



# Montessori Academy of Colorado

## Tuition Adjustment Program

The Tuition Adjustment Program for Primary\* - 8th grade students is designed to help families with a demonstrated financial need receive adjusted tuition, making a MAC education accessible to more students. Tuition adjustment amounts will be informed by FACTS, a third-party service often used by independent schools to securely collect and analyze family financial data. Families with new students applying to MAC and returning students re-enrolling in MAC's Primary - 8th grade program are eligible to apply.

\*Students must be four-years old by October 1st to be eligible.

### Eligibility

The program is open to new students applying to and returning students re-enrolling in MAC's Primary - 8th grade program whose family demonstrates financial need to meet the full cost of annual tuition, as determined by FACTS. This includes MAC staff with Primary-8th grade students. Returning students must be in good standing. The tuition adjustment program is also available to all MAC employees who have children of any age enrolled in a MAC community, including in Nido and Toddler.

### Application + Review

Families must complete an online FACTS application and submit requested documentation according to the timeline. A FACTS application must be submitted each year, regardless of previous tuition adjustment status. Tuition adjustment decisions are informed by both objective and subjective analyses, with primary consideration based upon a family's financial situation.

### Determining Family Need

Families applying for tuition adjustment will complete an online application through FACTS and submit all required documentation directly to FACTS. This information is processed by FACTS to determine what a family can afford to contribute toward educational expenses.

### New Students

New students must submit their application materials for admission and tuition adjustment by the deadline. Families will be notified of the status of both when a decision is determined, at which time an intent to enroll will be sent. Once the intent to enroll is signed, the enrollment contract, reflecting the amount of the tuition adjustment, must be signed within three days. If the financial adjustment is insufficient for the student to be able to attend MAC, the family is required to notify MAC by the deadline provided. If a decision to enroll is made, the family is required to submit the intent to enroll by the deadline. For Elementary and Middle School families, enrollment deposits for the upcoming school year will be added to the April invoice, with the option to postpone to May or June. Students joining MAC during the second semester will be eligible for tuition adjustment at the discretion of the MAC Tuition Adjustment Program Committee.



# Tuition Adjustment Program

## Returning Students

Returning students will receive their re-enrollment contracts in January. Re-enrollment contracts are typically due in March. Applications for tuition adjustment are due by the deadline provided and decisions about tuition adjustment will be announced shortly after. If the adjustment is insufficient for the student to be able to return to MAC, the family is required to notify MAC within a few days of receiving their status. If a family chooses to sign a contract prior to receiving the status of their FACTS application, and is then approved for tuition adjustment, a credit will be applied to the student's billing ledger. For Elementary and Middle School families, enrollment deposits for the upcoming school year will be added to the April invoice with the option to postpone to May or June.

## Tuition Adjustment Program Cap

For the 2023-24 school year, the total tuition adjustments ranged from 10% - 88% of tuition. The Tuition Assistance Committee anonymously determines adjustment amounts in accordance with FACTS calculated family need and the strategic goals of the school.

## Delinquent Accounts

Tuition adjustment will not be extended to any student whose present account balance is delinquent. If the account balance becomes delinquent after the tuition adjustment has been made, MAC reserves the right to cancel the adjustment if the account is more than 30 days past due.

## Changes to Family Income

Tuition adjustments are made based on the family's financial projections for the coming year. If these projections change substantially during the year so that the family is in a different financial position than anticipated (typically a 10% or greater change), the family must resubmit their application for review by the committee. At the committee's discretion, the tuition adjustment amount may be changed for the balance of the school year based on financial records.

## Compliance

Tuition adjustment is contingent on maintaining compliance with the enrollment contract and other written agreements as well as being current at all times with any and all financial obligations to MAC. Failure to comply with contractual and financial obligations may result in revocation of tuition adjustment.

## Recurring Adjustment

MAC will attempt to meet the ongoing financial need of families receiving tuition adjustment during a student's time at the school. Tuition adjustment renewal will require that families reapply annually to demonstrate continued financial need and the scale of adjustment will continue to depend on the family's ability to contribute to the student's education. Renewal is contingent upon the student maintaining good academic standing and the family demonstrating a genuine commitment to the goals of the school.



# Tuition Adjustment Program

## Program Coverage

FACTS applicants who are awarded a tuition adjustment will also receive a reduction in the cost of before and after school care if their student is enrolled in these programs. The percentage of the adjustment in tuition is matched for before and after school. For example, if a family receives a 30% reduction in tuition, they will also receive a 30% reduction in before school and after school. In programs that require individual student fundraising for school trips, the same percentage of award will be applied. Related fees, including but not limited to, enrollment, field trips, books, uniforms, meals, transportation, before/after school care, or enrichments will remain the family's financial responsibility. Tuition for summer camp programs, whether held internally or externally at MAC, are not eligible for tuition adjustments.

## Tuition Assistance Committee

The Tuition Assistance Committee is an internal group of school administrators and teachers that leads the tuition adjustment process at MAC. The committee makes data-driven tuition adjustment decisions based on financial need. All applications, records and correspondence are held in strict confidence by the Committee in adherence to the Principles of Good Practice for financial aid administration established by NAIS. The Tuition Assistance Committee anonymously determines adjustment amounts in accordance with FACTS calculated family need and the strategic goals of the school.

## Questions

[Any questions regarding the program can be directed to tuitionassistance@tmaoc.com.](mailto:tuitionassistance@tmaoc.com)

## How to Apply for Tuition Adjustment

The FACTS Tuition Adjustment application typically opens in January and will be available at [tmaoc.com](http://tmaoc.com) under the Admissions tab.