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2017 YMCA of the USA National Gymnastics Championship Matching Funds Travel Assistance Guidelines

YMCA of the USA (Y-USA) and the Competitive Gymnastics Advisory Committee recognizes the commitment a gymnast makes to training and competing in gymnastic competitions. We realize the financial strain these competitions can have on families and hope to alleviate some of the financial pressures associated with participation by making ***matching*** financial assistance available to YMCA's to help support an athlete with traveling to National Competitions (**transportation and housing costs only**).

Financial assistance will be in the form of matching funds, and **shall not exceed \$600.00 per applicant**. The matching funds will be distributed to the athlete's local YMCA by YMCA of the USA; approximately 30 days after the completion of the national competition.

Eligibility requirements:

Local YMCA's and coaches must submit the following documents on behalf of the athlete:

1. Demonstration of proof the swimmer has qualified for YMCA National Competition.
2. A letter signed by the local YMCA Executive Director and Head Coach supporting and recommending the athlete's participation
 - A statement indicating why a request for financial assistance is needed.
 - The applicant's YMCA **must** specify the level of financial commitment they are willing to make towards travel assistance for the gymnast (**Y-USA will match those funds, not to exceed \$600 per applicant**).
 - A statement of support and/or recommendation for the gymnast.

The local YMCA must be in compliance with "The Rules that Govern YMCA Competitive Sports" and in good standing with YMCA of the USA.

Financial Eligibility:

Gymnasts shall meet the current financial assistance guidelines established by their local YMCA. The applicant's YMCA and coaches may submit recommendations for hardship exceptions.

Application Procedure:

The application must be filled out completely with **all** the necessary documents attached before it can be considered. The committee will only consider the requested submission materials. Applicants will be notified by mail and/or e-mail regarding the status of their application. Once a final determination has been made applicants will be notified if their request was approved or denied.



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Application:

You may access the application at via the internet at <http://www.ymcagymnationals.org>

Submission Materials:

- Application
- Qualification verification
- Recommendation letter signed by head coach and Executive Director
 - to include the local YMCA's financial commitment
 - to include statement as to why the financial request is being made
- A copy of the applicants YMCA's Financial Assistance Policy

Submission materials must be submitted:

- Electronically: robin.lee@ymca.net
- Hard copy: **YMCA of the USA**
Robin Lee
101 N. Wacker Drive
Chicago, IL 60606

Deadline and Notification Dates

Submission deadline of National Gymnastics Championships is **April 21, 2017 (received and/or postmarked)**. Notifications of approval or denial of financial assistance awards will go out on **May 5, 2017**.

Acknowledgment

Please note, Y-USA encourages acknowledgement of the receipt of funds to be reported to the National Travel Assistance Committee by the participant, their parents or guardian or YMCA Branch.

*** The Matching Fund Allocation will be sent directly to the applying YMCA for Distribution**



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**2017 YMCA of the USA National Gymnastics Championships
Travel Assistance Matching Funds Application**

Date of Application: _____

Name of athlete: _____

Parent name _____ Parent email: _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

YMCA Affiliation _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Name of Head Coach _____ Coach email: _____

No. of years participating in YMCA Gymnastics _____

No. of years competing in National YMCA Gymnastics _____

Name of School _____

Date of Graduation _____

Amount of Matching Fund Request _____

Amount of the Applying YMCA Match _____