

# Youth Empowerment Scholarship (YES) Fund F.A.Q.



## Who qualifies for YES and how much does YES Funding cover?

1. Applicants with eligible dependents 18 years and younger that live in Akron.
2. Applicants will need to provide a copy of **ONE** of the following items to prove eligibility along with their completed YES application.
  - A copy of current Medicaid/CareSource//Molina/Buckeye Health Card
  - Proof of current SNAP Benefits
  - Proof of current Section 8 Housing

Funds are determined on a yearly basis. Currently the amount covered will be 50% of the regular price on all youth programming while funds are available. You may apply each year for the YES funds.

## What happens once I have turned in my application?

We will do our best to respond to all YES applications within 48 hours. Once you have completed the application with all proper documentation and you have been approved you will be enrolled into a “YES Membership” on RecDesk and notified via email. Once enrolled in the YES Membership you will then be able to select YES pricing when registering for Youth Programming in 2024 where YES pricing is offered. ***(Please note that being enrolled into the YES Membership does not mean you are enrolled into programming. You must still register for programs on RecDesk.)***

## What is RecDesk?

RecDesk is the registration software that Akron Recreation uses to register for programs. You must have a RecDesk account for us to enroll you into the YES Membership. You will use this account for all registration in Akron Recreation programs. To create an account please follow the link below. <https://akron.recdesk.com/Community/Member/Signup>

1. First create your account as the Head of Household (***parent/legal guardian***).
2. Add each child as a household member under your account (***they should not have their own account***).

## What is the difference between YES Funding and AMHA Funding?

AMHA also supports Akron Recreation with TPF Funds (***Tenant Participation Funds***). These funds are allocated for families who live in Public Housing (***voucher programs like section 8 do not qualify***), and they cover approximately 75% to 90% of the program cost. If qualified, you will be enrolled into an AMHA Membership in RecDesk which will enable you to select AMHA pricing at registration. You will need to be approved on a program-by-program basis for AMHA funding whereas you will be qualified for YES funding once for all youth programming that year.

## How do I apply for AMHA funding?

If you believe you qualify for AMHA funding, we will need to verify with your name, child/children’s name(s) and address as it appears on your Public Housing lease. You can email this information to Jeff Mourton at [Jmourton@akronohio.gov](mailto:Jmourton@akronohio.gov).

## Can I use YES Funding and AMHA Funding?

NO. While you might qualify for both types of funding you will only be able to use one pricing at registration. AMHA funding, when qualified, covers more than YES funding.

For more information or to download an application visit

[https://www.akronohio.gov/departments/recreation\\_and\\_parks/yes\\_fund.php](https://www.akronohio.gov/departments/recreation_and_parks/yes_fund.php) or contact Robert Dowdell at [RDowdell@akronohio.gov](mailto:RDowdell@akronohio.gov) or 330-375-2832.