



## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FAQ

Find answers to our frequently asked application questions below.

### WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Individuals and families who demonstrate need of financial assistance to help pay for programs or membership. The applicant must reside or work in the Summit Area YMCA service area that includes: Berkeley Heights, Gillette, Millburn, New Providence, Short Hills, Springfield, Stirling, and Summit. Applicant(s) must work 30 hours per week to qualify for full-time childcare programs.

### HOW IS A FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AWARD DETERMINED?

The Y has a sliding fee scale based on total household gross income and the number of dependents, which is factored into determining the support amount.

### IS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FOR ALL SUMMIT AREA YMCA LOCATIONS?

Yes. However, since subsidies are branch specific, financial assistance is not transferable and may vary by branch. For more information on multi-branch assistance, please contact each branch individually.

### HOW QUICKLY CAN I EXPECT TO RECEIVE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE?

Once you have submitted the financial assistance application and all required documentation to the branch where you would like to participate in Y programs or membership, the process may take between 2-4 weeks. A scholarship is official only once you have received written notification from the Y. Please Note: For childcare and camp program admission is subject to availability.

### HOW LONG WILL THE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE CONTINUE?

The need for financial assistance is reassessed annually for memberships and programs. For school age programs and camp, the award is valid for program dates, i.e. school age September to June. For childcare programs, updates will be requested every 6 months. A lack of a timely response for a request for updated information may result in a termination of financial assistance. It is the applicant's responsibility to furnish updated financial information annually, at least 4-6 weeks before the award expires, so that the YMCA may re-evaluate the need for continued financial assistance.

### WHAT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT?

The YMCA expects the award recipient to make timely scheduled payments when applicable. Since there is greater need for financial assistance in our community than we are able to fund, we ask to be notified if the recipient no longer needs our support or if the recipient is no longer able to use the services we provide. We also require that all participants report any change in circumstances, such as a change in employment, wages, public assistance, etc. within 2 weeks of the change. Although not required, as part of paying it forward, we hope that participants will volunteer whenever possible.

### HOW ARE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AWARDS/SCHOLARSHIPS FUNDED?

Each year, the YMCA raises funds through the ongoing work of volunteers and staff. Funds are gifts received through the generosity of our donors, local partners, grants, the Y's Endowment Fund, and the Annual Community Strong Campaign.