

# GARRISON FOREST SCHOOL

300 GARRISON FOREST ROAD • OWINGS MILLS, MARYLAND 21117

Fall 2020

Dear Parent(s):

***Important information can be found in this application packet. Please read it carefully before beginning the application.***

Enclosed please find all necessary materials to apply for tuition assistance at Garrison Forest for the 2021-2022 school year. Financial assistance is determined by a family's "need," which is defined as the difference between a family's total resources and the cost of a Garrison Forest education. The Financial Aid Committee determines awards after a review of the required information you provide the School. Please keep in mind that Garrison's financial assistance budget is limited and we have many applicants for assistance. The School strives to make assistance available to the widest socio-economic range of families possible, but cannot guarantee financial assistance.

**Garrison uses FACTS Management Systems to conduct the financial need analysis of each family who applies for assistance. Families will need to complete the *FACTS Grant and Aid Application* and submit the necessary supporting documentation directly to FACTS. Please refer to the enclosed flyer and application instructions for information on how to apply.**

Some important points to remember as you apply for financial assistance:

- All required paperwork **must be submitted by the deadlines** set forth in the **Financial Assistance Timeline** enclosed in this packet. Failure to submit information by the deadlines will delay processing of your financial assistance application and possibly jeopardize any award for which your family may qualify. Current Garrison Forest families who complete the application process by the stated deadline will receive their award with their reenrollment contract.
- All information submitted is kept in the strictest confidence and is only viewed by members of the Financial Assistance Committee. We ask that you maintain the same confidence with respect to other Garrison families.
- Assistance is awarded with priority to returning students with applications submitted by the appropriate deadlines.
- Current GFS families must be in good standing with the Business Office in order to receive a financial assistance award. Accepted sibling applicants of current students will not be awarded financial assistance or issued an enrollment agreement unless the current sibling's account is up to date.
- Both parents, regardless of marital status or legal agreements, are expected to contribute to educational expenses. Both parents are required to provide the School with financial information as requested. If a parent has remarried, the current spouse's information and documentation are to be included with the application.

Although the original computation recommending financial assistance is made by FACTS, Garrison Forest will still make the final judgment regarding an award for each family. The information received by FACTS will guide the Financial Aid Committee in making its decision, but is by no means the sole factor used in making a decision about financial assistance. Complexities and unusual circumstances of each family situation are acknowledged and considered in the final decision. In this way, we feel all families will be treated equitably according to the information available. **If you have any questions about the completion of forms or about the financial assistance process, please contact the Financial Aid Office at 410-559-3112 or [FinancialAid@gfs.org](mailto:FinancialAid@gfs.org)**