



OREGON GRAND PRIX YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

500 West C St, Silverton, OR 97381 503-509-1174

Website: oregongrandprix.com

Email: oregongrandprix@gmail.com

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ABOUT THE GRAND PRIX SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Grand Prix Scholarship program was started in Texas in 1984 by a group of bowling proprietors who developed a way for youth bowlers to earn scholarship funds by rewards based on participation in bowling. We provide funding for youth that might not otherwise have an opportunity to obtain such scholarships. Most scholarships are awarded on academic achievement and/or athletic skill. Funding is provided to approved accredited colleges, universities, and trade schools.

The program has grown to 32 states nationwide. The Oregon program was started by the Oregon State Bowling Proprietors in 1991. Oregon now has over \$570,000 in scholarship dollars held in trust for over 2200 Oregon youth bowlers. It is a legally chartered 501-c3 non-profit organization.

OVER \$400,000 have been paid by the Grand Prix Scholarship program on behalf of Oregon Youth Bowlers to accredited Colleges, Universities and Trade Schools from around the Country.

Fundraising and points are accumulated on two levels: bowling center level and state level.

Individual bowling centers and the Grand Prix Foundation provide fund-raising for the program.

A minimum of \$10 per youth per year must be raised at the bowling center level. At the state level we have 2 tournaments a year where we award approximately \$13,000.00 in scholarship money.

100% of Center fundraising goes to Bowling Center Youth.

The bowling center takes the lead in raising money for scholarships for their participating youth bowlers. Center fundraising can include bake sales, outside sponsorship, raffles, candy sales, contributions from adult league bowlers, etc. State fundraising includes Grand Prix Tournaments and possible corporate sponsorships.

To be eligible for the Grand Prix Program, youths register at a participating bowling center.

A \$5.00 annual registration fee is paid for each youth participating at the bowling center that participates in the Grand Prix. The Grand Prix year begins June 1 and ends on May 31st.

Participation in youth bowling during that period earns points as defined. Bowlers up to the age of 20 are eligible to participate. Youths earn points by participating in league and the bowling center activities.

In-Center Points System:

Fall/Winter league bowling...1 pts per game Summer league bowling...2 pts per game

Optional Center Points: Bonus points are determined by the center's youth program director for such categories as extra fundraising, etc

After the year ends, funds and points are calculated, a letter is sent to each bowler detailing their accumulated scholarship credit. A youth is vested at graduation, 2 consecutive years in the program, and \$200.00 in accumulated funds. If a non-vested youth drops out of the program and no request is made to hold accumulated funds, the money is returned to the bowling center account to be redistributed to participating bowlers. A bowler has the option to *freeze* funds for a certain length of time by contacting the Grand Prix office for reasons of moving, military, etc.

Scholarship funds are awarded after 1) youth has graduated from high school and is 2) enrolled in a recognized institution of higher learning within 2 years of graduating or becoming inactive. Youths may continue to earn scholarship funds until the age of 20. Upon verification of enrollment by the Grand Prix Office, the funds are then mailed directly to the institution.