

Central Oregon Sk8 Share

“Roll it Forward”

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Started by Heather Kennedy in 2016, Central Oregon Sk8 Share is a non-profit organization giving new or lightly used skateboarding gear to interested youth ages 6 to 18 battling hardships.

A skateboard is a tool for physical fitness, independence, self-sufficiency and anxiety relief. Nearly all the youth we have given skateboards to use their skateboard for transportation. A skateboard is smaller and lighter than a bike, can fit in a full-size locker and can go on the bus. It is easy to skate to the bus stop or get home from school without having to ask for a ride.

The youth we serve already know how much fun it is to ride a skateboard and want to be able to make new friends or join current friends at the skatepark and around town. Feeling like you belong to a group is a huge part of growing up. If you come from a needy household, foster home or are struggling with homelessness, divorce or substance abuse, then you have an even harder time “fitting in”. A simple thing like being able to meet your buddy at the skatepark for a session can make a huge difference in the life of a young person.

How do kids, parents or guardians apply?

Kids and families need to connect with us through our community partners such as FAN Advocates, Deschutes County Behavioral Health, Rim Rock Trails Treatment, SOLSK8s Skate Shop and school guidance counselors to provide our application to at-risk students whom would greatly benefit from having a skateboard of their own. Persons who cannot connect with a Community Partner can email us directly at centraloregonsk8share@gmail.com and ask for an application.

It can be embarrassing for kids to admit to friends or other adults that they can't afford a skateboard. Because our community partners network with families in need, we do not need to ask personal or financial information.

What skateboard gear do kids receive?

All kids receive an assembled complete skateboard, helmet and stickers to personalize their set-up. If available, kids may also receive pad sets or skate shoes. Our stock is donation based, so extras like shoes are variable, but the skateboard, helmet and stickers are constant.



How do you get donations?

We receive donations of new helmets and other products directly from the companies that make them, but most of our skateboards and parts come in as lightly used. Local skateboarders donate their used gear into donation bins we have placed at local skate shops.

How do I donate?

You can make a cash donation through PayPal to our email, but we prefer tangible donations of skateboarding equipment. If you can't donate any used gear, then go to your local skate shop and buy something to donate such as stickers, pads, bearings, hardware, bushings, trucks or wheels.

THANK YOU!