

Recreation Scholarship Program

The purpose of the DSACO Recreation scholarship program is to provide financial assistance to individuals with Down syndrome to attend recreational activities. The activities might include but not limited to organized sports, summer camps, exercise classes, swim lessons, gymnastics, dance and transportation to get to these events. The program is not meant to include prescribed therapies such as physical therapy sessions.

Scholarship Funds

The DSACO board will budget money for the recreation scholarships each year.

Use of funds

Each request will be reviewed for eligibility by the Office staff. Applications will be processed within 14 days of receipt.

Eligible Recipients

You must live in the Central Ohio region which includes Franklin, Delaware, Union, Madison, Fairfield, Pickaway, Athens, Knox, Morrow and Licking counties. You must be an individual with Down syndrome.

Application Deadline

Applications will be processed as they are received.

Awarding Funds

The applicant will receive acceptance or denial notification of their request within 14 business days upon receipt of the application. The notification if accepted will include the amount of the scholarship to be awarded. The expense will be reimbursed once receipts are submitted. To receive payment, a copy of the written notification and original receipts must be submitted within 30 days after the activity's last session. The written notification from DSACO will serve as a "contract", promising that DSACO will reimburse the recipient. Checks can be written directly to the provider. No prepayments are available. If the application is denied, a brief explanation will be included in the written notification.

Denied Requests

Requests will be denied for the following reasons: requestor has already received annual maximum, event is not a recreational activity, prescribed therapy session, outside the central Ohio region, or the scholarship fund has been used for the year.

Maximum Scholarship

Maximum scholarship per individual per budget year is \$200. The program is based on a first come, first serve basis

Unused Funds

If no applications are received, the funds will remain in the recreation scholarship budget unless the board votes to use the funds for another purpose. Any funds designated by a donor or program for this scholarship fund cannot be re-allocated. If a scholarship is awarded but not claimed within 45 days from the event date or awarded date, the funds may be awarded to another recipient.

Expectations of Scholarship Recipients

Recipients may be requested to complete a follow-up survey to find out if an activity should be eliminated as “eligible”, gather feedback on recreational programs, or gather comments for use in promotional materials. It is optional but would be helpful if a picture or a brief summary of the activity were included.