U.S. Soccer Development Academy
2013-14 Scholarship Program Overview

Introduction
This document outlines the application parameters for U.S. Soccer's Development Academy Scholarship Program for the 2013-14 Development Academy season.

Deadlines
Applications will be available starting on Monday, July 1. All applications must be received by Friday, August 16, 2013. Late applications will not be accepted.

All applications will be reviewed as they are received. Scholarship recipients will be notified no later than Monday, September 2, 2013.

How to Apply for a Development Academy Scholarship
The Application serves as the only official application for Development Academy Scholarships. To be considered for a scholarship, athletes must complete each step described below:

Step One – Complete the Development Academy Scholarship Application.

- Once an applicant arrives at this page, he will need to create a log in for his account.
  - Multiple applicants have to apply under separate accounts. One person cannot apply for several applicants.
- After an account is created, he can log in and complete the application by selecting to apply for the scholarship button at the top.
- All applicants will need to submit the supporting documents outlined below to U.S. Soccer by Friday, August 16, 2013.

Step Two – Prepare all supporting documentation as noted below

- Signed copies of parents' and player's 2012 year Federal Tax Return (all schedules)
- Player's or parents' W-2 Form(s)

NOTE 1: Although families are encouraged to use actual tax information when completing the Application, if necessary, estimated figures may be used. Financial aid awards based upon estimated financial information will be subject to revision upon receipt and review of actual financial information.

NOTE 2: Applicants whose parents are divorced or separated are required to submit financial information on both parents. The custodial parent (and his or her spouse) must complete the Application. The non-custodial parent (and his or her spouse) must complete the Non-Custodial Parent Statement. Both the custodial and non-custodial parents should submit signed copies of their 2012 year Federal Tax Returns and W-2 Forms.

NOTE 3: Applicants applying for a second or third year in the Scholarship Program are required to submit updated copies of federal tax returns and W-2 forms.

NOTE 4: Applicants must upload an electronic copy of the tax return forms. If an applicant does not have any tax return documents, he must upload a file that indicates no tax returns have been filed in either 2012 or 2011.

Eligibility
In order to be eligible for a Development Academy Scholarship, the player must meet the following criteria:

1. Be either a citizen or eligible non-citizen of the United States with a valid Social Security Number.

2. Be a full-time rostered Development Academy player.

3. Be part of a Club that is eligible for the Scholarship Program. Academy clubs who received a 'Probationary' grade on their last Academy evaluation are not eligible for Academy scholarships. For details on your club's eligibility, please contact your Head Coach.

4. Be recommended by his Club.

Continuing Eligibility for the Academy Season

1. Scholarship recipients must meet Development Academy minimum training standards in order to qualify for assistance. Recipients will also be required to submit training logs to Development Academy staff to monitor their development.

2. Players who apply for and receive a scholarship and later withdraw from the program during the year will not receive the entire amount of the scholarship awarded to him.

Format

- 16 Mandatory Activity Logs:
  - Broken into three sessions: Sept 1- Dec 31, Jan 1- Mar 31, Apr 1 – June 31
    - All logs are to be completed on time

Rewards Program

- Scholarship recipients who complete a high percentage of Activity Logs on time will receive a small award at the end of the season.

Frequently Asked Questions

- Applying for Financial Aid
  - What forms and documents do I need to submit to apply for the Development Academy Scholarship Program?
  - What is the application deadline for the Development Academy Scholarship Program?
  - Do I need to reapply for a Development Academy Scholarship each year?
  - What should we do if our federal tax returns will be delayed?
  - If my parents are separated or divorced, do they both need to submit financial information?

- Eligibility and Appealing
  - Am I eligible for a Development Academy Scholarship?
  - When can I expect to hear about my Development Academy Scholarship?
  - Will I receive the same Scholarship amount for each year I play?
  - What do I do if my family's circumstances change?
  - What are the requirements to maintaining my scholarship?
  - If I drop out of the Development Academy, will that affect my scholarship?

- General Questions
    - Where/how will you send communications?
    - What communication will my parents receive?

Detailed Answers:

Applying for Financial Aid:

What forms and documents do I need to submit to apply for the Development Academy Scholarship Program?

All players applying for the scholarship program are required to complete the official application form and submit signed copies of federal income tax returns (including schedules), W-2 wage statements and other documents may be listed in the application.

What is the application deadline for the Development Academy Scholarship Program?

Players must submit their application no later than Friday, August 16, 2013. Late and incomplete applications will not be accepted.

Do I need to reapply for a Development Academy Scholarship each year?

Yes. All players must apply for scholarships in each year of the program.

What should we do if our federal tax returns will be delayed?

Complete the official application by the deadline using estimated information. If applicable, upload a copy of the tax extension form (Form 4868) or upload a signed copy of the 2012 Federal Tax Return.

If my parents are separated or divorced, do they both need to submit financial information?

Yes. Our policy for determining scholarship need is based upon the principle that both parents have a responsibility to contribute to the cost of participation. We therefore need financial information from both the custodial and the non-custodial parent. The Non-Custodial Parent Statement is made available on our website.

Eligibility and Appealing:

Am I eligible for a Development Academy Scholarship?

In order to be eligible for a Development Academy Scholarship, the player must meet the following criteria:

1. Be either a citizen or eligible non-citizen of the United States with a valid Social Security Number.
2. Be a full-time rostered Development Academy player.
3. Be part of a Club that is eligible for the Scholarship Program.
4. Be recommended by his Club.

Scholarship recipients also must meet Development Academy minimum training standards in order to qualify for assistance.

When can I expect to hear about my Development Academy Scholarship?

You will be notified no later than Monday, September 2, 2013.

Will I receive the same Scholarship amount for each year I play?

The total dollar amount of the scholarship program is based on demonstrated financial need. Changes in family circumstances, such as an increase or decrease in parents' or player's income, assets, family size, number of family members attending college, may affect eligibility for scholarships. If the family's circumstances do not change significantly, the scholarship package should be comparable provided all conditions of the scholarship are met.

What do I do if my family's circumstances change?

If you have already applied for a Development Academy Scholarship and received a scholarship award, you should submit a written appeal which outlines the change to your family circumstances. Your written appeal should include documentation of the change (e.g., loss of employment, unusual unreimbursed medical expenses, change in marital status, etc.). Typically loss of employment, loss of overtime, loss of bonuses will be considered in the following season when the family can provide documentation of the change.

What are the requirements for maintaining my scholarship?

U.S. Soccer requires all recipients of Development Academy Scholarship funds to maintain a full-time roster slot with their Club, fulfill the minimum training requirements and, in general, perform up to the standards of the U.S. Soccer Development Academy Program when playing or training.

If I drop out of Development Academy, will that affect my scholarship?

Players who apply for and receive a Development Academy Scholarship and later withdraw from their Club during the year will lose the remaining value of their scholarship.

General Questions:

Where/how will you send communications?

E-mail communication is sent to the players, parents and Clubs given e-mail address.

What communication will my parents receive?

You will receive notification of the Scholarship award.

What communication will my Club receive?

Your Club Director, Coach and Administrator will receive notification of the Scholarship award.

Questions and More Information:

Should this overview not answer all of your questions, please use the contact information below:

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