**Description of the A’s & Aces**

**Excellence Team Program**

 **School Year (After-School, Saturday Clinics, School Holiday) and Summer Camp**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* **Overview**

A’s & Aces can accept a limited number of dedicated student-athletes for our 2015-16 Excellence Teams. Current A’s & Aces participants and other players aged 7-14 are eligible to apply for the Team.

The Excellence Team will consist of Orange Ball and Green/Yellow Ball Tennis players with *exceptional* interest, desire, and with demonstrated tennis skills, behavior, sportsmanship and demeanor, who continuously give best-effort. Excellence Team participants will be selected based on their applications, coaches’ recommendations and tryouts. Players who have not previously participated in A’s & Aces are welcome to apply and tryout during our Saturday clinics. Team selection criteria include: behavior/sportsmanship, competitive interest, academic and athletic effort/ability, as well as commitment by the student-athlete and parents to the team’s high standards, and to a partnership relationship with A’s & Aces. Regular, consistent attendance is required to maintain a place on the Team.

The Excellence Team will practice regularly after-school, on weekends, during school breaks, and throughout the summer. Practice schedules will be set according to age groups and levels of play. Practices will include individual and group tennis drills, competitions, match play and cross-training (strength and conditioning). Objectives include learning about setting and achieving goals, competition, best effort, grit and graciousness, service, dedication, team work, self-confidence and discipline.

Excellence Team members will have the necessary training atmosphere, practice partners, coaching, camaraderie, and opportunities to play several area tournaments throughout the school year and summer. This is important to the objectives, and provides additional meaning, purpose and fun to the tennis practices.

* **Schedules**
The Excellence Team will begin with **Saturday clinics starting on August 15**, the week after the August 7-9 New Orleans Jr. Summer Open presented by A’s & Aces.

**School-Year Schedule: August 2015 – May 2016**

**Yellow:** Mon., Wed., Fri. 4:00-6pm, **Sat.** 9:00am-11:00am

**Green:** Mon., Wed., Fri. 4:00-6pm, **Sat**. 9:00 am-11:00pm

**Orange:** Mon., Wed., Fri. 4:00-6pm, **Sat**. 11:00am-1:00pm

- Afterschool schedules may vary by site (Joe Brown Park and Dillard University). Check website.

 **Summer Schedule: June and July, 2016**

**Yellow, Green and** **Orange:** Mon- Fri., 9:00am –3:00pm

* **Parent-Led Tournament Travel:**

To maximize the tournament opportunities, the learning, fun, comradery, etc., for parents and Excellence Team members, children and parents are encouraged to participate in parent-led carpool to the fullest extent that they are able. When merited and logistically possible, A’s & Aces coaches may travel (separately and/or with parents) to competitions in the New Orleans area and to out-of-town tournaments.

For those who qualify for financial support, A’s & Aces will seek sponsors to help defray costs associated with Excellence Team and Travel-related expenses (e.g., tournament entry fees, private lessons, equipment, clothes and shoes) and will help facilitate transportation to tournaments.

* Benefits Of Excellence Team Membership:

The A’s & Aces Excellence Team Program offers a structured pathway of academic support, enrichment, mentoring, college preparation, year-round advanced tennis training, as well as subsidized tournament competition/travel, scholarships, internships and employment opportunities for deserving participants.

High School: Grades 9-12

* Year round advanced, high-performance tennis training and player development
* Subsidized local/regional tournament competition with parent led travel
* Free tennis equipment, including racquets, shoes and apparel for under-resourced participants
* Nutrition assessment and education, linking diet to on and off court performance
* Free training and subsidized tennis teacher certification costs
* Eligible for employment opportunities with A’s & Aces as coaching staff
	+ (e.g., paid “Camp Counselor-in-Training”)
* In partnership with a Tulane University student group, provide college preparation
* Assistance with Application for Federal Student Aid (FASFA), ACT/SAT, college application and essay
* Career development – e.g., guest speakers from various professions
* Cultural opportunities via music, theatre, film, culinary partners
* USTA National Student-Athlete Competition and Arthur Ashe Essay Contest

Middle School: Grades 7 & 8

* Year round, advanced tennis training and player development
* Subsidized local/regional tournament competition with parent led travel
* Free tennis equipment, including racquets, shoes and apparel for under-resourced participants
* Nutrition assessment and education, linking diet to on and off court performance
* Free professional development training and eligible for the “Junior Camp Counselor-in-Training” apprenticeship program (camp tuition waived; training with peers and coaching younger campers)
* Cultural opportunities via music, theatre, film, culinary partners
* USTA National Student-Athlete Competition and Arthur Ashe Essay Contest

Elementary School: Grades 3-6

* Gaining proficiency with Orange, Green and/or Yellow Ball Tennis
* Subsidized local/regional tournament competition with parent led travel
* Year round, indoor and outdoor advanced tennis training and player development
* Free tennis equipment, including racquets, shoes and apparel for under-resourced participants
* Nutrition assessment and education that links diet to on and off court performance
* USTA National Student-Athlete Competition and Arthur Ashe Essay Contest
* **How And When To Apply:**

Applications are available and will be reviewed on an ongoing basis as space is available.

**Questions?** Contact us at: Administration@AsAndAces.org

**Application
2015-16 A’s & Aces Excellent Team**

 ***This*** ***FULLY COMPLETED application* must be submitted in order to be considered.**

 **CHILD INFORMATION:**

Full Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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City State Zip

 **School Attending:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**Grade**:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 **Ethnic Background:**

 □Black/African American □White/Caucasian □Hispanic/Latino

 □Asian/Pacific Islander □Multi-Racial □Native American/American Indian

**Gender:** □ Male □ Female **Date of Birth**:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Parent/Guardian (Parent/Guardian Filling Out Application):**

Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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 City Zip

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Email:**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Your Relationship to Student**:

□ Mother □ Father □ Grandparent □ Relative □ Foster Parent □ Other:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Please answer all of the following questions to help us better assess how well your child may fit into this program. Please use additional paper if needed to fully explain any answer.**

1. Why do you want your child to be selected to participate in the Excellence Team Program?

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2. What are your child’s current academic goals? (Be specific, e.g., attain a certain GPA, etc.)

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3. Is your child able to commit to participate in a community service project during the year?
 □ Yes □ No □ Not sure

4. What are your child’s current tennis aspirations? (Be specific, e.g., finish top 30 in Louisiana)

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5. What is your child’s current USTA La. State tennis standing/ranking? #\_\_\_\_\_in \_\_\_\_\_(age division)?

6. How many USTA tournaments has your child played during the last 12 months?
0 \_\_\_\_ 1-2\_\_\_\_ 3-5 \_\_\_\_ 6-10 \_\_\_\_ 11+ \_\_\_\_

7. Which of the additional tennis competitions has your child participated in the last 12 months?

Junior Team Tennis \_\_\_\_ Middle School Team\_\_\_\_ High School Team \_\_\_\_

8. Please indicate your child’s tennis training activities during the last 12 months, and describe:

Afterschool:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Coach:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
Weekends: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Coach:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
Private lessons: \_\_\_\_\_ Frequency: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Coach:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
Holiday camps: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Coach:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
Summer camps: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Coach:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

9. Are you/ your child able to commit for the ‘15-16 school-year- summer to the Excellence Team’s:
Saturday program: □ Yes □ No □ Not sure

After-school program: □ Yes □ No □ Not sure

Middle/High School Tennis: □ Yes □ No □ Not sure
(If eligible)

Summer Camp: □ Yes □ No □ Not sure

Holiday Camp(s): □ Yes □ No □ Not sure

10. Are you and your child able to commit to playing at least \*eight (8) USTA tournaments per year
 □ Yes □ No □ Not sure \*If child is 10 or under 6 USTA tournaments

11. As a parent/partner, any of following activities that you are able to commit to as a volunteer:
□ Coordinate parent-led tournament travel

□ Participate as a tournament travel parent driver
□ Saturday volunteer coach

□ Tournament court monitor for Red Ball/Orange Ball Tennis format matches

□ General tournament support (e.g., set up, volunteer management, food pick up, etc.)
□ Soliciting tournament donations (financial sponsors, food for volunteers, participant gifts, etc.)

□ Other: (Describe)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Applicant’s Essay**

Each applicant must submit an essay with his/her application expressing why he/she would like to be a member of the Excellence Team.

**Applicant’s Household Financial Disclosure Statement**

 **Parent/Guardian Information**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Household size: circle the number of family members living in your household\***

*\* Household means all person(s) who occupy a housing unit. The occupants may be single family, one person living alone, two or more families living together, or* ***any other group of related or unrelated persons who share living arrangements****.*

**1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 Over 8**

 **Gross income and ethnicity (**check the space in columns that most accurately describes your household**):**

**ETHNICITY**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_ Black/African American**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_ White/Caucasian**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_ Black/ African American & White**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_ Hispanic/ Latino**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_ Asian**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_ Asian & White**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_ American Indian/ Alaskan Native**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_ Pacific Islander/ Native Hawaiian**

**GROSS INCOME**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_$ 0.00 -34,300.00**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_$34,301.00 – 39,200.00**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_$39,201.00 - 44,100.00**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_$44,101.00 -48,950.00**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_$48,951.00 - 52,900.00**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_$52,901.00 - 56,800.00**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_$56,801.00 - 60,700.00**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_$60,701.00 -64,650.00**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_$64,651.00 -74,650.00**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_$74,651.00 -84,650.00**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_$84,651.00 -94,650.00**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_$94,651.00 -104,650.00
\_\_\_\_\_\_ over $104,651.00**

**Household type** (circle the best description of your household):

\_\_\_\_ Single Parent, female head of household

\_\_\_\_ Single Parent, male head of household

\_\_\_\_ Two Parent Household

\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardianship of Child

I certify that all of the information provided herein is true and correct and that all household income is reported.

**Parent/Legal Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Program Fee & Payment Structure**

The relatively low cost of this tennis program is made possible through our partnership with NORDC and through support from several funders. The fees structure is designed to inform participants of the true cost, to provide discounts that promote opportunities for all children who meet the Excellence Team criteria and to be able to participate regardless of their household financial circumstances. At the same time, the fees are intended to promote a sense of commitment from participants and their parents commensurate with their circumstances. The true cost to provide this program is much greater, and your true, primary payment includes your commitment to attend regularly for the full school-year and follow all program rules.

**The Saturday clinic fees per child are:**

 Monthly Annually

Regular fee: $60/child/mo $480/child/yr
Reduced fee: $30/child/mo\* $240/child/yr\*
Very Reduced fee: $20/child/mo\* $160/child/yr\*

Extremely Reduced fee: $15/child/mo\* $120/child/yr\*

Lowest fee: $10/child/mo\* $80/child/yr\*

Annual fees are based on a 10 month payment and there is a discount - you get two months free if you pre-pay for the whole year.

*\** To be eligible for this discount, you must provide documentation of need. (See p. 6 above)

 **After-School Program fees per child are:**

 Monthly Annually

Regular fee: $60/child/mo\* $480/child/yr\*

Reduced fee: $30/child/mo\* $240/child/yr\*

Very Reduced fee: $20/child/mo\* $160/child/yr\*

Extremely Reduced fee: $15/child/mo\* $120/child/yr\*
Lowest fee: $10/child/mo $80/child/yr\*

Annual fees are based on a 9 month payment and there is a discount - you get one month free if you pre-pay for the whole year.

*\** To be eligible for this discount, you must provide documentation of need. (See p. 6 above)

**Payment Procedures:**Payments are due on the first day of the month unless pre-paid for the whole year in which case the annual fees are due on August 31.
Checks, money-orders, or cash are accepted. Checks should be payable to A’s & Aces.

**Expected Coaches:**

Saturday clinics: Alan Green (Xavier U. Head Men’s & Women’s Tennis Coach), Jason Hampton (lead A’s & Aces Summer Camp Coach), Eric Pallin (lead Tennis Coach at Dillard After-School Program and Hynes School Middle School Coach), David Schumacher, Charlie Gibson (Lead A’s & Aces coach for in-school programs and summer camps), Kenny Waguespack (A’s & Aces Board member)

Lead coaches for After-School Programs: Eric Pallin (Dillard After-School Program), Charlie Gibson (Joe Brown After-School Program)

**A’s & Aces Parent-Child Agreement**

**By signing below, I state that I understand the following program rules:**

Attendance policy:

* Consistent attendance and full-session and participation is a requirement.  All absences must be excused.  Upon the third unexcused absence, a student may be dismissed from the program.
* I will ensure my child attends regularly. In the case of an absence, I will provide a written/email explanation in advance within 24 hours of an anticipated absences and within 24 hours after an unanticipated absence.

Tennis requirements:

* My child will bring his/her own water container/squeeze bottle.
* My child will wear tennis shoes & comfortable attire (e.g., shorts, sweat pants if it is cold, etc.).

A’s & Aces is not just tennis. Participants are also expected to strive to demonstrate high standards of sportsmanship and academic effort, and to be the best they can be both on and off the court.

Academic and citizenship requirements:

* My child will have his/her own library card.
* My child will provide school reports cards on a quarterly basis
* My child will participate in the Arthur Ashe Essay Contest
* My child will participate in at least one community service project per year (A’s & Aces staff and/or volunteers will assist children with their project and provide ideas.)

Pick-up policies:

* Parents are responsible to pick up their child promptly at the end of each clinic. Our staff have other obligations and will not be able to watch participants who are not picked up timely.

Rained-out policy:

* If a clinic is begun and rain limits play we will try to squeegee the courts if possible, and/or conduct fitness training (strength and agility drills - e.g., rope ladder drills, jump rope, plyometric exercises, etc.), “chalk talk” tennis instruction and/or related programming during the remainder of the session.

**I have carefully read the aforementioned rules and requirements. I understand and agree to them. I understand that violations of program rules, including unexcused absences, may result in dismissal.**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Print Parent’s Name

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s Signature Date

**A’s & Aces**

PLEASE PRINT:

Child’s Name

Parents’ or Guardians’ Names
Parent/Guardian Emergency Phone numbers

 **Parent Permission, Waiver and Release Form**

I/We, the parents/guardians of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, understand the nature and purpose of the training and instruction planned. We declare that the above named student is of sound physical condition for instruction and training in tennis or exercise classes, making no declaration to the contrary to A’s & Aces or its partners. We grant our son/daughter permission to participate in these tennis/ life skills/ and academic activities.

We agree to waive all rights, release and hold harmless A’s & Aces, their boards of directors, officers, partners, agents, employees, service-learners and volunteers, from any and all liability, claims, suits, demands, judgments, costs, interest, and expenses (including attorneys’ fees and costs) of any kind arising from or related to such activities, including any accident or injury to our child or myself and the costs of medical services. A’s & Aces does not provide student accident insurance coverage for students while participating in the A’s & Aces program.

In the event of an injury requiring medical attention, we grant permission to the supervising party (including volunteers) to attend to our son/daughter. If the injury warrants further medical attention, we give our permission to the supervising party (including volunteers) to take our child to a physician, dentist, or hospital if deemed necessary and we accept financial responsibility for all such medical attention.

We give A’s & Aces and its partners the absolute right and permission to use our son’s/daughter’s photograph or videography in promotional materials and publicity efforts. We understand that the photographs may be released to newspapers and may be used in other publications, as printed, direct-mail, electronic media, or other forms of promotion. We further release A’s & Aces, its partners, photographers, and their agents from liability for any violation of any personal or proprietary right we may have in connection with such use.

We understand that information contained in my child’s school record is confidential. However, we give permission to my child’s school and its administrators to provide access and release to A’s & Aces school records relating to my child, specifically including but not limited to all report cards and other academic, attendance and behavior information, to allow best opportunities to assist my child and to compile and evaluate data relating to school and program efficacy. This consent is subject to my written revocation at any time except to the extent that action has already taken place upon this consent. A copy of this consent should be accepted with the same legal authority as the original.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Signature of Parent or Guardian Date

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 Signature of A’s & Aces Representative   Date

A’s & Aces, 1036 Arabella, New Orleans, LA 70115 • administration@asandaces.org

**FEE DETERMINATION**

**FOR USE BY A’S & ACES STAFF**

**This Federal Guide has been used by NORDC for determining camp fees and is used by A’s & Aces generally for comparing income and household size, but should NOT necessarily solely determinative of the tennis clinic fees assessed.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |
| Household Size (Including Parents/Guardians)  | May be Qualified for **lowest** fee | May be Qualified for **extremely reduced** fee  | May be Qualified for **very** **reduced** fee  | Only Qualified for **reduced** fee  | **Regular****fee** |
| □1 Person  | □ 0-12,400  | □ 12,401-20,600  | □ 20,601-32,395  | □ 32,396 +  | □ $40,000+ |
| □2 Persons  | □ 0-14,150  | □ 14,151-23,550  | □ 23,551-37,650  | □ 37,651 +  | □ $55,000+ |
| □3 Persons  | □ 0-15,900  | □ 15,901-26,500  | □ 26,501-42,350  | □ 42,351+  | □ $75,000+ |
| □4 Persons  | □ 0-17,650  | □ 17,651-29,400  | □ 29,401-47,050  | □ 47,051+  | □ $100,000+ |
| □5 Persons  | □ 0-19,100  | □ 19,101-31,800  | □ 31,801-50,850  | □ 50,851+  | □ $120,000+ |
| □6 Persons  | □ 0-20,500  | □ 20,501-34,150  | □ 34,151-54,600  | □ 54,601 +  | □ $140,000+ |
| □7 Persons  | □ 0-21,900  | □ 21,901-36,500  | □ 36,501-58,350  | □ 58,351 +  | □ $160,000+ |
| □8 Persons  | □ 0-23,300  | □ 23,301-38,850  | □ 38,851-62,150  | □ 62,151 +  | □ $180,000+ |