### AFFORDING UPREP

We seek to create a diverse school community and an optimal learning environment that fosters open-mindedness and self-awareness. Financial aid is an essential element in promoting these goals.



As part of the school's mission, University Prep seeks to create a diverse student community. We recognize that for some students who would be a great fit for the school, affording the full cost of attendance is not possible. For this reason, financial aid is an essential element in promoting our mission and welcoming students from various backgrounds.

Our Financial Aid Program assists qualifying families in meeting their financial obligations for tuition, textbooks, lunch, transportation, and other student fees. Families often share that the comprehensive nature of UPrep's Financial Aid Program allows their students to participate in the full life of the school.

#### FINANCIAL AID TIMELINE

Mid-December/January: Families begin collecting 2020 tax documents.

February 3: Financial Aid Application Deadline for New Upper School Families New Upper School families and returning families must submit the online financial aid application with required documents to School and Student Services.

February 25: New Upper School families receive notification of financial aid with admission decision.

March 1: Financial Aid Application Deadline for New Middle School Families New Middle School families must submit the online financial aid application with required documents to School and Student Services.

March 18: New Middle School families receive notification of financial aid with admission decision.

2021-2022



All financial aid awards are grants that do not need to be repaid



18% of students receive financial aid



\$3.5 million in financial aid awarded



Financial aid grants range from \$14,000 to \$40,000



#### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### Q: What expenses are covered by financial aid?

A: We recognize that a UPrep education extends beyond the classroom, which is why our Financial Aid Program is comprehensive of all UPrep-related expenses. This includes but is not limited to textbooks, technology (laptop or Chromebook), lunch, extracurricular activities, Global Link programs, college application fees, and transportation.

## Q: What is considered when you are evaluating our financial aid application?

A: In evaluating need, UPrep considers more than just the family's total income. Rather, we look at a family's whole financial picture, taking into account assets, including home ownership, savings, and retirement funds, and whether the applicant has a 529. Additionally, we consider whether the parents/guardians' have debt, their regular living expenses, as well as any unusual expenses that came up in the past year. We also factor in how many other children they have in tuition-charging schools.

#### Q: How do we apply for financial aid?

A: We use School and Student Services (SSS) to process all financial aid applications. Therefore, you will need to create an SSS profile, complete the Parent Financial Statement (PFS), and submit all required documents. The PFS is a thorough questionnaire that will ask you questions about your income, assets, debts, living expenses, etc. Please leave yourself ample time to complete the PFS and upload all required documents.

#### Q: How confidential is the information I provide?

A: Completely. UPrep safeguards the confidentiality of all personally identifiable financial aid information supplied by families. We never make any public announcements of individual financial aid awards. The school is opposed to any practice that publicly identifies recipients of aid.

## Q: If my child receives financial aid, will their UPrep experience be different from their peers?

A: The UPrep Financial Aid program is confidential. This means that a very small number of administrators at the school are aware of which students are receiving financial aid. Teachers, advisors, coaches, etc. are not privy to this information, ensuring that all students are treated the same, regardless of socioeconomic status.

### Q: Our family might qualify for aid but we aren't sure. Is there a way to find out?

A: Talk to us! We would be happy to hear more about your financial situation and give you an idea of whether you might qualify for aid. Please be in touch with financialaid@universityprep.org to find a time to meet or talk by phone. There are also cases in which an applicant is deemed admissible and has applied for financial aid but we determine that they have not demonstrated need. In these cases, the applicant is admitted without financial aid.

# Q: Does applying for financial aid impact my student's application for admission?

A: The application for admission and the financial aid processes are separate but related. First, teams of faculty and staff review applications for admission and meet to determine which applicants are admissible. From there, a small financial aid committee made up of UPrep administrators meets to discuss those admissible applicants who have also applied for financial aid and have demonstrated need. The financial aid committee reviews the budget and determines how much financial aid can be distributed to newly admitted students. Per UPrep policy, we will not admit any students who have demonstrated financial need that we cannot support. This means that if an applicant has been deemed admissible but we do not have enough financial aid remaining to support that student, they will be placed in our Wait Pool.

#### **Questions?**

Please contact Associate Director of Admission and Financial Aid Doug Moon at DMoon@universityprep.org or 206.832.1118.