

2026-2027 Tuition Assistance Program

For enrollment for the 2026-2027 school year, we want to share information with all MSE families regarding our need-based tuition assistance program. MSE dedicates funds to this program every year, making an MSE education available to those who could not otherwise afford it. Tuition Assistance is eligible for students Primary through 8th. Over the past several years, we have seen the demand for financial assistance increase substantially. In order to make the most of the available tuition assistance funds and to ensure that funds are distributed in the most equitable way possible, as well as meet the new ACIS standards of practice, we adhere to the following requirements and policies:

- The Tuition Assistance Committee determines awards. Identifying information is not shared with the committee. Decisions are made anonymously. MSE will treat as confidential all information provided by families.
- MSE uses FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment, which assists independent schools in determining a family's financial need. There are two important numbers to be aware of: one is the number FACTS determines you can pay towards tuition based on your financial information, the other is the number you input for "parent offer to pay" after carefully considering your budget and what is feasible. A family's thoughtful and realistic "offer to pay" is valued by the committee as an indication of a family's commitment to the school. Both of these numbers are considered when determining your award.
- The committee considers the cause of financial burden when awarding need based aid. Those making less than 3 times the national poverty are considered low income and those making more than 7 times the national poverty are less likely to be awarded Tuition Assistance, but those with extenuating circumstances are encouraged to apply. Exceptions can be made by vote of the Tuition Assistance Committee.

2026 National Poverty Guidelines

Household Size	3X	7X
2	\$64,920	\$151,480
3	\$81,960	\$191,240
4	\$99,000	\$231,000
5	\$116,040	\$270,760
6	\$133,080	\$310,520
7	\$150,120	\$350,280

- All assistance is awarded on the basis of financial need as demonstrated through the Tuition Assistance Application and required tax documents.
- Applicants' tax documents are an important part of their financial aid file. Applications will not be considered complete until the required tax documents are received.
- Due with application: Final 2024 tax documents including W-2, 1040 and attachments PLUS 2024 W-2s.
- Due April 15, 2026: Final 2025 tax documents including 1040 and all attachments, unless extension is filed.
- Due October 15, 2026: Final 2025 tax documents including 1040 and all attachments.
- MSE adheres to all local, state, and federal laws and regulations that require nondiscriminatory practice in the administration of its tuition assistance policies.
- Preference is given to applicants who meet all deadlines with their submissions. Tuition Assistance funds may not be available to applicants who apply after deadlines or fail to complete their applications.
- Preference is given to students currently enrolled in MSE.
- Tuition assistance is applied to tuition. Applicants are responsible for paying all incidental charges in full.
- Tuition assistance awards are made for a single school year. A family's eligibility for assistance will be re-examined each year. A tuition assistance award in one year does not guarantee an award in subsequent years.
- For students with divorced or separated parents, each parent with custodial rights, educational decisions and/or financial obligations to the child must separately complete an application.
- Tuition assistance awards may be rescinded without prior notice in the following circumstances:
 - A family fails to provide the required tax documents. (In some cases, this may require that taxes be filed earlier than a family normally would in order to be eligible for financial aid.)
 - The information on the provided tax documents differs substantially from that reported on the Tuition Assistance Application.
 - A family fails to remain current on their tuition payments to MSE.

Families wishing to apply for Tuition Assistance for the 2026-2027 school year should complete the following steps:

- If the student is new to MSE, submit an application for admission to MSE prior to submitting a Tuition Assistance application.
- Submit a Tuition Assistance Application via FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment:
<https://online.factsmgt.com/aid>
- For priority consideration, all tuition assistance applications must be completed and submitted no later than January 2026.
- The cost of submitting an application is \$40 paid to FACTS Grant & Aid.
- Upload copies of 2025 tax documents (including W-2, 1040, and all attachments) to the FACTS website by appropriate due dates.

- Tuition Assistance awards will be announced to families as soon as the committee determines an award. If a family wishes to accept the award, they must complete and return the following by the requested deadline date to enroll:
 - Financial Aid Agreement
 - MSE Enrollment Contract & payment of enrollment deposit.
 - Upload a copy of 2025 tax documents (including 1040 and all attachments, as well as any 2024 documents) by October 15, 2026.

Please do not hesitate to contact either of us should you have any questions regarding our tuition assistance program or the application process.

Sincerely,
Michelle Rogers, Head of School
Chong Shirk, Director of Finance and Operations