

Arrowbear Music Associates
Scholarship Application Process
Frequently Asked Questions

Application Process

When are the applications available?

The applications are available on our website beginning February 1 and are due by early April.

I'd like to attend a music camp in another country. Can I apply for a scholarship from you?

We only grant scholarships to accredited music camps in the United States.

Can I send the application materials to you by email?

All written application materials (application, letter from the applicant, teacher recommendation letter, and self-addressed stamped envelope) must be sent through the U.S. mail. See the next section below on the choices for sending the audition files to us.

New in 2024 – The scale and solo MP3 files for instrumental applicants and the two MP3 solo files for choral applicants can be sent to us on a flash drive, by email, or placed in Dropbox and the link sent to us by email. We have a specific email address listed in the directions for this purpose. If you choose to send the MP3 files on a flash drive, the flash drive must be included along with the paper application materials through the U.S. mail.

Can I send in an MP4 video file or a DVD of me playing a solo and scale?

No. We only accept audio recordings in MP3 format.

Can I put down more than one session or camp on my application?

You need to select one camp and one session only.

Can I send in more than one application to get a scholarship to more than one session?

No. Each individual applicant is limited to one scholarship per year. If you send in more than one application or list more than one session on the application, we'll ask you to choose which one you want us to consider. The other application or second session will be set aside and not processed.

I play more than one instrument. What do I do?

That's great you play multiple instruments, but you need to select one instrument to feature in your application materials. Applicants who include more than instrument on their audition tape often are stronger on one instrument than the other. This makes it difficult for us to evaluate your audition when there is a disparity in ability between the two instruments. Please pick your stronger audition tape.

My child doesn't know much about our family finances. Does he/she really need to write a letter explaining why our family needs a scholarship?

Yes, ALL applicants must write their own letter to explain why they need a scholarship. It's perfectly fine for a parent or guardian to include their own letter that may have more details.

Do I need to send other documentation like my tax return to prove my financial situation?

No, please don't send additional documents. We accept that the information you provide on the application is accurate and truthful.

I'm not comfortable with putting my annual gross income on the application. Is that information necessary?

Yes, it is necessary. We need that information to determine the amount of scholarship assistance your family needs. If the line is left blank, the application will be set aside and not considered.

What if I have a problem and can't submit the application materials by the deadline?

Please call us BEFORE the application deadline to let us know what problem you're having. We will try to work with you. Once the application deadline is passed, we do NOT accept late applications for any reason. Call 562-634-5158 and ask for Laura Kusaba.

What if I know my child can't attend the full session due to summer school, a family vacation, summer marching band practice, school starting early, etc. Can we still apply for a scholarship?

No, please do NOT apply for a scholarship if you know in advance that your child can't attend the full session. It is clear in the directions that by accepting a scholarship, you are committing to attend the full session unless there is an unexpected emergency. Our organization has to pay the full scholarship amount to the camp no matter the reason your child arrives late to their session or leaves early.

The camp is offering a discount if I prepay by a certain date. Should I go ahead and register my child?

Absolutely. Go ahead and follow the camp's instructions in order to receive a discount. If your child receives a scholarship from us or any other organization after you've prepaid, the camp will issue you a refund of the difference. The camp may wait until your child arrives for the session before issuing the refund. Please be sure to read the next question and answer.

What do you mean by "out-of-pocket" cost on the application?

Some camps offer discounts if you register for a session by a certain date. Other camps offer discounts if a child is attending more than one session or if multiple siblings are attending sessions. Some families receive scholarships from other organizations besides ours.

The amount that goes on the "cost" line should be what you are really paying for the session after reductions for discounts and/or other scholarships you've received. What are you actually paying for the session if our organization isn't able to help you with a scholarship? This helps us determine how much financial assistance you need.

Continued on next page.

My child received a scholarship – FAQs

Can my child send the thank you letter later on after his/her session?

The requested thank you letter needs to be included along with the Verification Form **before** the given deadline. Some recipients like to write an additional note about their camp experience after their session. We love receiving them and are happy to send them on to the specific donor if needed.

Do I need to purchase a thank you card for the donor?

That isn't necessary unless you want to. Some recipients purchase cards, others include drawings or photos of themselves, but any paper is acceptable for the thank you letter.

Do I need to include an envelope or stamp for the thank you letter to be sent to the donor?

No. We include the thank you letter along with the information we send to the donor. You don't need to worry about a stamp. It's kind of you to think of it though.

I've already prepaid for my child's session on my credit card. Can you just give me the scholarship check?

Unfortunately, we can't. The scholarship check goes directly to the music camp. Please contact the music camp to find out how they will work with you to refund any money you prepaid. Most camps will want to wait until your child begins the session before making any refund.

Something unexpected has happened and my child can't accept the scholarship now. Can we transfer the scholarship to a sibling or friend who would like to attend a summer music camp?

That is not possible. The scholarship can only be used by the applicant who it was awarded to. It cannot be transferred to another person, session, or music camp.

My child needs to leave camp early to go to an audition, to band camp, to summer school, to attend a family event or vacation, etc. Is this a problem?

Except for an unforeseen emergency, scholarship recipients are expected to arrive on time to begin their session and to stay until the session concludes. Arriving days late or leaving days before the session ends is not acceptable. Please be sure of your summer plans before you apply for a scholarship.