based on financial need.

RULES:

1. Scholarship assistance may be available for participation in City of Clemson Youth Camps and Athletic Programs.

2. Eligibility to apply for scholarship assistance typically will be based on whether the participant receives free or reduced price lunch at school. If so, the parent or guardian must submit a copy of the "Status Notification Letter" from the participant's school. This letter verifies that the participant receives or received free or reduced cost lunches for the current or most recent school year. Should an applicant not be enrolled in public school, other documentation of eligibility may be required (ABC voucher, SNAP participation, Medicaid recipient proof, or other requested documentation).

3. Residents of the City of Clemson are given first priority for scholarship assistance, and proof of residency may be required.

4. Scholarship assistance is awarded on a first come, first served basis. Assistance is not guaranteed, even if an applicant may be otherwise eligible. The City reserves the right to limit the number of scholarship participants and the amount of scholarship assistance based on funds available and/or upon the percentage of allowable scholarship participants in a program or activity. The City may decline to provide scholarship assistance if a participant does not meet the scholarship program requirements and/or if the participant does not qualify for the requirements of the particular program or activity.

5. Applications for scholarship assistance must be timely submitted during the registration period _before_ a program or activity begins. The registration fee is nonrefundable and is required up front for all participants, without regard to whether scholarship assistance is sought. If scholarship assistance is awarded, it will be applied toward weekly fees or other program costs.

6. Generally, the City of Clemson will not discriminate among applications for scholarships on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, religion, veteran status, or disability. However, scholarship assistance is intended for persons 18 and under. Also, some programs and activities may be designed for participants of certain age ranges, gender, and experience and/or athletic ability. Persons with disabilities who wish to participate, but may require reasonable accommodation, should contact the City Parks and Recreations Program Director. Scholarship assistance for special needs applicants over the age of 18 may be available, depending on the particular program or activity.

7. Once a scholarship is awarded, full participation in the program is expected unless excused for a valid reason. Failure to pay the participant's portion of the camp or program or withdrawal for any unexcused reason will result in scholarship assistance being unavailable for that participant for one year starting with the last day of the program in question. This means that the participant would not be eligible for financial assistance for the same program or for any other City camp or program for the one-year period. This is not done to punish the participant, but will be implemented because the participant's use of scholarship assistance may have made scholarship assistance unavailable for someone else who might have fully participated in the camp or program. Despite being ineligible for scholarship assistance, the participant may register for the camp or program during the one-year period, but will be expected to pay all applicable fees.

8. Providing false or incomplete information related to scholarship assistance in any way may result in the disqualification of the participant(s) for that camp or program, as well as for future camp and programs.

Reduced Rate Conversions:

Free Lunch Status: 50% reduction in fees

Reduced Lunch Status: 25% reduction in fees