



# What is the YMCA Financial Assistance Program?



Based upon available resources, the YMCA is pleased to be able to provide as much assistance as possible for adults, families and children for membership and programs. Financial Aid awards are based on a review of the applicant's income, expenses and extenuating circumstances. It is the hope of the YMCA to never turn away anyone from a program because of inability to pay.

To evaluate your individual needs, the YMCA requires as much information as possible about your financial situation. Certain items are mandatory and your Financial Assistance Application will be considered incomplete until all those items are submitted. Please feel free to attach a personal letter in addition to the required paperwork that better describes your situation. Once the complete application package is received, it takes at least 2 weeks to process and review. If you are applying for a scholarship for a particular program it is recommended that you apply at least 30 days in advance of the program start.

The YMCA believes a strong sense of ownership and pride is developed when the financial assistance recipient contributes to the cost of their YMCA involvement. Therefore, applicants will be asked to pay a portion of the fee for the requested service. The Financial Assistance Form will be reviewed for a six month eligibility. At the end of your 6-month membership period you will need to re-apply to continue your financial assistance. At that time, we ask that a short letter be written to the YMCA expressing how the membership has been beneficial to you. These letters will be used to reaffirm the YMCA mission and will be anonymously shared with our donors to help show that their donation is being put to excellent use.

*NOTE: Please do not include originals of any documentation, as they will not be returned. And, for your security all information is confidential and treated with the utmost sensitivity.*

## REQUIRED INFORMATION TO SUBMIT

- ▽ Completed Application Form
- ▽ A copy of your most recent Income Tax Return (IRS Form 1040) and any other proof of current income for the total household.
- ▽ Proof of dependency for all children if they are not listed on your tax return.

*Additional information to submit as applicable to your situation:*

- ▽ If you are **receiving SSI, Food Stamps, Medicaid or Medicare**, please submit a copy of the Award Letter.
- ▽ If you are **currently on disability**, please submit documentation.
- ▽ If you are **working**, your latest pay stubs.
- ▽ If you are a **student**, please submit your latest Financial Aid form and a copy of your latest schedule.
- ▽ If you are **self-employed**, you must submit your latest business and personal Income Tax return.
- ▽ If you are **unemployed** you must submit your State Unemployment documentation.

## OPTIONAL INFORMATION

- ▽ Telephone, utility and other monthly bills (eg. rent) for the previous three months that would serve as backup to your claim of inability to pay the full program fee.
- ▽ Letters from a doctor, hospital or other provider that detail a condition that increases your need for the YMCA's programs or services & is an extenuating factor in your request for a scholarship.
- ▽ A personal letter stating your situation especially if your financial situation is not reflected in your latest tax return.

*It is the mission of the YMCA to assist individuals who might otherwise not be able to afford our programs and services. Financial assistance funds are allocated from donations received from our Partner with Youth Campaign.*

If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to contact Kayla Boylan at 618.281.9622 or [kboylan@ymcaswil.org](mailto:kboylan@ymcaswil.org).