



Tuition Assistance FAQ's

How is Tuition Assistance awarded?

In order for us to allocate our resources wisely and fairly, we have enlisted the help of School and Student Services by the National Association of Independent Schools (SSS by NAIS). SSS does not decide whether tuition assistance will be given or how much to give; rather SSS provides a need-based tuition assistance analysis service. SSS provides the School with a report, which includes a recommendation of what a family should reasonably contribute toward tuition. All information from SSS is kept confidential. Montgomery School's confidential Tuition Assistance Committee reviews each application and the committee recommends to the Head of School allocation of tuition assistance resources for the next year. Upon approval by the Head of School, tuition assistance offers are sent to families.

Tuition Assistance grants are not considered loans, and do not need to be paid back. Tuition assistance grants are not considered taxable income.

Who may apply for Tuition Assistance?

Anyone. Montgomery School accepts tuition assistance applications from families of any race, religion, national and ethnic origin. Throughout the administration of educational admission policies, tuition assistance programs and athletic or other school-administered programs, the School does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, national or ethnic origin.

Does applying for tuition assistance influence the admissions decision?

No. Montgomery School accepts students based on academic merit, test scores and personal qualities. Tuition assistance files are reviewed and awards are made only after a student is admitted. If a student is either admitted or placed on a wait list, the tuition assistance file is shredded and destroyed.

How is tuition assistance determined?

SSS sends a report to Montgomery School, which provides the School with a general assessment of a family's ability to pay for education. Major factors in

determining financial need include, but are not limited to, income, assets (including home equity, college funds, and other investments), family size, and the number of children attending tuition-charging institutions.

Do we need to reapply for tuition assistance each year?

Montgomery School requires families receiving tuition assistance to reapply each year. However, as long as the student remains at our School in good standing and balances from the current school year are paid in a timely manner, tuition assistance will be renewed each year according to demonstrated need. A change in factors such as income, family status, or the number of children attending private institutions may result in increases or decreases in a grant. As stated earlier, Montgomery School believes that tuition should be considered a family's fiscal priority when applying for tuition assistance.

My spouse does not work. How will that affect my tuition assistance grant?

Since it is our belief that families bear the primary responsibility for financing the education of their children, it is our policy to expect both parents to contribute financially. There are circumstances such as caring for a disabled or elderly parent or a preschool age child that would exempt a family from this policy. Each application and circumstance is evaluated.

I never do my taxes until close to the April 15th deadline. How will that affect my tuition assistance grant?

We ask that you complete your SSS Parents' Financial Statement (PFS) and Tuition Assistance Application using income information available from your 2016 W2s and 2016 end of year paystubs. 2016 1040s should be uploaded to SSS on or before April 15, 2017, but awards will be made prior to that date based on the information you provide on your PFS, Tuition Assistance Application, W2s and paystubs. If information reported on your 1040 differs significantly from what you have reported on your PFS or Tuition Assistance Application, Montgomery School reserves the right to re-evaluate your application and change the award based on the information reported on your 1040.

How will I be notified of my tuition assistance grant?

Families will be notified in writing of their tuition assistance grants in late February and early March, 2017.

Returning students will receive a re-enrollment contract in January that reflects the full amount of tuition. Contracts are to be signed and returned with the deposit by the return deadline in February. Due to an increased demand, we are not able to reserve tuition assistance for families who have not returned their enrollment contracts by the deadline stated therein. A new, revised contract will be issued when the tuition assistance grant is determined.