

COMMERCE PARKS AND RECREATION YOUTH SPORTS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Commerce Parks and Recreation Department may grant registration fee scholarships to children who, without this financial assistance, would not be able to participate in our program. The Commerce Parks and Recreation youth sports scholarship program focuses on providing opportunities for area youth to participate because of the physical, mental, and character-training benefits this program can provide. Scholarships are only available to cover the cost of registration and are not available to cover any additional costs (equipment, tournaments, etc.).

The Commerce Parks and Recreation Department will consider all complete applications received by the application deadline. The amount of the scholarship awarded (if any) may be a partial or full scholarship depending on the number of applicants and amount of scholarship funds available. Scholarships are awarded per registrant and are only valued for one sport at a time, therefore, individuals must reapply for each program they are requesting assistance.

The Commerce Parks and Recreation Department has very limited amount of funding available for scholarship athletes. No guarantee of assistance is implied in this application.

Requirements for eligibility:

- Athlete must be age 14 or younger and must reside within the City of Commerce.
- Commitment to attend a minimum of 80% of scheduled practices and games.
- Participation by an adult family member in at least 10 hours of voluntary service to Commerce Parks and Recreation during the sport season.
- Application must be completed by a parent, guardian, or head of household, with all requested information provided. Incomplete applications will not be considered. The application is on the following page.
- Families are required to participate in any fundraisers offered by the program.
- Scholarship requests must be submitted to City of Commerce Parks and Recreation Department no later than two (2) weeks prior to the regular registration deadline.

Application Process:

- Complete the Youth Athletic Scholarship Application Form, which must be signed by a parent/guardian.
- Commerce Parks and Recreation staff will contact you in writing one week prior to regular registration end date.
- Scholarship application approval will be based on verification of financial need and availability of scholarship funds.

Other Important Information:

- Scholarships will be provided on a first-come, funding and space available basis.
- Transportation to programs is not provided.
- Scholarships are limited to a total of \$200 per year per child.
- Commerce Parks and Recreation Department is able to provide a maximum of ten scholarships per season.
- If more than ten waiver requests are submitted, Commerce Parks and Recreation staff will select the ten scholarship recipients. Staff's decision should be considered final.

Consideration will be given to eligible youth, meeting one or more of the criteria below. The more information you can provide us the better able we will be to determine hardship. A written request is required.

- Receiving assistance from programs such as: Food Stamps, Medicaid, SSI, Foster Care, WIC, etc. (Must provide written documentation of participation in these programs)
- Written recommendation by school representatives, social workers, family, or friend of the family.
- Documentation demonstrating an immediate financial hardship.

The City of Commerce does not discriminate based on gender, race, class, economic status, ethnic background, sexual orientation, physical ability, or cultural and religious backgrounds.

Commerce Parks & Recreation Department
1119 Alamo Street
Commerce, Texas 75428
www.teamsideline.com/commercetx

COMMERCE PARKS AND RECREATION YOUTH SPORTS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Sport Requested: _____ Amount of Scholarship Requested: _____

Athlete Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: (home) - _____ (cell) - _____ (work) - _____

Email Address: _____

Date of Birth: Grade: _____ School: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Fill out this form and mail to Commerce Parks and Recreation Department at mailing address below or email to Lacey.Dingman@CommerceTx.org with one or more (not including required) of the following attachments:

- Written Request from Parent/Guardian (*Required)
- Documentation showing receipt of assistance such as food Stamps, Medicaid, SSI, Foster Care, WIC, etc
- Written recommendation by school representatives, social workers, family, or friend of the family
- Documentation demonstrating an immediate financial hardship

Confidentiality: The Commerce Parks and Recreation Department will use the information on the application only to decide if your child qualifies to receive a partial or full scholarship for eligible athletic activities. Confidentiality will be maintained always. Applicants are guaranteed that personal finances will not be discussed outside of the City of Commerce. Coaches, instructors or program leaders will not be informed of a participant's financial or scholarship status.

***Please note: Approval of a scholarship does not register the participant in the activity. You must still register the athlete in the sport desired.

For Commerce Parks and Recreation Department Use Only

Approved _____ Disapproved _____ Amount, if any, Awarded \$ _____ Volunteer Hours Served _____

Recreation Coordinator

Director of Parks and Recreation