



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

The YMCA of Tuscaloosa– Financial Assistance

The YMCA of Tuscaloosa offers quality, affordable programs and services designed to benefit people of all incomes and backgrounds. Thanks to many generous community supporters, our Annual Campaign and the United Way, the YMCA is accessible to everyone in the community through financial assistance. All records are kept confidential. Assistance is available for YMCA programs and or membership. A sliding scale is used to determine how much assistance is awarded.

Eligibility:

1. Membership and program assistance is evaluated on an individual basis depending upon demonstrated financial need. The family income guidelines developed by the Tuscaloosa YMCA Family Center will determine initial eligibility. Subjective factors such as recent loss of employment, healthcare issues or other extenuating circumstances are also considered with substantiating documentation. If desired, a meeting can be scheduled with a member service representative. All discussions and paperwork are kept confidential.
2. In order to be considered eligible for financial assistance, each applicant must complete the attached assistance form and submit proper documentation. Applications which are not complete will delay the process until all necessary paperwork is submitted. Total supporting income and support must be provided. Verification of Household Income Adults in the Household, whether they choose to be on the membership or not. Falsification or non-disclosure of any item will result in denial of assistance or immediate termination of already awarded assistance.
3. The support for financial assistance comes from contributions through our Annual Campaign. The awards far surpass the funds raised and in an effort to support as many requests as possible, each recipient is asked to pay some portion of the membership or program/activity fees. These payments are in accordance with our guidelines.
4. Eligibility for financial assistance must be renewed on a semi-annual basis with new application and supporting documentation. Should your financial situation change during the course of your assistance, one may request a review by writing a letter explaining the situation and providing documentation to verify the change in income or circumstances.

Note to Applicants:

1. **Contact the YMCA of Tuscaloosa**—if you have questions or need clarification.
2. **Total household income** is verified annually by current income tax returns. If income tax was not file for the past year, a “1722” letter verifying “Non-Verification of Filing Status” must be included. If unemployed but not yet receiving payments, include a letter from the state regarding the status of the claim. Non-US citizens must provide a copy of their Visa.
 - **Processing Period:** There is a maximum of a 14 day processing period for completed applications, and at high volume times additional days may be needed. Please hold your phone inquiries about status until the 14 days have passed. For those turning in additional information the 14 days starts when all necessary documents are received. Should there be circumstances which cannot be made clear with the submitted paperwork a personal interview can be arranged with your member service representative. Please contact the Tuscaloosa YMCA Family Center if you have concerns regarding this process. After an offer of assistance is made, the Member will have 30 days to reply. To continue financial assistance, members will need to reapply every 6 months.
3. **Please submit copies** and keep your originals. We can make copies if necessary.
4. **Method of Payment:** Once all the data is compiled you will receive a phone call or award letter in the mail which will have an expiration date. Please come in and set up your membership or program as soon as possible. Bring in your photo ID, payment for the first month and billing method. The best source is your personal checking or savings account. The options for payment are: monthly draft or payment in full for the year.

Helpful Numbers:

Internal Revenue Service (IRS) 800-829-3676 (Letter of Non-Verification Filing) 800-829-1040

Alabama

DHR 334-242-1310

Social Security Administration 1-800-772-1213

Unemployment Office 866-234-5382

The following is required

Item	Description	Source
W-2's	Copies of 2 months most recent pay stubs for all adults. Only if there is a significant change in income & to verify individual income for those filing jointly	current employer
Letter of Non-filing	If taxes were not filed	IRS website or office
Change in income from last year		current employer
Copies of all subsidy letters received for anyone in the house	Social Security or SSI Disability	Social Security Administration
	Division of Family Services, Food Stamps, Foster Care support, Section 8 or any housing support, Temporary assistance	Division of Family Services
	Utility assistance	Housing Authority
	Unemployment disbursements	Unemployment web site
	Maintenance support	Divorce Decree
	Any other support to anyone in the house	Consult their caseworker
Other Income	Family support	Letter from their family with
	Portfolio Statement with disbursements	Financial Advisor or investor
	Pensions	Fund manager
	School Grants	School Registrar
	Inheritance	Estate disbursing agent
Still married, not living together	Copy of separation agreement, or if none both incomes need to be verified by taxes & subsidies and impact your financial situation, usually Medical	IRS, Attorney
Proof of dependency	Tax return should have dependents listed, if not on return, then a birth certificate and a letter from the school with the parents name, child's name. Divorce Decree with dependents names and custodial & tax arrangement	IRS, Attorney



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Last Name, First Initial _____ Member ID _____

How to apply for Financial Assistance:

- Turn in application, financial verification and dependent verification to the YMCA Welcome Center.
- Your application **will not** be accepted unless required verification is submitted in its entirety.
- Applicants will be notified of the decision within 14 business days of applying.
- Approved applications will be kept on file for 30 days. If unclaimed, please re-apply with most up to date information.
- You may renew your membership annually by following the same guidelines and submitting a letter stating how this program has affected you and or your family.
- The Y should be notified if there is a change in income/household status. This may result in a fee adjustment.
- If you have extenuating circumstances that you wish to explain please attach a letter.

Documents needed	Member Initials	Staff Initials upon receipt
Completed Membership/Program Application in its entirety; signed and dated		
A copy of the most recent W2 and the most recent federal income tax return (1040) for the household		
Documentation of all Household Income: monthly income, food stamps, social security, alimony, child support, VISA information etc.		
If applicant is unemployed: Official Unemployment Letter with eligible benefits or Denial Letter		
Documentation of dependents if they are not listed on tax return (under the age of 18) i.e. birth certificate or medical card		
Copies of the last two paycheck stubs from all employers of household members (signed letters from employers if any of the above is not available)		
Proof of all public assistance for household members		
Membership dues may be paid: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● On a Bank Draft through checking or savings account ● Credit or Debit Card 		

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

*Income	*Expenses
\$ _____ Monthly Gross Paycheck	\$ _____ Monthly Mortgage/ Rent
\$ _____ 2 nd Adult's Monthly Gross Paycheck	\$ _____ Utilities & Food
\$ _____ Alimony/ Child Support	\$ _____ Credit Cards
\$ _____ Social Security	\$ _____ Child Care
\$ _____ Unemployment	\$ _____ Medical
\$ _____ Pensions & Annuities	\$ _____ Car/ Student Loans
\$ _____ Food Stamps or Other Income	\$ _____ Other Expenses
\$ _____ Total Monthly Income	\$ _____ Total Monthly Expenses

How much can you afford to pay? For membership per month \$ _____ per program \$ _____

*We want to hear your story! Tell us why you and your family are applying for financial assistance with the YMCA of Tuscaloosa. We want to know what circumstances sent you our way so that we can continue to provide assistance to thousands of families in our area, just like yours. Thank you in advance for choosing the YMCA of Tuscaloosa

- No, I am not interested in telling my story at this time
- Yes, tell my story but please do NOT use my last name in publications
- Yes, I am interested in speaking at an Annual Campaign event to help raise funds
- Yes, I am interested in taking pictures & video to tell my story in YMCA publications

By signing below, I am requesting assistance and certify that all information provided is correct.

Signature when application submitted in full: _____ Date _____

Staff Signature when application is received in full: _____ Date _____