

St. Louis Skating Club Assistance Awards

PURPOSE: St. Louis Skating Club's Assistance Program is designed to help qualified skaters meet skating-related expenses and defray costs incurred by coaches in pursuing advanced education in the sport of figure skating. Expenses may include such items as coaching fees, ice time, skating equipment, off-ice training, competition fees, team payments, costuming, attendance at seminars and clinics, etc. Applicants receive support based on financial need and dedication to the sport and to the St. Louis Skating Club.

CRITERIA: Applicant must meet the following criteria:

- Applicant must be a current member of U.S. Figure Skating and home Club member of the St. Louis Skating Club in good standing. If a coach, the applicant also must be a member of PSA.
- Applicant / family must demonstrate financial need. Family's income level must be no more than \$150k per year absent special circumstances (i.e., recent involuntary loss of employment.)
- Individual merits of the skater or coach (e.g., competition record, volunteer time, etc.).
- The purpose for which assistance will be used (priority may be given to expenses which provide a direct benefit to St. Louis Skating Club.)
- Any other special circumstances.

PROCESS:

To be considered for an assistance award, the attached application must be completed and submitted to Karen Kister at 14405 Rue De Gascony Ct, Ballwin, MO 63011 on or before October 6, 2009. Answer all questions. Do not leave spaces blank. If a question does not pertain to you, enter "n/a." Questions may be directed to Karen Kister at kkis1@aol.com.

Although not required, skaters are encouraged to submit a letter of recommendation from a coach attesting to the skater's dedication to the sport and generally describing the skater's lesson or training plan.

Financial information must accompany the application or the application will not be considered. The first page of the applicant and/or parent/guardian's 2008 tax return should be included. If there are special circumstances which apply, feel free to attach a separate sheet explaining them. All financial information submitted on or with the application will be kept strictly confidential by the committee charged with the responsibility for making awards.

For 2009-2010, the selection committee will consist of Karen Kister, Dennis Sveum and Susan Brownell. All applicants will be notified by mail of the decisions of the committee. The St. Louis Skating Club Board will be informed of the names of award recipients and the amount to be disbursed. To the extent possible, payment for expenses will be made directly by the Club to the provider of the services.

Assistance may be reported to the IRS and subject to federal and state income tax. Since no taxes will be withheld, recipients and/or their parent/guardian should be advised that they may have a tax liability at the time they file a return.

Race, color, sex, religion, sexual orientation and ethnic background are not considered in the selection of award recipients.

St. Louis Skating Club Assistance Application

Please type or print

General Information:

Applicant Name _____

Applicant Street Address _____

Applicant City, State, Zip _____

Applicant Phone Number _____

Applicant E-Mail Address _____

Applicant USFS Number _____

Applicant Date of Birth _____

Applicant PSA Number (if applicable) _____

Financial Need:

If applicant was required to file a 2008 income tax return, state the 2008 adjusted gross income as reported on the appropriate IRS form (IRS 1040, 1040A or 1040EZ). The first page of the 2008 IRS form must accompany the application. _____

If applicant was claimed as dependent on parent/guardian's 2008 income tax return, state the 2008 adjusted gross income as reported on the appropriate IRS form (IRS 1040, 1040A or 1040EZ). The first page of the 2008 IRS form must accompany the application. _____

Has the applicant received any other grants, scholarships or awards? _____
If so, please describe. _____

Are there any special circumstances the committee should consider in making its decision? _____ If so, please attach a separate sheet explaining the special circumstances.

Eligibility:

Is the applicant an eligible skater? _____

Is the applicant an approved coach? _____

Test Level: _____ MIF _____ Freestyle _____ Dance _____

