



Announcement – BISC Financial Aid

The Bainbridge Island Swim Club is excited to offer financial assistance to families in need. This financial assistance is sponsored by the generous support of the BISC Boosters and administered with the assistance of Helpline House (Helpline) and the Bainbridge Island Metropolitan Park & Recreation District (BIMPRD) staff.

Purpose: Help youth learn and grow through participation in BISC regardless of a family's means.

What is covered? How long?

- A portion, 75%, 50%, *or* 25%, of BIMPRD's monthly BISC dues. The percentage covered will be based on a family's need as determined by Helpline. The exact amount will depend on the practice group assigned to the swimmer *at the beginning of the season* as well as the availability of funds. Those recommended by Helpline for a 75% level of need will be filled *first*. In other words, the neediest has priority. If additional funds are available, then those at the 50% level will be filled, followed by those at the 25% level. No aid is guaranteed—depends on the availability of funds.
- Aid will be provided on an annual basis starting *in the fall* with registration; no mid-season applications considered. **Deadline: September 30, 2021.**
- **All applicants *must* be evaluated by Helpline *each year*.** Aid will *not* be adjusted if a swimmer moves to a more expensive group later in the season. Aid may be suspended any time and for any reason, including if funds run out or if a swimmer quits.

What is NOT covered?

- All remaining costs (e.g. meet entry fees, swim gear, social fees, travel costs).
- The application lists examples of other BISC-related costs as well as other sources of financial assistance. **The application is available at Helpline.**

How do I see if I am eligible?

- You ***must*** call to make an appointment with a Helpline social worker and provide supporting documents showing need:
Phone: 206-842-7621.
Contact: Tanya Bierlein
Address: 282 Knechtel Way NE, Bainbridge Island; **Website:** helplinehouse.org
- The social worker will provide the application and information regarding the next steps. They will then notify the coach and the information will be reviewed. BISC will notify you if the aid is available.

Are any additional resources available?

- Families may also be eligible for aid through Pacific Northwest Swimming (PNS). The coach will need to complete the application with registration. For more information click here:
<https://www.teamunify.com/team/pnws2/page/committees/diversity-inclusion-and-equity-committee>