



Andalusia Department of Leisure Services Scholarship Program Guidelines

Purpose

The scholarship program is designed to ensure equitable access to youth sports in Andalusia by supporting families with demonstrated financial need. Scholarships help offset registration costs and promote academic achievement and community engagement.

Eligibility Criteria

1. Residency

- Applicant must reside in Covington County, Alabama.

2. Household Income

Scholarships are available to households with limited income, evaluated in relation to Covington County's median household income (approximately \$52,456). Consideration will be given to:

- Single parent households
- Multiple adult households (combined income assessed)

3. Academic Requirement

- The participating child must have passed all classes in the prior semester, verified by the school.

4. Volunteer Requirement

- A parent, guardian, or another adult in the household must complete at least 5 hours of volunteer service with Parks and Recreation programs or events per season.

Scholarship Award

- Each scholarship provides an average of \$45 per sport per child.
- Families may apply for multiple children, with awards determined individually for each child and each sport.

Verification Requirements

1. Income Verification

Acceptable documentation includes:

- Most recent federal tax return (Form 1040)
- Two consecutive pay stubs for each working adult in the household
- Proof of government assistance (SNAP, TANF, Medicaid, SSI, etc.)
- Employer verification letter, if applicable

2. Academic Verification

- Official school transcript or report card showing grades
- Signed letter from a school counselor or registrar confirming academic status

3. Volunteer Hours Verification

- Parks and Recreation staff will maintain an official volunteer log
- Hours must be signed off by the supervising staff member or event coordinator

Application Process

1. Complete the Scholarship Application Form, available at the Andalusia Department of Leisure Services office or online.
2. Submit required documentation for income and academic verification.
3. Commit to the volunteer service requirement before the end of the sports season.
4. Applications will be reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Scholarship Committee.

Program Notes

- Scholarships are not guaranteed; awards depend on available funding and demonstrated need.
- Families who do not meet academic or volunteer requirements may be deemed ineligible for future scholarships.
- Priority consideration is given to first time applicants and households with multiple children enrolled in sports.