



What we are?

The 47 Fund was established in 2012 by Justin Giessman as a scholarship fund for the St. Louis Rockets in memory of Art Martin (1947-2012). Art was an active member of the Rockets board of directors and volunteered many hours to the organization. Art played ice hockey for years and passed his love of the game to his sons, who both played in the Rockets organization. Art was an inspiration to everyone that encountered him and touched many lives. Our mission is to continue Art's memory by providing scholarships to youth hockey players.

The 47 Fund is exclusively funded by individual and corporate donations. These donors share in our belief that Ice Hockey provides an unparalleled opportunity for children to develop a strong body, mind, and character.

All scholarships are awarded inside of the St. Louis Rockets Hockey programs to deserving youth participants.

We are part of a 501(c)3 youth hockey organization, the St. Louis Rockets, so your donation may be tax deductible. Consult your tax professional.

Why we do this?

To date, the 47 Fund has awarded 102 scholarships. Beginning with one partial scholarship in 2012, and growing to 15 full scholarships in 2025, the 47 Fund has helped meet some of the financial demands of hockey. The increasing costs associated with the youth hockey continue to make it difficult for some families to continue in a sport that we believe provides unparalleled opportunities to children.

All our families are facing financial difficulties. Our current director, Pablo Rosales, loves to share his family's journey into hockey.

When they moved to St. Louis, hockey was not in the picture. They moved from New York to pursue graduate studies. During the day, his wife, a former synchronized figure skater, took their children to public sessions. She just wanted them to learn to skate. However, just before one of the public sessions, a Rockets team was practicing at Webster, and their boys said, "I want to try that!"

Learn to play was relatively inexpensive, but when they saw the costs associated with the season, they knew it would be a struggle to make that happen. Their boys had already fallen in love with the sport. They would wake Pablo up at 4:30am on Mondays and Fridays to drag him to stick and pucks. While they were on the fence about hockey, the former executive director of the Rockets, told Pablo about the 47 Fund. The Rosales boys were recipients for 3 years. He constantly shares how hockey has been one of the catalyst for strength, character, and confidence in his boys; and the 47 Fund has been constant reminder to care for others.

Many of our families are in similar or worse financial circumstances. We have received applications from single mothers trying to make ends meet on \$30k a year, to families who are deciding which of their boys will be able to play on a team this year.

Many of our families cried on the phone when they received the news that we were coming alongside them this year as a community. Here are two "Thank You" letters from our families:

"To The Rockets Scholarship Committee...,

We are so very grateful to you for your generosity towards our family. In truth, it left my husband and I almost speechless for days but there were many happy tears. We have never been in a position before where we have needed to ask for help so this was very difficult for us. We are just so thankful to you for helping our boys continue in hockey - they just love it so much. Yesterday our 6U [REDACTED] went for evaluations and he has talked about nothing else to us or our neighbors (who know nothing about hockey but didn't know a 6yo could have so much to say) since.

This has also been a great opportunity for us to show our boys how to be humble, ask for help and how there are kind people who are willing to help. The boys understand that this year they have a great responsibility for being worthy of such a gift and to make sure that they're always giving it their all....I really don't know what else to say. Thank you. Truly. Just thank you."

"Dear 47 Fund,

I wanted to take a moment to sincerely thank you for awarding [REDACTED] the hockey scholarship this year. We are truly grateful for your continued support. It has made a meaningful difference for our family. The scholarship has helped take some

financial pressure off this season, allowing me to be more present for [REDACTED]. He is passionate about hockey; he loves watching games, videos, and learning new skills. It's been amazing to see how much he's grown over the past few years.

I'm really proud of how far he's come. Please know how much we appreciate the kindness and generosity behind this support. I truly hope that one day, I'll be in a position to pay it forward and help another family the way you've helped us."

We know that as our club grows, so will our families' needs. Although we will not be able to aid in every area of life, we hope to be in a position to help as many players as possible with tuition costs.

The 2025-26 tuition costs per player were as follows:

6U	\$1230
8U	\$1610
10U-14U	\$2390 (Goalies - \$1195)
16U	\$1215 (Goalies - \$650)
18U	\$1140 (Goalies - \$650)

How can you help?

We currently offer 4 scholarships. Information on each can be found on our website (47fund.com) by selecting "Scholarships" in the menu bar.

We happily accept online donations through our website 47fund.com. Simply choose "Donate" in the menu bar.

Or scan the following QR code:



If you would like to make a donation by check (our preferred method), please make the check payable to "The 47 Fund" and mail it to the address below. If you have a preference concerning the scholarship you would like to donate toward, please indicate that in the memo line of your check. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

The 47 Fund
8263 Brentwood Industrial St
St. Louis, MO 63144

Any additional questions can be sent to Pablo (pablo@47fund.com) or Peter (pcpalumbo@gmail.com).