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*The Mission of the Parkinson Association of Alabama, Inc., is to improve the quality of life for people with Parkinson’s, their caregivers, and family members in the State of Alabama.*

**The PAA awards scholarships based on financial need and availability.**

**Qualification Criteria:**

* **Parkinson's Disease (PD) Diagnosis**: The candidate must have a confirmed diagnosis of Parkinson's Disease. Documentation from a qualified healthcare professional confirming the diagnosis may be required.
* **Accreditation of Program:** The program for which the candidate seeks assistance must be accredited according to PAA guidelines. Accreditation ensures that the program meets the standards set by PAA for effectiveness and safety in addressing Parkinson's Disease symptoms. A copy of accreditation documentation should be provided with the scholarship application.
* **Name of Program:** Specify the name of the program the candidate wishes to participate in. Examples include but are not limited to:
	+ LSVT BIG and LOUD
	+ PD Fight Club
	+ Rock Steady Boxing
	+ Dance for PD
	+ Tai Chi for PD

**Financial Hardship:** The candidate must demonstrate that participating in the chosen program poses significant financial hardship. This may include providing information about personal finances, income, and expenses.

**Application Process:**

**Accreditation Documentation**: Candidates/providers must provide documentation showing that the program they wish to participate in is accredited according to PAA guidelines. This may include certificates, letters of accreditation, or other relevant documentation.

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* **Statement of Financial Hardship**: Candidates should include a statement explaining how participating in the program would pose a significant financial burden. This should include details about their financial situation, income, expenses, and other relevant information.
* **Application Submission**: Completed applications should be submitted by the provider to the Parkinson Association of Alabama via the designated method (e.g., email, mail, online form) by the specified deadline. Application may be found here: <https://parkinsonalabama.com/our-programs#scholarships>

**Review Process:**

* **Verification of Diagnosis**: PAA will verify the candidate's diagnosis of Parkinson's Disease based on the documentation provided.
* **Evaluation of Program Accreditation:** PAA will review the accreditation documentation provided for the chosen program to ensure it meets PAA guidelines.
* **Assessment of Financial Hardship:** PAA will assess the candidate's statement of financial hardship to determine the level of need.
* **Decision:** Scholarship decisions will be made based on the qualification criteria and the availability of funds. After the application is received with requirements met, the Care Navigator will deem the candidate eligible for scholarship funding. The application will then be submitted to the Executive Director and CEO for financial consideration. Organizations making requests may require an interview with the Care Navigator. Candidates will be notified of the decision within a 2-week timeframe after the application deadline.

There is a cap of $1,000 per year for each scholarship, with the possibility of one renewal. Renewals will be granted based on an evidence-based report from the provider and a video of the recipient participating in the movement-based exercise program. The PAA plans to use these videos for promotional purposes. Scholarships are awarded based on the availability of funding.

Payment programs are paid directly to the provider and may be set up monthly, quarterly, or annually based on the organization's needs and available funding of the Parkinson Association of Alabama, Inc.

Inactive scholarships are subject to cancellation and may be revoked at any time based on the provider and/or Parkinson Association of Alabama, Inc.’s recommendation.

Note: The Parkinson Association of Alabama reserves the right to request additional information or documentation from candidates as needed during the review process.