



Hardship Assistance Policy

ELM Ball Association is committed to providing a program that allows every child to play baseball. We aim to offer an affordable program for our players and families while maintaining the financial health and sustainability of the association.

A limited amount of financial assistance is available based on ELM's annual budget, community sponsorships received, and the overall number of registrations. This assistance could be in the form of a reduced or eliminated registration fee, or a payment plan, dependent on the situation.

Eligibility

Because funds are limited, scholarship applicants must show a real financial need. Applicants may be asked to provide additional information to prove the player is eligible for financial assistance. **Please do not ask for assistance if you have the ability to pay.**

Each year, applicants must fill out the ELM Hardship Assistance Request form along with the registration form before registrations end. This should be mailed to ELM Ball Association, P.O. Box 162, East Liberty, OH 43319 or given to a current ELM board member.

The board will confidentially review all applications received and decide whether or not to provide assistance on each application on a case-by-case basis. If more information is needed, they will contact the applicant. In some situations, the board may choose to provide a lesser amount of assistance than was requested. All decisions of the board are final.

Expectations

If the request is approved, for whatever amount, the following information applies:

The financial assistance is for one season only. Each year will be decided on a case-by-case basis.

Families applying for assistance acknowledge that ELM is run solely by volunteers, and there is an expectation that parents will give back to ELM any way they can. This means that ELM expects the parents or guardians to volunteer as they are able. Suggested ways that families could help include, but are not limited to, extra concession stand shifts, field day work, picking up trash in the stands after a game, etc. This work should be in **addition** to the normal required team hours. (For example, if you normally would need to work one shift in the concession stand as part of the team, that one shift should not count toward extra volunteering.)

Most of all, we expect your player to have fun!



Hardship Assistance Request Form

Name of player(s) and leagues: _____

Name of parent(s)/guardian(s): _____

Phone number: () _____ - _____

Total amount of registration: \$ _____

How much can you afford to pay? \$ _____

Can you make monthly payments from February through June? YES / NO

 If Yes, how much per month? _____

Have you received hardship assistance from ELM in the past? YES / NO

Financial Hardship Explanation: (Why do you need the assistance?)

In what ways do you see your family being able to help ELM in exchange for this assistance?

Board decision: Approved for \$ _____ Declined Date _____