



SUFFIELD
ACADEMY

185 North Main Street
Suffield, Connecticut 06078
860-386-4400 | admissions@suffieldacademy.org
www.suffieldacademy.org

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in Suffield Academy. Each year approximately one-third of our students receive some form of financial assistance. In order to find a base for determining a family's financial need, we use the services of the School and Student Services for Financial Aid [SSS], part of Community Brands, which opens on September 1, 2022. From their calculation and the results of your Federal Income Tax Return [2021 1040 Form], we do our best to help as many families as possible have the necessary resources to attend Suffield Academy.

I am attaching instructions for submitting the PFS from SSS, and our Making Suffield Affordable handout. Please note that the deadline for a complete Financial Aid Application for new applicants is January 31, 2023, and January 3, 2023 for returning students. Suffield Academy's code is 7558.

We look forward to working with you and appreciate your interest in Suffield Academy. I am always happy to answer any questions you may have as you proceed through the financial aid process.

Sincerely,

Sean Atkins
Director of Admissions & Financial Aid



Applying for financial aid

at our school for the 2023-2024 academic year

We partner with School and Student Services (SSS) in our financial aid process. To begin your financial aid application, you will complete the SSS Parents' Financial Statement (PFS).

The Parents' Financial Statement (PFS) is the cornerstone of our financial aid application process. By submitting a PFS, you're granting SSS permission to analyze your financial information. Using their unique methodology, they estimate the amount you can contribute to school expenses and forward that estimate to the appropriate schools. It's one form, for one fee, for any number of applicant children, for any number of schools.



Find the Parents' Financial Statement online via the SSS Family Portal:

<https://sssandtadsfa.force.com/familyportal>



How to complete the Parents' Financial Statement (PFS)

Beginning **September 1, 2022**, visit the SSS Family Portal at <https://sssandtadsfa.force.com/familyportal>

— Create your Family Portal account with your email address and a password. If you applied for financial aid last year, log into the Family Portal as a Returning Family using the same email address and password.

— Complete a PFS for **Academic Year 2023-24**. You can log out of the portal at any time and return later to finish it.

— Once all PFS sections are complete with green check marks, the "Submit & Pay" button activates. Follow the prompts to the payment screen. The \$60 fee is nonrefundable. Once your PFS is submitted, it cannot be withdrawn from the SSS system.



Next steps

After you pay for and submit your PFS, the next steps will require you to upload required documents by their deadlines as part of your application process.

We will communicate our financial aid decision to you directly. To make our decision, we use the information from the PFS as a starting point, and we also consider our school policies, practices, and available budget.



Plan ahead and know your deadlines

The PFS is a comprehensive application that will take some time to complete. Give yourself the time you need by not waiting until the deadline approaches. It's important to note the difference between the deadlines for admission and financial aid applications.

If you do not have your 2022 tax return, complete the PFS using your most recent tax return. When the requested tax forms arrive, such as W2s or 1040s, log back in and upload them (if required) by the deadline. We also recommend that you review the wide range of materials that SSS has put together to help families with their financial aid process. They are found at <http://www.solutionsbysss.com/>.



Top 10 Tips for completing your financial aid application

Complete only one PFS per household

You can apply for aid to any number of schools for any number of children using just one PFS for the same flat fee. Know your deadlines for submission.

Use your legal name

Make sure your name on your Parents' Financial Statement (PFS) appears exactly the way your name appears on your tax documents.

Enter whole numbers

When entering numbers, do not enter decimals or cents — simply round to the nearest whole number. All monetary values must be in US dollars.

Differentiate applicants from dependents

Questions about “student applicants” refer to your children who are applying for financial aid via the PFS. Questions about “other dependents” refer to the children (or adults) for whom you provide support but ARE NOT applying for financial aid nor listed as Parent/Guardian A or Parent/Guardian B.

Separate salary from profit

If you are a business or farm owner, you will be asked about your salary in the Family Income section. Enter only the amount you actually draw as salary as reported on your W2. You will provide information about profit/loss elsewhere in the PFS.

Estimate your taxes

We realize most tax forms are not available until late January. If you don't have your current year's taxes available, it's okay to estimate your answers based on your prior year's tax return.

Upload your required documents

You're strongly encouraged to upload tax documents via the Family Portal.

Tell your story

Offer explanations when requested, so your story or situation is clear and understandable to those reviewing your application.

Calculate debt and unusual expenses

When asked to report your credit card debt, enter your total outstanding balances and use the Notes section to specify the types of purchases you used these cards for. When asked to total your “unusual expenses,” you'll find a list of the types of expenses you should and should not include.

Be honest

Take time to carefully consider how much you think you can pay towards tuition on your own. Make a budget of income and expenses to see how much you can include for school costs.

Need help with your PFS or required documents?

Contact SSS Parent Support at (800) 344-8328 or sssandtadsfa@communitybrands.com.

PHILOSOPHY & OBJECTIVES

The Suffield Academy Financial Aid Program has a two-fold purpose: to provide deserving students with an opportunity for an excellent education that might otherwise be unobtainable and to provide the school with a well-qualified student body reflecting a broad social and economic mix. To achieve these goals, it is our hope that the ability to pay the full tuition will not be the deciding factor in determining whether a promising young person may attend Suffield.

A substantial financial aid budget provides need-based grants and scholarships or a combination of these two resources for tuition assistance. Intended as a supplement to family resources, financial aid awards are made not only to families whose ability to pay is extremely limited, but also to those of more substantial means who may need only a minor subsidy to meet the tuition charges.

Parents who feel they need financial assistance are encouraged to request it. Approximately one-third of new and returning students at the Academy receive financial aid. Awards are made with the understanding that the Academy and each family have priorities that demonstrate a commitment to common goals and values. Admission to Suffield Academy and access to the Financial Aid Program are open to students of any sex, race, color, religion, creed, national or ethnic origin, citizenship, physical attributes, disability, or sexual orientation.

FINANCIAL AID POLICIES

CONFIDENTIALITY

From the perspective of Suffield Academy, all financial information that we receive is held in the strictest confidence, as are the decisions made by the Financial Aid Committee. Paperwork submitted will only be seen by the members of the Financial Aid Committee and, in special cases, by the Head of School. It is also expected that families will keep in confidence financial arrangements made with Suffield.

PRIORITIES

Suffield assumes that each family receiving financial assistance will make the funding of their child's education a priority over other experiences such as enrichment programs, family trips, and summer camps.

HOW TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID

Suffield Academy subscribes to the principles and services of the School and Student Services for Financial Aid, which provides a financial analysis based on the parents' confidential statement of need. This service provides basic information to the Financial Aid Committee, which makes the final decision on financial aid awards.

On September 1, 2022: Parents may begin the financial aid application by clicking on the prompt to begin using the Parents' Financial Statement [PFS]. You will be given a username and password that will allow you to return to your PFS at a later date before submitting it. After submitting it you will be given instructions about submitting additional documentation.

COMPLETE FINANCIAL AID APPLICATIONS DUE DATE

New Students – January 31, 2023 Returning Students – January 3, 2023

Parents of registered students need to submit a copy of their official 2022 tax return when ready. No financial aid award is final until the official 2022 tax return is received. If there are any special circumstances that are not addressed in your financial application, but you would like to be considered, please send a letter addressed to Sean Atkins, Director of Admissions & Financial Aid, detailing these issues.

DIVIDED FAMILIES

For applicants with divorced or separated parents, the Financial Aid Committee will consider the assets of both natural parents, if living, before making any award. If the custodial parent has remarried, the Financial Aid Committee also considers the assets of the stepparent, bearing in mind the obligations of that stepparent to his or her own natural children. PFS and tax forms must be submitted by each parent and stepparent and will be held in strictest confidence.

EXTERNAL RESOURCES

Any financial support that may be available beyond the parents' income and assets should be reported on the PFS for consideration by Suffield Academy. This support includes direct scholarship grants, or funds from other parties including relatives. The Financial Aid Committee welcomes explanation of these potential sources of help; correspondence with the Director of Financial Aid is encouraged.

BUSINESS OR FARM OWNERS

If you own a business or a farm, you must complete the Business/Farm Statement in addition to the other paperwork described in this brochure.

STUDENT EARNINGS

We expect students to pursue vacation employment whenever possible. Within the limits of skill and job availability, students are expected to earn what they can to help with their school and personal expenses.

SELECTION OF NEW STUDENT RECIPIENTS

The Financial Aid Committee assesses the need and determines the amount of award for each financial aid applicant who is offered admission. Given the limits of our financial aid budget, scenarios for accepted students qualifying for financial aid include an aid award, placement on our waiting list, or an acceptance without financial aid. If the total financial need of accepted applicants exceeds the financial aid budget, decisions will be based on individual merit and institutional need. In these situations the awards will be based on financial need and on overall past performance and future promise. Communication with families on the waiting list will come if aid becomes available at a later date.

RENEWALS FOR RETURNING STUDENTS

Every financial aid award is made for one year. To renew the award parents must reapply by January of each year in which financial aid is sought and must follow the same procedures [file an annual financial statement and income tax forms]. The size of the award may vary if the family's financial circumstances change significantly, however, parents can expect similar grants in future years at Suffield.

In addition, to ensure consideration for continued financial assistance, the recipient must maintain good academic effort and performance, live by school standards of personal conduct, and be an active and positive part of the school community.

LEADERSHIP SCHOLARS AWARD

In order to emphasize leadership development at Suffield Academy, we have a program that provides partial merit scholarships to new students who demonstrate exceptional leadership potential and are likely to inspire leadership on the part of their peers. The criteria for selection include demonstrated leadership potential and a history of academic achievement. Leadership Scholars are chosen by the Admissions Committee at the time of acceptance and there is no need for an additional application. Should you have questions, please contact Sean Atkins.

BUDGETING EXPENSES

The annual boarding tuition charge covers instruction, room, board, basic health center and medical care, all meals in the dining hall, all physical training and athletic privileges, use of laboratory and computer equipment, and admission to all school concerts, assemblies, plays, and athletic contests. The annual day tuition charge covers all of the above with the exclusion of room. The annual tuition charge does not include optional off-campus activities such as movies, concerts, indoor tennis, ski trips, or weekend travel. It also does not include books, athletic equipment, vacation travel, the required laptop computer, or such special services as tutoring, private lessons in music, and personal laundry. The following chart catalogues the current year's expenses, some of which are estimated, to help you project your expenses in planning for next year.

LATE APPLICATIONS

Families whose financial aid applications have not been completed by the filing deadlines detailed above are encouraged to proceed. Limited funds sometimes remain available after the initial awards have been offered.

FOR ALL QUESTIONS REGARDING THE FINANCIAL AID PROGRAM

Please contact Sean Atkins, Director of Admissions & Financial Aid at 860-386-4446 or satkins@suffieldacademy.org.

2022-2023 TUITION & FEES

Boarding Students: \$68,500

Day Students: \$47,400

Note: Tuition for 2023-2024 will be announced in January.

AVAILABLE PAYMENT PLANS

Advance: The tuition balance is paid in July

Traditional: The tuition balance is paid in two installments (July and December)

Monthly Plan: The tuition balance, plus a 1% premium, is paid in nine monthly installments (June through February)

ESTIMATED STUDENT EXPENSES

Books & Supplies: \$1,250–\$1,500 [varies by subjects taken]

Apple Laptop: \$1,500–\$3,500 [varies by model]

Spending Money: \$25 [each week]

Travel [Boarding Students]: Four round-trip fares each year

Payments Registration: Deposit 10% of the net tuition [nonrefundable and due at the time of registration]

Balance of Tuition: Families have several options by which to pay the 90% tuition balance