

SMART 101 - A guide to understanding USBC's SMART program
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*If you have any questions about this document,
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- A. SMART, which stands for Scholarship Management and Account Reporting for Tenpins, is a program that began operation in 1994 as a service offering the bowling community a centralized location to manage bowling scholarship funds as well as providing USBC members with a resource for inquiries about bowling scholarships. In 2010, the SMART Bowling Scholarship Funding Corporation was created as an independent entity dedicated to the management, protection and promotion of the SMART scholarship funds. More than \$7 million in scholarship money is offered each season by bowling associations and councils, certified tournaments and proprietors throughout the United States. SMART oversees bowling organizations' scholarship funds for individuals who have earned scholarships. USBC's SMART staff provides complimentary assistance for recipients and providers.
- B. SMART's website is <https://bowl.com/youth/smart>. SMART is very responsive to emails. Email SMART at smart@bowl.com. SMART has three employees and they all receive and respond to emails sent to that email address so do not be surprised if you end up engaging with up to three different people in a single email thread.
- C. Every USBC youth member has a SMART account. Accounts only become active once a bowler has funds deposited for them.
- D. Ideally, all SMART recipients (i.e. the award winning youth bowlers) will have an email address linked to or associated with their USBC ID/SMART account. If so, SMART will send an email out each time a bowler has money added to their SMART account. PRO TIP: Even though bowlers should receive an email notification from SMART, Josh recommends that you send out your own email to award winners also. (A written notification would work also.) If you would like to see an example of the email notifications that the BPAM sends out to its tournament award winners, please contact Josh at josh@mhsb.org.
- E. Virtually, any bowling center, association, organization, or individual can set up a SMART account, which will allow them to award SMART scholarship money to recipients. Signing up for a SMART account is free, fast, and easy to do. To open a new SMART provider account, go to SMART's website and click on "Providers." Under the heading of "Provider Resources," click on "Provider Account Form." Follow the easy to understand instructions on that form and soon your new SMART account provider account will be ready to use.
- F. The money that a provider adds to their SMART account has no expiration date. Money that SMART adds to a provider's account has an expiration period of two years. SMART may add funds to a provider's account in the form of interest earned and expired funds. Expired funds get added to a provider's account when a youth bowler does not use the SMART funds they were awarded within a few years of graduating high school. PLEASE NOTE: As of June 13, 2023, SMART does not send emails to

SMART recipients specifically to alert them when they have SMART funds about to expire. However, providers can access the (annual) list when they are logged into their SMART (provider) account.

- G. Virtually, everything a provider would like to know about their SMART account can be accessed when a provider is logged into their SMART account. However, sometimes a provider may need to download multiple reports to get all of the information they seek. For example, you can pull a list that shows you what SMART recipients have funds that are about to expire, but if you want contact information for those individuals you will need to pull up a separate list – a recipient details list.
- H. Awarding scholarship money to bowlers is tricky the first time you do it, but easy after that:
- a. After you are logged into your SMART (provider) account, click on “SMART Program” at the top of the screen and then click on “Scholarship Setup.”
 - b. Click on the blue “Add Scholarship” button the right.
 - c. Now you need to provide input for a few questions such as the name of the event the SMART money was won at, the location of the event, and the date the awards were earned/won.
 - d. Now you are ready to add bowlers to your list, as well as indicate how much each bowler has won in SMART funds. Click on the “+ Recipient” blue button.
 - e. You can now enter a USBC youth bowler’s first and last name and if you and USBC both agree on the spelling of the name then the bowler’s name should come up as an option to choose. PLEASE NOTE that there may be multiple bowlers with the same name. Be sure to select the correct bowler, which is made easier due to the fact that each bowler’s age, city, state, date of birth, and USBC ID number is listed to the right of their name. To select the bowler, click on the black checkmark to the left of the bowler’s name.
 - f. Once you have selected a bowler, you can input how much money you are awarding them. This is also an opportunity (though NOT required) to add an email address and graduation date for a bowler, if you know either piece of information.
 - g. Once you have entered all bowlers’ names and all SMART awards for each bowler you will be able to click on the green “Submit Scholarship” button. PLEASE NOTE that once you click on the green “Submit Scholarship” button that the email addresses you see for each bowler will “disappear.” So if you plan to send out an email to each bowler you may want to copy and paste all of the information on the list (to an excel spreadsheet) before clicking on the green “Submit Scholarship” button.
 - h. After you click on the green “Submit Scholarship” button you still need to fund your scholarship list. Typically, you will not be able to do this until the next day. Log into your account, click on “SMART Program” at the top of the screen, and then click on “Scholarship Setup.” Click on the blue “Fund Scholarships” button on the right hand side. You will now be able to indicate how you plan to “pay for” the scholarship list that you submitted. Options including using your unassigned funds, using SMART unassigned funds, or paying with a credit card.