

**U.S. CHESS TRUST
CHESS-FOR-YOUTH
FREE MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM**

FOR NEEDY KIDS

As of September 2004, the U.S. Chess Trust has changed the process and criteria for which they will give free U.S. Chess Federation memberships through the Chess For Youth Program. The process will be as follows:

1. A letter must be submitted on school letterhead stating that the students listed are attending a Title 1 school and have not been USCF members before. **The original purpose of Title I was additional resources to states and localities for remedial education for children in poverty. The 1994 reauthorization of Title I shifted the program's emphasis from remedial education to helping all disadvantaged children reach rigorous state academic standards expected of all children. Title I funds can be used for instructional activities, counseling, parental involvement, and program improvement. In return, school districts and states must meet accountability requirements for raising student performance.** The list of students applying for the memberships (up to 10) must include each student's name, address, and date of birth. The person in charge of the chess program and applying for the memberships must also be listed along with their contact information (phone number and/or e-mail address).

2. When the school application is approved, vouchers for each child will be sent to the person at the school whose name appears in the letter.

3. In order for the student to receive the free one-year membership, they must play in a USCF rated tournament. The student will take the voucher with them to the tournament where the tournament director will process it as though it were payment for a new membership and send the voucher in with other memberships or the rating report.

4. Once the voucher is received at the USCF, it will be processed and a membership card will be sent to the student.

5. If the voucher is not used within a three-month period the voucher will be considered void.

If you have any questions, please contact chesstrust@uschess.org or write to U.S. Chess Trust, P.O. Box 838, Wallkill, NY 12589.