

Financial Aid Application Process for Returning Families

Thank you for your interest in Santa Catalina Lower and Middle School for the 2024-25 school year. Santa Catalina Lower and Middle School strives to make its education accessible to every student without regard to his/her family's financial circumstances. We recognize that many excellent students who would benefit from a Santa Catalina Lower and Middle School education and make outstanding contributions to our community may be unable to meet the required financial obligations. Through a generous financial aid program, Santa Catalina School has long demonstrated its commitment to admitting and enrolling the most qualified and capable students regardless of their families' financial resources. While your child may be admissable to School, we may not be able to meet your family's demonstrated financial need. All financial aid applications are held in the strictest confidence.

You may begin to apply for financial aid starting on October 1, 2023, as described below. **To be eligible for financial aid consideration, you must complete your application by the dates listed.** We will communicate decisions about financial aid in early February with online re-enrollment.

We use School and Student Services (SSS) to process financial aid applications. Based on the financial information you provide, SSS gives us an estimated amount your family can contribute to educational expenses, which helps us make fair and objective financial aid decisions. To begin your financial aid application for the 2024-25 school year, please read the enclosed FAQ sheet and then follow the steps below.

- 1. Beginning **October 1, 2023**, you can begin the financial aid application process. To do so, visit <u>santacatalina.org/lmsFA</u>.
- 2. Click on the SSS link to be directed to their website.
- 3. Once on the SSS website, click on Returning Family and enter your email and password. If you are new to financial aid, click on New Users: Create a New Account (note: our school code is 905701). You will set up an application online account using a username and a password. You only need to complete one application if you have several children applying to, or attending, our school.
- 4. New Users will receive a password that allows you to return to your application before submitting it. The application fee is \$60.00, to be paid by credit card at the end of the session.

The application process is self-guided and must be completed by January 15, 2024.

5. After completing the online application, upload to SSS a signed copy of your 2022 tax returns for state and federal taxes with all schedules and W-2s, and a signed copy of your 2023 tax returns with all schedules and W-2s by **February 10, 2024**.

Note: A financial aid award cannot be made unless your student billing account is current and your reenrollment contract and deposit have been received.

If you have questions regarding your application, please contact the SSS Customer Service helpline at 800.344.8328 or email questions to sss@communitybrands.com, or Janet Luksik, Director of Financial aid, at 831.655.9382 or janet.luksik@santacatalina.org.