



### Mission Statement

We want to make sure any athlete who wants to play a recreational team sport in our community, regardless of household financial situation, doesn't have to sit on the sideline and watch the other kids score!

### Requirements for Eligibility

To be eligible for a H.A.S. Foundation, Inc. scholarship, a youth athlete must:

- Be enrolled in school (K – 12<sup>th</sup> grade) and live or play in Cobb County, GA.
- Register for a recreational team sport (baseball, basketball, cheerleading, football, lacrosse, soccer, softball, volleyball) through a local recreational youth sports league that holds an open registration for anyone in the community. A team sport is defined as a sport in which a group of individuals on the same team work together to accomplish a goal. A recreational team sport is one in which there are no tryouts (evaluations designed to make even skilled teams are not considered tryouts).
- Demonstrate a clear financial need that would prevent the athlete from participating in the desired sport without help from H.A.S. Foundation, Inc.
- Have a parent or guardian fill out the online application at [www.HASFoundation.org](http://www.HASFoundation.org) and submit free/reduced lunch, SNAP or WIC verification or foster child documentation. If none of these applies, a reference form must be filled out by an independent third-party who can vouch for a sudden hardship.
- Submit the application during the applicable sports organization's registration period. We will not accept applications until the sports organization's registration is open. The H.A.S. Foundation, Inc. deadlines for 2021 applications are:
  - Spring Sports: January 11
  - Football & Cheerleading for Fall: June 28
  - Fall Sports (other than Football & Cheerleading): July 26
  - Winter Sports: September 27
  - Award notifications will be made on a rolling basis and as soon as possible following a complete application.

### Requirements for Participation

- Families must commit for their athlete to attend a minimum of 80% of scheduled practices and games.
- Families must pay, out of their own funds, a portion of the registration fee. For 2021, that amount is \$15 for registration fees up to \$100. For registration fees above \$100, that amount is \$25 or 10% of registration fees, whichever is greater. Note that some leagues require a higher contribution.

### Other Important Information

- H.A.S. Foundation, Inc. scholarships only cover registration fees for participant athletes. Other fees such as memberships, uniforms, or equipment fees or equipment deposits that are not included in the registration fee are the family's responsibility.
- There is currently no limit on number of times a family may apply; however,
  - First time applicants will be given priority.
  - Scholarships will be awarded based on demonstrated need and funding availability.
  - Scholarships will only be awarded for one sport per season per participant (i.e. a scholarship will not be given for baseball and soccer during the same season).
  - Scholarships can only be awarded once in a calendar year to the same athlete.
  - Applicant families who misuse funds or misrepresent their financial situation will be disqualified from any future scholarship money and may be required to reimburse the foundation.
  - Applicants who do not meet the 80% participation requirement as verified by H.A.S. Foundation, Inc. through league contacts will be disqualified from any future scholarship money.
- In cases where applications outnumber funds available, additional information may be requested to determine need.
- Award notification will be by email. Notification will be made as soon as is feasible.
- The number of scholarships awarded in one season to families at the same sports league may be limited.

H.A.S. Foundation, Inc. will use the information on the application only to determine scholarship eligibility. Confidentiality will be maintained at all times except to the extent necessary to pay registration fees on behalf of an athlete. Applicants should know that personal finances and family situations will not be discussed outside of eligibility meetings.

H.A.S. Foundation, Inc. does not discriminate based on gender, race, class, economic status, ethnic background, sexual orientation, physical ability, or cultural and religious backgrounds.