



I. Purpose and Scope

The purpose of this document is to outline the policies and procedures for the Stanford Water Polo Club (SWPC) Financial Aid Program. The program aims to provide financial assistance to eligible athletes, enabling them to participate in the club's activities and fostering a diverse, inclusive, and competitive environment. This document covers the eligibility criteria, application process, selection process, award disbursement, recipient responsibilities, monitoring, and reporting.

II. Objectives

The objectives of the SWPC Financial Aid Program are to:

1. Ensure that financial constraints do not prevent talented and committed athletes from participating in SWPC activities.
2. Promote diversity and inclusiveness within the club, reflecting the broader community.
3. Support the holistic development of athletes, encompassing athletic, academic, and personal growth.

III. Confidentiality

SWPC is committed to protecting the privacy of financial aid applicants and recipients. All personal and financial information provided during the application process will be treated with the utmost confidentiality and will only be used for the purpose of evaluating financial aid applications. Access to this information will be limited to the SWPC Financial Aid Review Committee and authorized SWPC staff members.

IV. Non-Discrimination Policy

SWPC is committed to providing equal opportunities to all athletes and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, disability, or any other characteristic protected by law. The Financial Aid Program will be administered in a manner consistent with this non-discrimination policy.

V. Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for financial aid, applicants must meet the following criteria:

1. Must be a registered member of SWPC.
2. Must be between the ages of 6 and 22 years.
3. Must demonstrate financial need, as evidenced by the submission of required documents (see Section IV for details).
4. Must maintain satisfactory academic progress, as determined by the athlete's school.
5. Must show commitment to attending practices, games, and team events.

III. Application Process

1. Application Form: Applicants must complete the Financial Aid Application Form, which includes personal and financial information, a statement of need, and an explanation of how the financial aid will benefit the applicant's athletic and personal development.

2. Required Documents: Applicants must submit the following documents to support their application:

- a. Proof of income (e.g., pay stubs, tax returns, or a letter from an employer)
- b. Personal Statement
- c. Most recent report card or transcript

3. Submission Deadline: Applications and supporting documents must be submitted by the specified deadline, as announced by SWPC each season. Late applications will not be considered.

IV. Selection Process

1. Review Committee: A Financial Aid Review Committee, comprising SWPC board members and/or staff, will review all applications.

2. Selection Criteria: The Review Committee will evaluate applications based on the following criteria:

- a. Financial need
- b. Commitment to the sport and team
- c. Potential for growth and development in water polo
- d. Academic performance

3. Award Notification: Successful applicants will be notified of their financial aid award within four weeks of the submission deadline.

VI. Financial Aid Award

1. Award Amount: Financial aid awards will be determined based on available funding, the number of eligible applicants, and the degree of demonstrated need. Awards may cover partial or full costs of club fees, travel expenses, and equipment.
2. Award Disbursement: Financial aid funds will be disbursed directly to the SWPC on behalf of the athlete. Funds will not be provided directly to the athlete or their family.
3. Renewal: Financial aid awards are granted for one season. Athletes must reapply each season to be considered for continued financial aid.

VII. Responsibilities of Financial Aid Recipients

1. Attendance: Financial aid recipients are expected to maintain regular attendance at practices, games, and team events.
2. Academic Performance: Financial aid recipients must maintain satisfactory academic progress, as determined by their school.
3. Code of Conduct: Financial aid recipients must adhere to the SWPC Code of Conduct and represent the club in a positive manner.
4. Volunteer Commitment: Financial aid recipients and their families are encouraged to volunteer at SWPC events and activities.

VIII. Monitoring and Reporting

1. Monitoring: The SWPC Financial Aid Review Committee will monitor the progress and adherence to the responsibilities of financial aid recipients.
2. Reporting: The SWPC Financial Aid Review Committee will provide an annual report to the board and directors detailing the number of financial aid recipients, the total amount of financial aid disbursed, and the impact of the financial aid program on club participation and diversity.

IX. Appeal Process

Applicants who are denied financial aid may request a reconsideration of their application by submitting a written appeal to the SWPC Financial Aid Review Committee within two weeks of receiving the decision. The appeal should outline the reasons for the request and provide any additional supporting information. The Review Committee will re-evaluate the application and inform the applicant of the final decision within four weeks of receiving the appeal.

X. Cancellation of Financial Aid

SWPC reserves the right to cancel the financial aid award if the recipient fails to meet their responsibilities, as outlined in Section VI of the Policies and Procedures document, or if there is a significant change in the recipient's financial situation. In such cases, the SWPC Financial Aid Review Committee will provide written notice to the recipient, detailing the reasons for cancellation and any actions required to reinstate the award.

XI. Review and Amendment of Policies and Procedures

The SWPC Financial Aid Review Committee will periodically review and amend the Policies and Procedures to ensure their effectiveness and alignment with the club's objectives. All revisions will be communicated to SWPC members and stakeholders, and the updated document will be made available on the club's website.

XII. Contact Information

For questions, concerns, or assistance with the financial aid application process, please contact:

SWPC Financial Aid Coordinator
Phone: (559) 346 - 8971
Email: estiling@stanfordwpc.com

SWPC is committed to providing a fair and transparent financial aid program that supports the participation and development of athletes in our club. We encourage all eligible athletes to apply and take advantage of this opportunity to excel in the sport of water polo.

Stanford Water Polo Club (SWPC) Financial Aid Application Form

Please complete all sections of this form and attach the required supporting documents. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Section 1: Personal Information

Full Name: _____

Date of Birth: ____ / ____ / ____ (MM / DD / YYYY)

Age: _____

Gender: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Section 2: Water Polo Information

Team/Level: _____

Years of Participation with SWPC: _____

Position: _____

Section 3: School Information

School Name: _____

Grade Level: _____

Current GPA: _____ (Attach a copy of your most recent report card or transcript)

Section 4: Financial Information

Household Size (including applicant): _____

Total Annual Household Income: \$_____ (Attach proof of income, such as pay stubs, tax returns, or a letter from an employer)

Section 5: Statement of Need

Please explain your financial need and how the financial aid will help support your participation in water polo and contribute to your athletic and personal development (minimum 200 words):

Section 6: Certification

I/We certify that the information provided in this application and the attached documents is true and accurate to the best of my/our knowledge. I/We understand that any false statements may result in the disqualification of my/our application for financial aid.

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please submit the completed application form and required supporting documents to the SWPC Financial Aid Review Committee by the specified deadline. Late applications will not be considered.