

All Star I Financial Assistance Program Policy

Purpose and Scope

New and returning shoalers in financial need are encouraged to apply to All Star I's Financial Assistance Program (the "Program"). The purpose of this program is to provide financial assistance to shoalers who are not able to bear the full cost to attend All Star I ("ASI").

The Program is funded through donations from the ASI community (through direct giving and proceeds from the fundraising auction) as well as a portion of the registration fees collected each year. The focus of the Program is twofold: to promote economic diversity within the ASI community and to assist new and regularly attending ASI conferees.

The Program aims to help as many financial assistance applicants as possible within the allocated budget each year. Financial assistance applications may be made for consecutive years. An applicant's financial ability to attend other Star Island conferences during the year may be considered in determining the amount of assistance.

Up to half of the Room & Board and the conference fee will be awarded (parking fee is not included). Applicants are encouraged to ask for only what they truly need to be able to attend ASI.

The financial assistance funds will be applied directly to the applicant's on-island bill by the Treasurer.

The Financial Assistance Committee and Procedures

Applicants must complete and submit the financial assistance application form to the Registrars along with their conference registration form. All financial assistance applications are confidential and will be viewed only by the Financial Assistance Committee ("FAC"). The FAC shall be composed of 4 regularly attending ASI conferees and the current ASI Registrar and Treasurer. One committee member shall be named convener and all committee members shall have voting rights for the approval or denial of applications and the amounts awarded.

The Registrar will forward all financial assistance applications to the FAC. The FAC will evaluate the applications and determine the financial assistance awards. The current conference Chairs will not be informed who is applying for financial assistance so that their admittance decisions will not be influenced by financial assistance requests.

The FAC will consider applications on a rolling basis as the applications are received. The FAC may, but is not obligated to, award all available assistance funds for a given conference year. The FAC may also prioritize financial assistance awards in the following order:

1. Regularly attending ASI conferee.
2. New shoaler who is known to be one who will actively participate, volunteer, and become part of the ASI community.
3. Immediate family of Children's Staff member (partner, child).
4. Other, such as an unknown new shoaler or a relative of an old shoaler.

The Registrars will notify the applicant of the FAC's decision. All recipients of assistance must confirm their intention to accept the assistance and attend the conference by email to the Registrar.