

SWS FINANCIAL AID PROGRAM MISSION + POLICIES



OUR APPROACH TO FINANCIAL AID

Our Financial Aid program is available to families who demonstrate both the need for aid and a commitment to Waldorf education. We recognize that life circumstances and discretionary financial choices vary for every family. Each application is carefully and individually considered.

Our program is managed by our Financial Aid Committee, the members of which are appointed by the Board of Trustees. Our program is funded by tuition revenue, designated gifts, and scholarship donations we receive through the Education Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program. Awards to applicants meeting the EITC criteria are funded, in part, by our EITC Scholarship Program. All financial aid is awarded according to the need exhibited and to the extent funds are available. All new applicants will participate in an interview with the Committee. Some circumstances may indicate an interview with a returning family, at the discretion of the Committee or the request of the family.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND PROGRAM POLICIES

1. Grades students and 5 full-day kindergarten students who are in their FINAL kindergarten year are eligible for financial aid.
2. Aid is awarded for one year. All applicants must submit an aid request each spring for the following academic year.
3. Each aid request form must be submitted with the tax return for the most recently completed year. If the tax return is not available at the time a request is submitted, W2s must accompany the request form, and the 2023 tax return must be submitted no later than May 1, 2024.
4. In the case of separated or divorced parents, both parents must submit a registration form and copies of their W2s.
5. Each new applicant must submit a Parent Financial Statement with our third-party processor, School and Student Services. (see instructions).
6. An interview may be requested by either the applicant or the Financial Aid Committee.
7. Requests and applications are processed in rounds, the cycle for which is no less than two weeks and no more than four weeks.
8. Applicants will be informed of their reward and the calculated final tuition when they receive their tuition worksheet, which is an addendum to their contract. Applicants will receive an email notification that the contract is ready for signature. The tuition worksheet can be downloaded at that time.
9. Any delinquent account that violates the terms of our enrollment contract is subject to a reduction in or total loss of the financial aid.
10. It is the responsibility of the family to notify the Business Manager in the event of a change in family circumstances that produce a financial consequence, favorable or not favorable, in the amount of 25%.

NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

Susquehanna Waldorf School does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, gender, ethnic background, or national origin in admission of students, in financial aid grants, or in any program offered. Any complaints of discrimination may be filed with the office for Civil Rights, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Bureau of Civil Rights Compliance, the Department of Public Welfare, and/or the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission.

PA EITC SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

An eligible student is a school age student, including an eligible student with a disability, who is a resident of Pennsylvania, who is enrolled in a school located in this commonwealth and who is a member of a household with an annual household income of not more than \$108,444 except that an additional income allowance of \$19,088 is permitted for the student and for each other dependent (as defined by the IRS) living within the same household. To be considered an eligible student with a disability, a student must meet the following criteria: (1) is either enrolled in a special education school or has otherwise been identified as a "child with a disability" as defined in Title 34 CFR §300.8; (2) needs special education and related services; (3) is enrolled in a school and (4) is a member of a household that does not exceed the maximum annual household income. "School age" ranges from the earliest admission age for a school's kindergarten program (or if the school has no kindergarten program, the earliest age at which the student may begin school), through the age attained upon graduation from secondary school or 21 years of age, whichever occurs first. With respect to an eligible student with a disability, multiply the sum of \$108,444 plus the allowance(s) of \$19,088 per student and dependent, by the support level factor of 1.50 if the student is not enrolled in a special education school or by the support level factor of 2.993 if the student is enrolled as a student in a special education school.