



Learn Scuba Chicago Military Scuba Program Scholarship Application

Learn Scuba Chicago (LSC) had its start in 2008 and opened its physical store front in 2013. On July 1, 2014 we applied to become a not for profit company. In July of 2015, we obtained our 501(c)3 Public Charity number, which we operate under today with a staff of over 30 strong!

LSC believes in giving back to our community in many ways. One of the ways we do this is through our Military Program. The LSC Military Scuba Program grants and scholarships to Military Members/Veterans and families who, without this financial assistance, would not be able to participate in scuba diving. This program gives our members the ability to participate in an activity that allows a sense of community, belonging and camaraderie again.

Scholarship applications are accepted throughout the year. The applications are reviewed by the Scholarship & Special Programs Committee and then passed along for final review, approval and granting of funds by the LSC Board of Directors. Scholarships may be awarded based on merit to cover the costs of the diving certifications only. This scholarship does not cover the costs of any gear required to participate in the program. A Grant Request for any required gear must be submitted under separate cover letter. The Grant Request will be given the same consideration and review by the committees listed above. The amount of the Scholarship (if any) may cover some or all of the costs, depending on the number of applicants and the amount of funding accessible. As a non-profit organization, LSC has limited funding available throughout the year. These funds are obtained throughout the year by events held by the Fundraising Committee. There is no guarantee that an applicant will receive such funds at the time of their request. Individuals who are not awarded a Scholarship or Grant at the time of their first submission may reapply 6 months after the date of their last submission for the Scholarship or Grant once again. All participants will be notified in writing within the following quarter of their application as to whether or not they will be awarded any funds.

Requirements for Eligibility:

- Must be a current Military Member or Veteran according to Federal Standards
- If Veteran, must provide DD214 form; if current Military Member must show current ID
- Must fill out a required application (form attached)*
- Must have a completed and updated Medical and Liability Waiver form on file**

Once Approved:

- Must provide LSC with voluntary program assistance throughout the season which includes (certifications will not be provided until all requirements have been met):
- Must be able to provide at least one "Reach-Out-Reference" lead for additional recruitment possibilities (reach out references may consist of others who would be interested in joining the dive community as a participant -i.e. a friend, family member- or as a Partner – i.e. a University, a Program Director).
- Must assist on deck with at least one Military/Disability Discover Diver Day
- Must assist with at least packing for one pool and unpacking for one pool
- Must assist with at least packing for one quarry day

*If you feel you need additional room for your answers, please attach another sheet of paper for your answer

**All Applicants must have a physician clearance in order to apply for this scholarship

Learn Scuba Chicago does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, gender, gender expression, age, national origin, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations.



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Applicant Name: _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Military Branch: _____

Honorable Discharge? Y/N Date of Discharge? _____ Paperwork attached? Y/N _____

Any medical issues? Y/N ___ If yes, please explain: _____

LSC works with HSA individuals and only those with a history of seizures will not qualify for your safety and ours

Reason for Discharge: _____

1. Are you currently serving? If so, what is your unit and where are they located? _____

2. If no longer serving, what branch of the Armed Forces did you serve in and for how many years? _____

3. What did you do (MOS, AOC – but in layman’s terms for all our non-military friends)? What was the highest rank you received? _____

4. What do you miss most about the military, if separated? _____

5. The scuba community has a great sense of camaraderie – like the military. Describe an experience from your military career where you felt enriched by and appreciative of the people around you? _____

6. Do you have any previous water-related training (Life Guarding, Swim Lessons)? _____



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7. Why are you interested in scuba diving? _____

8. What are the ways in which you feel scuba could have a positive influence on your life?

9. Are you involved in any community-related groups or activities? Have you ever participated in any type of conservation efforts? If so, please explain.

10. LSC has many different committees that our Staff Members participate in to make LSC who we are. Some of your volunteer hours may be used in assisting on projects that our committees have going on. Please check any of the committees you may be interested in knowing more about:

<input type="checkbox"/> Programming	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Programs**	<input type="checkbox"/> Gear Maintenance
<input type="checkbox"/> Travel	<input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising	<input type="checkbox"/> Marketing & Social Media
<input type="checkbox"/> Grants	<input type="checkbox"/> Information & Technology	<input type="checkbox"/> Shop Work

***Special committees includes: Youth, HSA and Military programs*

11. Why do you feel you're an ideal candidate for this scholarship?

12. Please mark which level of certification you are seeking a scholarship for:

- 60ft (Open Water) Military Scuba Camp Other

13. Are you wishing to obtain a full or partial scholarship? If partial, how much funding are you requesting?



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

I, _____, understand that I am in compliance with, and must meet, the above requirements in order to be eligible to apply for this Scholarship. I also understand that by applying for this Scholarship, it does not automatically guarantee awarded funds. I understand that I may reapply for the scholarship six months after the date of this application, if necessary. I hereby certify that I have met the above requirements and fulfill my volunteer obligations as outline above and in discussions with LSC as required in order for exchange of my certification being processed by Learn Scuba Chicago. I acknowledge that all materials for the certification must be picked up within 30 days from the Awarded date and the program must be started within 90 days thereafter. If I fail to pick up the materials and start the program within this timeframe, Learn Scuba Chicago may revoke the Scholarship and Award it to another applicant.

Applicant Name (Printed): _____

Applicant Signature: _____

Date: _____

*****For Learn Scuba Chicago Use Only*****

Received by LSC on: _____

The above application has been reviewed by:

___ Scholarship & Special Programs Committee - Date Reviewed: _____

This application has been approved ___ or denied ___

If denied, reason: _____

___ Learn Scuba Chicago Board of Directors - Date Reviewed: _____

This application has been approved ___ or denied ___

If denied, reason: _____

Amount Awarded: \$ _____

Signed by Name/Title: _____

Scholarship requirements completed? _____ (must be YES before certification is provided)