



Financial Assistance Policy 2016-2017

The following document outlines the FC Boulder financial assistance policy for June 1, 2016 through May 31, 2017. Please read this document carefully as it contains important information about our financial aid program. If you are new to FC Boulder and joining after May 30, 2016, please contact sue.wristen@fcboulder.com to verify if funds remain available for application.

Financial Assistance Application Deadline Dates:

Program	Deadline Date	Notification Date
U.S. Soccer Development Academy	May 20, 2016	May 25, 2016
Elite Juniors	May 20, 2016	May 30, 2016
2006-1998/1999 Competitive Girls	May 20, 2016	May 30, 2016
2006-2003 Competitive Boys	May 20, 2016	May 30, 2016
2002-1998/1999 Competitive Boys	September 15, 2016	September 30, 2016
New Spring 2017 Registrations	September 15, 2016	September 30, 2016

There is no guarantee that you will receive assistance. Your application approval is subject to the following conditions.

Eligibility: Each year FC Boulder provides financial assistance to qualified families through the Financial Assistance Program. A family's gross annual income must be under \$55,000.00 to be eligible for the program. Existing accounts must be in good standing in order to be considered (payment plan in place and/or not past-due). Financial assistance is provided to applicants who meet eligibility requirements, which are established by the FC Boulder Board of Directors and reviewed annually. All applicants will be required to submit documentation of income and family size in order to be considered, \$150 application fee (per player) and provide a one-page narrative addressing the family's specific need. Applications will not be approved until all required documentation is received.

Financial Assistance Program Committee

- 1) The role of the committee is to establish the parameters for our scholarship program – the amount money devoted to scholarships, how funds are distributed after the review of applications and decisions about award amounts. The committee consists of the FC Boulder Executive Director, a member of the Board of Directors, a volunteer from the club membership and a CPA (or the FC Boulder bookkeeper in the event there is not a volunteer CPA available).
- 2) The committee manages the scholarship funds, reviews applications for assistance and awards assistance within the Board of Directors approved budget and guidelines.

Application Requirements/Procedure:

1. The financial assistance application must be filled out **completely** and **accurately**. It is your responsibility to keep FCB aware of any changes in your contact information. Not doing so may jeopardize eligibility for financial assistance.
2. An application fee of \$150 **MUST** be submitted with the completed application for **each** child in the family that intends to play soccer in the club. This fee will be applied toward each player's registration fee balance. If a player does not register and play for FC Boulder, the application fee will be refunded.
3. The applicant **MUST** provide documentation to verify income and family size. The following statements of income are acceptable in this order:

- a. Copy of most recent tax return – 2015 IRS 1040 tax return form (if you file taxes, this must be provided). If parents are legally separated or divorced, the tax return showing the child as a dependent is required.
 - b. Copies of two months' current pay stubs or earnings report which include year to date income and hours worked.
 - c. Proof of public assistance, if presently receiving.
 - d. Other documentation that is verifiable and deemed adequate in the sole discretion of Financial Assistance Program Committee.
4. Player/parent are required to submit a one-page narrative addressing the following: the family's statement of need, the player's personal goals as related (but not limited to) soccer involvement, a brief listing and explanation of the player's involvement in school and/or community organizations/activities and a summary of any other related activities and interests.
 5. FC Boulder player registration forms/online registration must be complete.
 6. All requests must be submitted by the appropriate deadline (listed above) to Financial Assistance Committee, FC Boulder, 2450 Central Avenue, Unit D-1, Boulder, CO 80301.
 7. The application will be reviewed and a determination will be made after the completed application and all necessary documentation is received. (Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.)
 8. Written notification through e-mail will be sent to you once a determination is made.

Financial Assistance Policies: FC Boulder may provide need-based financial assistance to qualified applicants based on the following criteria:

- 1) The applicant's (or guardians of the applicant's) gross annual income is under \$55,000.00.
- 2) Existing accounts must be in good standing in order to be considered (payment plan in place and paid as promised and/or no past due history). Eligibility for this program is subject to the commitment and respect of the values that FCB represents: fulfillment of your financial obligation as stated in your account, proper sportsmanship behavior and commitment to the sport of soccer, and a good academic performance and school achievements. FCB reserves the right to request this information).
- 3) The applicant qualifies for assistance based on income and size of family.
- 4) The approval for assistance will be for the FC Boulder fiscal year in which the applicant applies for aid. The FC Boulder fiscal year is June 1 through May 31.
- 5) The direct beneficiary of this program (the player and his/her parents) will be held responsible for submitting all required documentation for the approval of any assistance and is responsible for all interactions. We will not accept third party intervention, other than legal guardians, to pursue assistance.
- 6) The applicant will be required to complete a new application form for each subsequent fiscal year he/she seeks financial assistance.
- 7) The applicant must fill out the application form completely and accurately, provide documentation to verify income and public assistance (if presently receiving) and a one-page narrative addressing statement of need, personal goals, involvement of player and parent(s) in student and community organizations and submit the \$150 application fee for **each** child in the family that intends to play soccer in the club.
- 8) The total annual amount of financial assistance awarded from the FC Boulder Financial Assistance Program will not exceed the budget amount as approved by the FC Boulder Board of Directors.
- 9) There is no guarantee that an applicant will receive financial assistance.
- 10) Application forms will only be considered when received before the respective financial assistance deadlines (listed above). Applications received after deadline may not be considered.
- 11) Financial assistance for FC Boulder camps and clinics is not available.
- 12) Financial assistance is available for FC Boulder registration fees, initial required uniform package (first year Competitive or Elite Juniors programs). Financial assistance is not available for meals, travel, hotel, coaches' per diem, team social events, team awards, or coaches' gifts. A list of fundraising activities that can be completed individually will be suggested by the club toward the goal of financing these extra experiences.
- 13) Player and parent agree to attend and be on time for all practices and games and comply with all rules set by team staff and FC Boulder. Failure to do so may result in retraction of financial assistance and removal from the team.
- 14) If not paid in full, a payment plan must remain up-to-date to maintain player's eligibility to participate.
- 15) Late applicants are subject to available funds based on date of application.
- 16) If FCB awards assistance as well as the opportunity to be on a FCB team, but the applicant opts out, this application becomes null and the applicant waives the right to the assistance. We consider it a privilege to be part of FC Boulder, so please take advantage of the opportunities this organization offers.
- 17) No player with an outstanding balance will be allowed to travel to college showcases and out of state tournaments until his/her past due balance is brought current.
- 18) College showcases: Any player receiving assistance through this program and wishes to be scouted to a college program must maintain a 3.2 GPA. If not, the applicant may be denied the opportunity to attend the showcase.

19) All financial assistance decisions are final. There are no appeals.

Sliding Fee Scale: A sliding fee scale, which is reviewed annually by the FC Boulder Board of Directors, outlines award amounts and is designed to provide the maximum assistance to families that have the greatest need. In extraordinary circumstances, the Financial Assistance Program Committee can make exceptions to the sliding scale.

Uniform Assistance: There is no assurance that an applicant will receive assistance to purchase a uniform, however if assistance is awarded, it will be under the following terms: 50% or greater of aid award for registration equals 50% of aid on uniform purchases. If an applicant qualifies for less than 50% assistance for registration, the applicant will receive 25% aid for uniform purchases (2 game jerseys, 2 game shorts, 2 game socks, 2 training jerseys and long-sleeve jersey (Tier 1 players only)). Any additional uniform/product purchases are not awarded through financial assistance. If a player needs to replace any original, required uniform item(s), no financial assistance will be awarded. Replacement item(s) are available at a cost set by Eurosport (soccer.com) and remain the full financial responsibility of the player and family.

Confidentiality: All information provided to FC Boulder in conjunction with an application for assistance is confidential. The FC Boulder bookkeeper will process financial assistance awards. All applications and supporting documents will be filed and destroyed after three years (per IRS guidelines).