



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT™
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

LENDING A HELPFUL HAND

Open Doors Scholarship Program

What is the Open Doors Scholarship Program?

The Y's mission is to put Christian Principles into practice through programs that build a healthy spirit, mind, and body for all. Our Open Doors Scholarship Program is central to our mission. When someone loses a job, when medical bills become overwhelming, or when other challenging situations occur, people need the support of the Y. Because we are community-based and believe everyone should have the opportunity to benefit from our programs and services, we offer the Open Doors Scholarship Program. This program offers a fee scale to fit the financial situation of individuals and families in our community. We want ALL people to be involved with the programs and services of the Y that nurture spirit, mind, and body - especially during difficult times when they are needed most.

Each year the Y provides over \$100,000 in financial assistance.

Who does the Open Doors Scholarship Program serve?

Our Open Doors Scholarship Program helps anyone in the community who desires to be part of our Y family. We frequently assist:

- Youth referred by schools, churches, and organizations
- Adults and families who are temporarily out of work
- Adults on fixed incomes
- Single parent families
- Grandparents raising grandchildren

What Y programs qualify for assistance?

- Individual and family memberships
- **Afterschool Care ***
- **Summer Camps ***
- Swimming Lessons
- Lil' Athletes Sport Programs

* Supported through United Way Allocation Funds

How much assistance will be provided?

The level of assistance depends on the extent of the need and the cost of the program. No one is turned away from the Y because of the inability to pay.



STANLY COUNTY FAMILY YMCA
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Agency of the
United Way of
Stanly County



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How do I get assistance?

1. Contact the Y and request an Open Doors Scholarship Application
2. Provide information about current income and expenses so the amount of assistance can be determined.
3. Provide verification of current income by providing the following:
 - A copy of your most recent tax return
 - A copy of last two pay stubs (or bank statement showing automatic deposit amounts) or a copy of Social Security/Disability checks
 - Documentation of any federal assistance like food stamps, rent subsidy, unemployment, or disability
 - Student loan information (if applicable)

Note: If you do not have a copy of your tax return, you can obtain one by calling the Internal Revenue Service at 1-800-829-1040. If you did not file taxes last year, or you don't have other documentation required, please submit a letter explaining your personal financial situation.

4. Please allow 10 days to process your application. After this period, a Y representative will call you with approval or to request further information.

How long will assistance continue?

Assistance is provided for a specific time period and will be reviewed for eligibility every year. If help is still needed when assistance is reviewed, you will be asked to re-apply. If your circumstances change before the time period is up, please let us know so we may serve others.

Why does the Y request financial information?

With information on income and family size, we can award assistance in a fair and consistent manner. We use these procedures to ensure everyone receives equal consideration.

Who will see the financial information?

Personal financial information is handled in a confidential manner and will be seen and reviewed only by the Y's professional staff. No information is shared with any other agency or organization.

Who provides funding for the Open Doors Scholarship Program?

The Open Doors Scholarship Program is made possible through the generous support of donors to the Strong Communities Campaign. All money raised through this Annual Giving Campaign goes directly to provide assistance through our Open Doors Scholarship Program. In addition, the Y receives a variety of grants throughout the year in support of the Open Doors Scholarship Program. Annual grants have been received in support of childcare scholarships from the First Baptist of Albemarle Endowment Fund, JCPenney Afterschool Foundation, Partners in Out of School Play, Speedway Children's Charities, Stanly County Community Foundation, Wachovia Foundation, and the United Way of Stanly County.