



Opportunity to Play Program

OVERVIEW

BCJSA provides grants for registration fees to children, who, without this financial assistance, would not be able to participate in BCJSA programs. This grant program is called the “Opportunity to Play Program” and was started in 2009, at the request of the family of Don Smith, a long time coach in the BCJSA organization. Don’s wish was to never have a child not play sports due to financial hardship. He personally paid the registration fee for many players he coached through the years. When Don passed away in 2009, his family could think of no better way to honor Don and what he was passionate about. They requested that donations be made to BCJSA in Don’s name and the Opportunity to Play fund was born.

BCJSA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with limited funding available for grants; however, BCJSA shall use its best efforts to provide assistance to all qualified applicants. No guarantee of assistance is implied in this application.

ELIGIBILITY

Requirements for eligibility:

- Athlete must be age 17 or younger and otherwise eligible to participate in the BCJSA sport for which the grant is intended.
- Family’s account must be in good standing with no balances past due.
- Parents/Guardians commit that the athlete will attend a minimum of 80% of all scheduled practices and games.
- Parents/Guardians agree, upon reasonable notice, to volunteer 8 hours MINIMUM per grant recipient.
The volunteer hours can be completed at any time during the year but must be completed no later than the end of the season the recipient played.
- Grants are available up to a maximum of 50% of the registration fee.
- Special circumstances may be considered by the committee for situations that do not fit the above requirements.

QUALIFICATIONS

The more information you can provide us with, the better able we will be to determine qualifications. Consideration will be given to eligible families meeting one or more of the following criteria:

- Receiving assistance from programs such as: Food Stamps, Medicaid, SSI, Foster Care, WIC, etc *(Please provide written documentation of participation in these programs)*
- Written recommendation by school representatives, social workers, youth community center workers, or other social services representatives.
- Written statement of an immediate financial hardship. BCJSA recognizes that while a family may not be receiving formal financial aid, etc., circumstances may still exist which render a child financially unable to participate. In these instances, we shall consider this written statement of immediate financial hardship. *(Please provide any supporting documentation which may substantiate facts in your written statement.)*
- **Applicant must, as part of the complete application process, read and sign the Terms and Conditions statement.**
- Incomplete applications will automatically be denied.
- BCJSA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities

PROCEDURE

- **Grant requests must be submitted to the BCJSA office no later than two (2) weeks prior to the regular registration deadline.**
- The application must be completed by a parent, guardian, or head of household, with all requested information provided.
- **Incomplete or late applications will be denied.**
- The grant committee will consider all complete applications received by the application deadline.
- The amount of the grant awarded (if any) may vary, depending on the number of applicants and amount of grant funds available.
- Approval of a registration grant does not register the participant in the activity. Athlete must still register online for the BCJSA sport for which the grant was awarded.

You can e-mail completed application to treasurer@bcjsa.com , send via regular mail, or put in locked drop box under our window at: 2750 S. Wadsworth Blvd. Ste. C-204, Lakewood, CO 80227



Opportunity to Play Grant Application

Athlete Information

Athlete's Name:

Date of birth:

Grade:

School Athlete Attends:

Current address:

City:

State:

ZIP Code:

Athlete lives with: Both Parents Mother Father Other (Describe)

Parent/Guardian Information

Total Household Annual Income: \$

Number of dependent children in your household during the last tax year:

Father/Guardian Name:

Occupation:

Employer Name:

Employer Address:

Home Phone:

Work Phone:

E-mail:

Monthly Income: (including alimony & child support) \$:

Mother/Guardian Name:

Occupation:

Employer Name:

Employer Address:

Home Phone:

Work Phone:

E-mail:

Monthly Income: (including alimony & child support) \$:

Do you currently receive state or federal financial assistance? Yes No If yes, what type?

Grant Request Information

Season for scholarship request: Baseball (Jr) Baseball (Midget) Baseball (Fall) Basketball
 Football (Flag) Football (Tackle) Lacrosse Soccer (Fall) Soccer (Spring) Softball Golf

Amount of Scholarship Requested: (maximum of 50% of registration fee) \$

What other sports has this athlete played?

Name of team and organization

Has this athlete ever received grants from BCJSA before? Yes No

If yes, which sport(s)?

For what years?

For how much?

Please indicate supporting documentation being provided:

- Proof of receipt of state or federal financial assistance
 Letter from school, social workers, or other social services representatives
 Written Personal Statement of Immediate Financial Hardship
 Other (*explain in detail*):

CONSENT TO RELEASE INFORMATION & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I understand that my signature authorizes BCJSA to obtain verification of all information on this application and that additional information may be necessary for approval of this application. I certify that all of the information on this form is true and correct.

I confirm that I have read, signed and attached a copy of the "Terms and Conditions Statement".

I acknowledge that my child's head coach and/or team manager may be made aware that a grant has been awarded to my family.

Signature of Parent/Guardian:

Date:



Bear Creek Junior Sports Association (BCJSA)

Opportunity to Play Program

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

"I", "me" and "my" refers to the adult grant applicant.

1. By signing this form, I certify that the information provided in the accompanying BCJSA Opportunity to Play Grant Request is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, and I agree to be bound by the responsibilities required of me.
2. I understand that Bear Creek Junior Sports Association, through the awarding of a grant, shall not be liable for any damage or injury occurring during participation in the sport for which the grant money is being used.
3. I understand that each grant recipient is responsible for his/her transportation to and from practices and games.
4. I understand that I am responsible for any equipment and uniforms required for my child's participation.
5. I understand that grants will not be paid to the individual recipient, nor will any money be refundable to the individual.
6. I understand that if any statements submitted are later determined to be inaccurate, BCJSA may immediately terminate my child's privilege to benefit from this program, and in the case of an intentionally false or misleading statement, I will repay to BCJSA the full value of any grant awarded.
7. I understand that if a grant is awarded to my child for a season and my child quits playing the sport; or, (absent a verifiable medical condition or a waiver from the head coach), if my child fails to attend 80% of all practices and games, then neither me, my child, nor my immediate family will be eligible to receive another grant for 365 days.
8. I understand that if a grant is awarded to my child or multiple children for a season, I will be required to volunteer a minimum of 8 hours, per grant recipient. Failure to satisfy this condition will disqualify me, my child, and my immediate family from being considered for another grant. Team mom/manager duties, and other duties assigned by a coach, or volunteered for any individual team do not count toward this requirement unless approved in writing, in advance by the sport director.
9. I understand that each grant application will be considered on a case-by-case basis by members of the Bear Creek Junior Sports Association Board of Directors and/or appointed Grant Committee members.
10. The application is considered private and will not be shared with anyone other than those representatives.

Printed Name of Adult Applicant

Signature

Name of Athlete

Date