

3.07 - Financial Assistance

The Board will establish fees that should enable the majority of residents and others to participate in its programs. Regardless of the amount of fees that are charged, some individuals may be unable to participate due to economic hardship. In the event that certain families or individuals are in dire financial difficulty, the Board authorizes the Executive Director, or his/her designee, on an individual basis, to partially waive a registration or membership fee when a resident cannot reasonably afford the fee. The financial assistance will be provided, as funds are available, through the "FUNding Positive Recreational Experiences" Program.

Mission

Strive to remove the financial barriers that may prevent Geneseo Park District residents from enjoying Positive Recreational Experiences.

Eligibility

To be eligible to receive Financial Assistance, the applicant must

- be a resident of the District or be a student in the Geneseo School District.
- apply for assistance in writing using the application form provided by the District.
- provide evidence of need.

Types of Financial Assistance Available

- Payment Plan – The cost of the program will be spread over a period of time to allow the family to afford the program.
- Partial Payment – The cost of the program will be reduced. The amount of the reduction will be determined on an individual basis. A maximum of \$200 will be awarded per family per year. A minimum of 50% per membership or program will be expected to be contributed from the applicant.
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FUNding Positive Recreational Experience Program Guidelines

- Funding is available only to those that reside within the Geneseo Park District boundaries or are a student in District 228.
- Financial assistance may not be available for all programs or services, including but not limiting contractual programs.
- The amount of assistance may vary, depending on need and/or money available.
- There must be space availability in the program or class.
- Programming financial assistance is limited to one program per person per season. Applications must be completed seasonally for programs/classes. Granting of approval does not ensure continued approval for succeeding programs or seasons.
- The portion of the participant's payment is due before registration can be processed unless otherwise arranged.
- Delinquency on participant's portion of the payment may result in ineligibility for future program participation and/or financial assistance.
- All registration/membership policies and procedures apply.
- Memberships must be actively used or the membership will be cancelled and the assistance will be refunded to the program for redistribution to current applicants.

Other

- All information on the Financial Assistance application must be true and accurate. Financial aid provided is legally recoverable if awarded on the basis of false information.

- All information received will remain confidential and will not be made available to the public, to the extent permitted by law.

Application Procedures

- Complete the financial assistance application form. Return the completed form along with all required documentation to the Superintendent of Finance & Administration. Applications will not be reviewed unless all supporting documentation is included.
- Upon receipt, the Superintendent of Finance & Administration will review the application and determine approval/ disapproval. If approved, the percentage amount of Financial Assistance to be provided to the applicant will be determined. The amount of assistance provided will be based on many factors, including funds available.
- Applicants for financial assistance will be notified within ten (10) days of receipt of application as to the status.
- Upon approval, applicants will register for programs through regular District registration procedures.
- The Financial Assistance Committee consists of the Executive Director, Superintendent of Finance & Administration and Managers and Superintendent of Recreation. The Financial Assistance Committee will review all exceptions and special requests while having the final discretion on granting assistance.