



Gurnee Park District

Scholarship Program Guidelines

Gurnee Park District provides financial assistance through scholarships to individuals who are interested in enrolling in a Park District program, but unable to do so due to financial hardship. The Park District attempts to provide financial assistance to those who qualify based on the eligibility guidelines. Scholarships are awarded for specific program registration requests on a first-come, first-served basis based on the availability of funds.

Qualifications

Gurnee Park District Residents

Scholarship support is available for general recreation programs with a fee of at least \$50 except trips and programs provided by an outside contractor (listed as "Contracted by..." in the brochure and online).

Non-Resident Students in District 50, District 56 and District 121

Scholarship support is available for in-house camps and C.A.R.E.

Application & Registration Process

1. Complete the enclosed Scholarship Application Form, including:
 - a. Proof of residency
 - b. Proof of dependents
 - c. Proof of income (Current IRS Form 1040 and paystubs)
 - d. Registration Form
2. Provide the complete application packet to the Customer Support Coordinator at Hunt Club Park Community Center **at least four weeks prior to the start of the program.**
 - a. Camps Only: Registration via deposit payment strongly encouraged
3. Notice of decision provided via email within four weeks
4. Register for the program in-person to ensure application of the scholarship

Specific Program/Membership Considerations

Camps

Due to high demand, securing a spot by paying the camp deposit(s) prior to scholarship approval is highly encouraged. Registration via deposit does not guarantee scholarship approval; however, if approved, all paid deposits will be used towards your co-pay.

FitNation Memberships

Memberships are limited to one membership per person at a time. An application must be submitted each year at or prior to the current membership expiration date.

Program Guidelines

1. A new application is completed each new scholarship cycle (May-April). Applications for a new cycle can be accepted once the household's prior year Federal Income Tax Return is attached.
2. Applications cannot be accepted without the required documents listed on the application. Missing documentation will delay review of the application until all documents are received.
3. Application review can take up to four weeks. Applicants are encouraged to submit initial application paperwork and registration requests immediately upon release of the upcoming seasonal brochure.

4. Scholarships are awarded each season for specific program registration requests on a first-come, first-served basis based on the availability of funds. *Scholarship eligibility for CARE and Growing Tree Preschool programs is evaluated on a school-year basis.*
5. Approval for one program does not ensure continued approval for subsequent programs or seasons.
6. Registration is processed once the participant's co-pay, as outlined in the award letter, is received.
7. The maximum an individual may receive in scholarship support is \$1,500 annually.
8. All registration policies and procedures apply to scholarship applicants.
9. Non-payment will result in ineligibility for future program participation and scholarship support.
10. Gurnee Park District reserves the right to approve full or partial assistance or deny a request.

Eligibility Guidelines

The following household size and pre-tax income criteria is used to determine initial eligibility for financial assistance. To qualify, annual household income must be less than the values below. The chart is updated annually based on data from HHS poverty guidelines. Other factors such as current participation in public aid, food stamp program, subsidized housing, excessive medical bills, etc. may also be considered.

	75% Support	50% Support	25% Support
Household Size	Total Income	Total Income	Total Income
1	\$20,748	\$23,940.00	\$29,526
2	\$28,132	\$32,460.00	\$40,034
3	\$35,516	\$40,980.00	\$50,542
4	\$42,900	\$49,500.00	\$61,050
5	\$50,284	\$58,020.00	\$71,558

Definition of income: Income is defined as any monies earned before any deductions such as income taxes, social security taxes, insurance premiums, charitable contributions, and bonds. It includes the following: (1) monetary compensation for services including wages, salary, commissions, or fees; (2) net income from non-farm self-employment; (3) net income from farm self-employment; (4) social security; (5) dividends or interest on savings or bonds or income from estates or trusts; (6) net rental income; (7) public assistance or welfare payments; (8) unemployment compensation; (9) government civilian employee or military retirement or pensions or veteran payments; (10) private pensions or annuities; (11) alimony or child support payments; (12) regular contributions from persons not living in the household; (13) net royalties; and (14) other cash income. Other cash income would include cash amounts received or withdrawn from any source including savings, investments, trust accounts, and other resources which would be available.

Attendance Requirements

A limited amount of award money is available, as such, attendance in the program/activities you are approved for is important. Scholarship awards can be revoked if participation is not regular.

If you have a medical or other reason you cannot participate in activity, it shall be the responsibility of the recipient (or their legal parent/guardian) to inform the park district of this conflict in participation. Failure to participate in 75% of the scheduled class dates may result in the revocation of your award.



Gurnee Park District

Scholarship Program Application Programs & Memberships Starting May 2026 - April 2027

Applicant Name (Head of Household) _____

Home Address, City, Zip _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

Gurnee Park District Resident

Non-Resident; School District 25, 26, or 121 student seeking childcare program assistance

Required Documents: Application will be denied without these attachments.

Program Registration Form or Membership Application Form

The registration/membership is not processed until approval and co-pay are complete, unless a deposit is paid (childcare programming only)

Proof of residency

Copy of driver's license, state ID or current utility bill with name and address

Prior year Federal Income Tax Return

If you did not file taxes, submit an IRS Account Transcript Form - <https://www.irs.gov/individuals/get-transcript>

Proof of Dependency

This is typically included in the prior year Federal Income Tax Return; if a dependent is not listed on the prior year tax return, provide documentation indicating dependency

Proof of Current Income

Copy of two most recent pay stubs for all household members

List of additional, optional documents included on the next page.

Household Members & Income Sources:

	Name	Age	Relationship to applicant	Gross Monthly Income from Employment	Monthly Income from Welfare, Child Support, Alimony (Before Deductions)	Monthly Income from Pensions, Retirement, Social Security, etc.
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Household Employment: List employment information for all working individuals in the household.

Applicant's Employer _____

Position _____ Average Hours/Week _____

Address/City/Zip _____

