

Learn to Skate Financial Assistance Grant

The purpose of this grant is to provide the opportunity for children ages 3-18 in low-income families to be able to participate in the Wisconsin Rapids Figure Skating Club's (WRFSC) Learn to Skate (LTS) program. The grant funds will be focused on two areas: reduction of registration fees and providing rental figure skates of a quality that will provide a safe and successful skating experience.

The cost of LTS registration is currently \$55.00 per session. We would like to provide financial assistance to skaters by reducing the registration fee to \$25.00 per skater per session. This means the grant would pay \$30.00 of the registration fee for each skater for one class per session. The club hosts two sessions annually in which we provide financial assistance, each consisting of eight one-half hour lessons. The fall session runs from October until December. The winter session runs from January through March.

The following guidelines apply in order to qualify for assistance. We will use the same financial guidelines as schools use in determining the reduced lunch program.

Source: Wisconsin DPI 2013-2014

Number in Family	Gross Amount per Month/ Per Household
2	\$2,540
3	\$3,149
4	\$3,793
5	\$4,437
6	\$5,082
7	\$5,726

The parent or guardian would need to provide evidence they meet these guidelines by providing a paycheck stub or tax document. In addition, they would need to sign an application verifying the information they have provided regarding their financial status is accurate. The application will detail the amount of registration to be paid by the skater and the amount to be paid by the grant. Payment of the \$25.00 will be required at the time of registration. **WRFSC also requires that the grant recipient performs three volunteer and or maintenance hours per session.** A list of maintenance and volunteer activities will be provided at the beginning of the session.

In addition, the skater will be asked to agree to meet minimum attendance guidelines to be eligible to continue in the program for the next session. To be eligible for the next session, the skater must attend at least six of the eight lessons in the session. The skating instructors and the LTS Director will keep attendance data. These guidelines will be clearly explained in the application.

The skater can purchase skates on their own, through department stores or resale. However, because poor quality figure skates lacking ankle support can reduce the success of skating lessons, WRFSC may utilize the South Wood County Recreation Center (SWCRC) rental skate program to provide quality figure skates to the skater for LTS sessions. A punch card to rent SWCRC skates for the eight LTS sessions and two public open skate times will be issued to the skater, but held in the SWCRC rental skate program. This punch card will be valid from the start of the LTS session through a reasonable period, not to exceed four months. After the punch card expiration, WRFSC will use the grant funds to pay the SWCRC skate rental program for each skate rental punch used. The maximum cost of the punch card will be \$30 (\$3 x 10 rentals). After payment, the punch card will be voided and kept by WRFSC as a receipt for the grant program.

If the skating student completes the first session, meets the attendance guidelines, and still qualifies financially, he or she will be eligible to receive another grant for the next session. It is the responsibility of the skater to apply again for each session. The student will not be eligible for the next session if:

1. The family no longer meets the financial criteria.
2. The skaters' attendance during the first session does not meet the criteria.
3. The skater becomes a member of the Wisconsin Rapids Figure Skating Club

Every attempt will be made to offer registration to all eligible skaters. If students do not continue in the next session, we will offer those positions to new students who qualify. WRFSC reserves the right to limit the number of LTS grants provided.

Please let me know if you have questions on any of the items detailed in this grant. Thank you for the opportunity to offer this program to the children of the Wisconsin Rapids area.

Sincerely,
Kevin Whipple
WRFSC President

Application for Learn to Skate Financial Assistance Grant

Skater's Name: _____ Age: _____

Parent's Name: _____ Date: _____

Guidelines for qualification:

1. The family must meet financial criteria and provide adequate financial documentation for proof.
2. The skater must pay \$25.00 toward the skating registration of \$55.00 at time of registration.
3. The skater must be between 3-18 years of age.
4. The skater must agree to the attendance guidelines of attending six out of eight lessons per session.
5. Applicants must understand that a limited number of grants area available and grants will be awarded to skaters meeting qualifications in the order they are received up to the limit of grant money for the session.
6. If quality figure skates are needed, a punch card will be provided for SWCRC rental skates for the eight LTS lessons and two public open skate times.
7. Three hours of volunteer and or maintenance hours will be performed per session for each grant awarded.

Financial Status: Number in Family: _____ Monthly Income: _____

Attach one of the following for verification of monthly income:

Tax Form: _____ Payroll Document: _____ Other: _____

Figure Skate Rental Required? Yes / No

I agree to the guidelines as stated above. I have accurately stated my family's financial status to determine grant eligibility. I accept my responsibility to pay the \$25.00 fee for registration. I realize that figure skating as a sport may represent possible risk of injury and I agree not to hold the WRFSC liable for any injury or accident related to participation in the Learn to Skate program.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

To be used by WRFSC only:

Meets financial criteria: _____

Registration Fee of \$25 Received? Yes / No Cash _____ Check: _____ Registration Grant Valued at \$30

Punch Card Provided? Yes / No

Punch Card Grant Valued at maximum \$30: 10 Skate Rentals at \$3 each

WRFSC LTS Director Signature: _____ Date: _____

- 1) Attach Financial Verification to this form and give to Treasurer to transfer \$30 registration funds from grant to LTS. Failure to provide financial documentation with this form may eliminate your skater from gran eligibility.
- 2) Punch card payment will be requested at the end of the skate session.