

SOCA

Financial Assistance Program

Purpose

The purpose of the SOCA Financial Assistance Program is to offer financial support to those families with the greatest need and to provide support to qualifying applicants. One of SOCA's core values is to welcome all participants and remove barriers to participation. The Financial Assistance Program seeks to serve this important value. It is SOCA's wish to provide assistance so that children may participate in SOCA programs, based on demonstrated need and SOCA's ability to fund the subsidy.

General Information

Financial assistance is available only in the youth programs. Assistance is provided to the Travel (Elite, Premier and Classic), Challenge, Recreational and Hot Shots programs, only. There is no financial assistance available in the supplemental camp and clinic programs.

Financial assistance is applied to registration fees, only. Financial assistance does not apply to uniform or other soccer equipment expenses, tournament related expenses, travel expenses, or other expenses related to participation.

There is no full financial assistance in either the Travel or Challenge programs. All participants in these programs are required to contribute to fee payment. Partial assistance is available.

Full financial assistance is available in the Recreation and Hot Shots programs.

There are three levels of assistance available to qualifying families. Need is determined based upon participation in government public assistance programs (School Nutrition Program, Free/Reduced Lunch Program), or by documenting income within established limits. The qualifying limits that SOCA uses are those currently in place for the federally supported free and reduced meals programs in the public schools.

Application Deadlines for 2016/2017 Soccer Year

Travel Program (Elite, Premier, Classic)	June 7, 2016 (requests considered for full year)
Challenge Program: Fall season only	June 7, 2016
Challenge Program: Spring season only	January 24, 2017
Recreation Program: Fall season only	July 26, 2016
Recreation Program: Spring season only	January 24, 2017
Hot Shots Program: Fall season only	August 9, 2016
Hot Shots Program: Spring season only	February 7, 2017

Procedures

All applications for assistance must be made by completing a current SOCA Request for Financial Assistance form.

If a family is requesting aid for more than one child, a separate SOCA Request for Financial Assistance form must be completed for each individual child.

All requests will be reviewed by SOCA and a determination made immediately if possible, or within five business days.

Upon determination by SOCA, applicants will have the option to: 1) accept the offered financial assistance and pay for any balance due, 2) accept the offered financial assistance and pay the first installment of an agreed installment payment plan, 3) decline the assistance and decline to participate, 4) appeal for additional funding within five business days of original determination.

An appeal for additional funding does not guarantee nor imply additional funds will be provided. Additional funds are extremely limited. Each appeal must include all original documentation, a written narrative describing the need for additional funds, and any other documents that may support the request for additional funds.

The appeal will be reviewed by a committee of the Board of Directors. A determination and notice will be provided to the applicant as soon as possible. The applicant has an additional five business days to act upon the Committee's determination by either completing registration or declining to participate.

No player registration is considered complete until the applicant's share of the fee is paid, or full assistance is granted.

Documents Required

All applications must be accompanied by a copy of School Nutrition Program determination letter, if applicable, or copies of:

1. Most recent Form 1040, Federal Income Tax Return.
2. Four (4) most recent pay stubs from all household income earners.
3. Copies of any additional legal documents supporting the request for assistance.

All financial assistance request materials submitted to SOCA are strictly confidential.

SOCA-Augusta Request for Financial Assistance: 2016-2017

1. Player Information

Player's Full Name: _____ Date of Birth: ____/____/____
First Middle Last mm dd yyyy

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

2. Program for Which Financial Assistance is Being Requested (check one):

_____ Elite U18-U15: \$1,120 _____ Challenge: Fall=\$205 Spring=\$160

_____ Elite U14-U11: \$1,255 _____ Recreation: U18-12 (\$83), U10-8 (\$78)

_____ Prem: U18-15 (\$525), U14-13 (\$865), U12-11 (\$815) _____ Hot Shots: \$63

_____ Classic U18-15 (\$445), U14-11 (\$770)

Assistance Requested (check one): _____ **Specific amount \$** _____ **Maximum Available**

3. Parent/Guardian Information

Mother's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Mother's Email Address: _____

Father's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Father's Email Address: _____

4. Household Size (number of all persons living at the player's home): _____

5. Household Income Information

Father's Total Annual Income: \$ _____

Mother's Total Annual Income: \$ _____

Other Income Earners' Total Annual Income: \$ _____

Annual Child Support: \$ _____

Annual Alimony: \$ _____

Other Income: \$ _____

Total Household Annual Income \$ _____

6. Does the Player's Household Receive Federal School Nutrition Program Benefits (check one):

_____ **Yes** _____ **No**

If "Yes", a copy of your School Nutrition Program determination Letter must be provided.

If "No", provide a copy of the following documents with your Request for Financial Assistance:

1. Most recent Form1040: Federal Income Tax Return.
2. Four (4) most recent pay stubs from all household income earners.
3. Copies of any additional legal documents supporting your request.

7. I certify that all information and materials provided in this request for financial assistance are true to the best of my knowledge.