

APPLY FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

A Path to Affordability

Navigating the Independent School Financial Aid Process



In partnership with K-12 private and independent schools.

Certified



Corporation



Welcome!

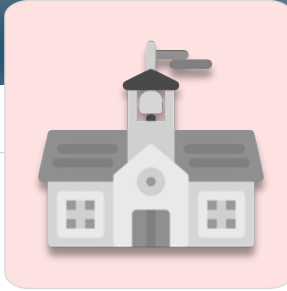
- All About PK-12 Financial Aid: How does it work?
- Understanding Your Household Budget
- Walk-through of the Application Process for:



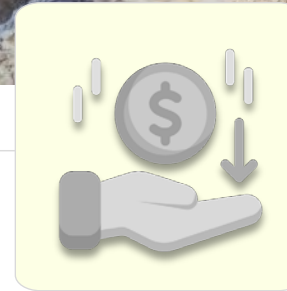
Financial Aid 101



A **grant** from the school based on a family's demonstrated financial need.



A **school-specific program**. It is not a federal program. "Independent"



Something a family is **not required to pay back**. It is not a loan.

Navigating the “Where”

Stop #1: School website

- Admissions tab → Financial aid section

Important things to note:

- Total cost of enrollment (tuition/fees/trips/tests)
- Financial aid platform → **CLARITY**
- Process, documents, and deadlines

The screenshot shows the website's navigation bar with links for 'About', 'Admissions', and 'Middle'. A red arrow points to the 'Admissions' link. Below the navigation bar is a sidebar menu with links: 'Applying to Bishop's', 'Visit Us', 'Events', 'FAQ', 'Tuition and Financial Aid' (highlighted with a teal arrow), 'Transportation', 'Meet the Admissions Team', and 'Head Ambassadors'. The main content area features a quote: 'The Bishop's School is rooted in the Episcopal values of integrity, inclusion, compassion and justice.' followed by text about financial aid accessibility and the school's commitment to financial assistance. A section titled 'Bishop's empowers students to learn, lead and act with open hearts and minds, engage in meaningful dialogue and pursue their passions across disciplines.' is also visible. At the bottom, a section titled 'APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL AID' (with a teal arrow) states that the school uses the 'Clarity Application' to determine financial need and that the 2025-2026 application will open on October 1, 2024.

HOME » ADMISSIONS » TUITION AND FINANCIAL AID

Applying to Bishop's

Visit Us

Events

FAQ

Tuition and Financial Aid

Transportation

Meet the Admissions Team

Head Ambassadors

The Bishop's School is rooted in the Episcopal values of integrity, inclusion, compassion and justice.

We seek to provide access and affordability to all qualified students regardless of family background and structure, religion, ethnicity, financial ability or geographic location.

We recognize that a Bishop's education is a significant investment; we appreciate the commitments that all of our families make in order to be a part of our community.

Our financial assistance program combined with various payment plans provides options for qualifying families to afford a Bishop's education.

The Bishop's School allocates more than \$5.2 million in financial aid and ancillary expenses to 20 percent of our student body.

Bishop's empowers students to learn, lead and act with open hearts and minds, engage in meaningful dialogue and pursue their passions across disciplines.

APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL AID

The Bishop's School uses the [Clarity Application](#) to determine a family's level of financial need based on the information that families share in the application, which includes assets, income, expenses and debts.

The 2025-2026 financial aid application will open on October 1, 2024.

Family Budget 101

QUICK STEPS: MONEY IN & MONEY OUT

1. Download two months of bank statements.
2. Create Expense Categories:
 - Housing
 - Transportation
 - Food
 - Utilities
 - Child(ren) needs:
 - Clothing
 - Sports/fees
 - Tuition

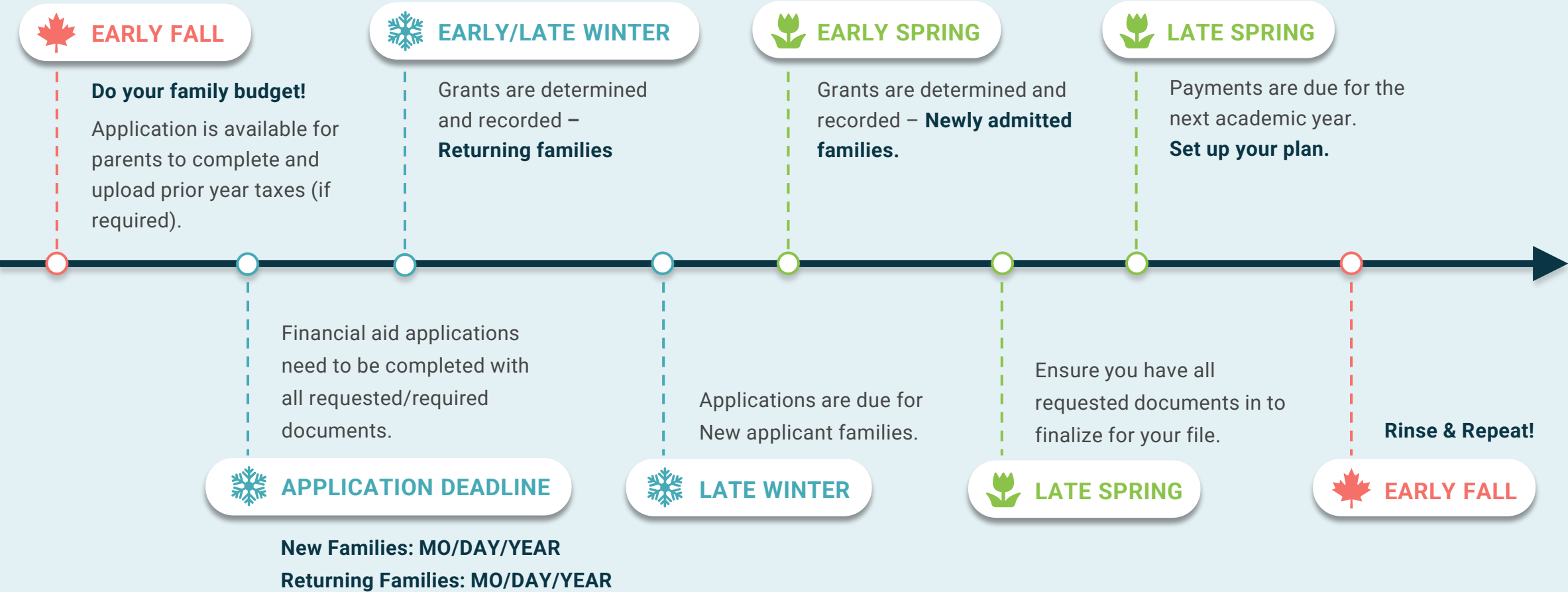
HOPE
VS.
REALITY

IMPORTANT THINGS TO NOTE

- Be realistic.
- Prepare for "other expenses" related to school.
- Don't forget summer childcare costs.

DAILY LIVING	Budget	Actual	Difference
Groceries	1,200.00	2,200.00	(1,000.00)
Restaurants	250.00	425.00	(175.00)
Clothing	50.00	150.00	(100.00)
Cleaning Services			-
Dry Cleaning			-
Salon/Barber	200.00	285.00	(85.00)
Gym Membership	120.00	120.00	-
			-
Total DAILY LIVING	1,820.00	3,180.00	(1,360.00)

Timeline for *Success*



Calmness

BUDGET



- You Need A Budget / YNAB
- <https://www.ynab.com>

GATHER DOCUMENTS



Most recent pay stub, and typically the Federal Tax Returns for 2023 (last year) and 2024, plus business taxes (K-1), and W-2s for all jobs.

COMPLETE THE FORMS



You may complete/pay for more than one financial aid application depending on the school(s) you are considering. Plan accordingly.

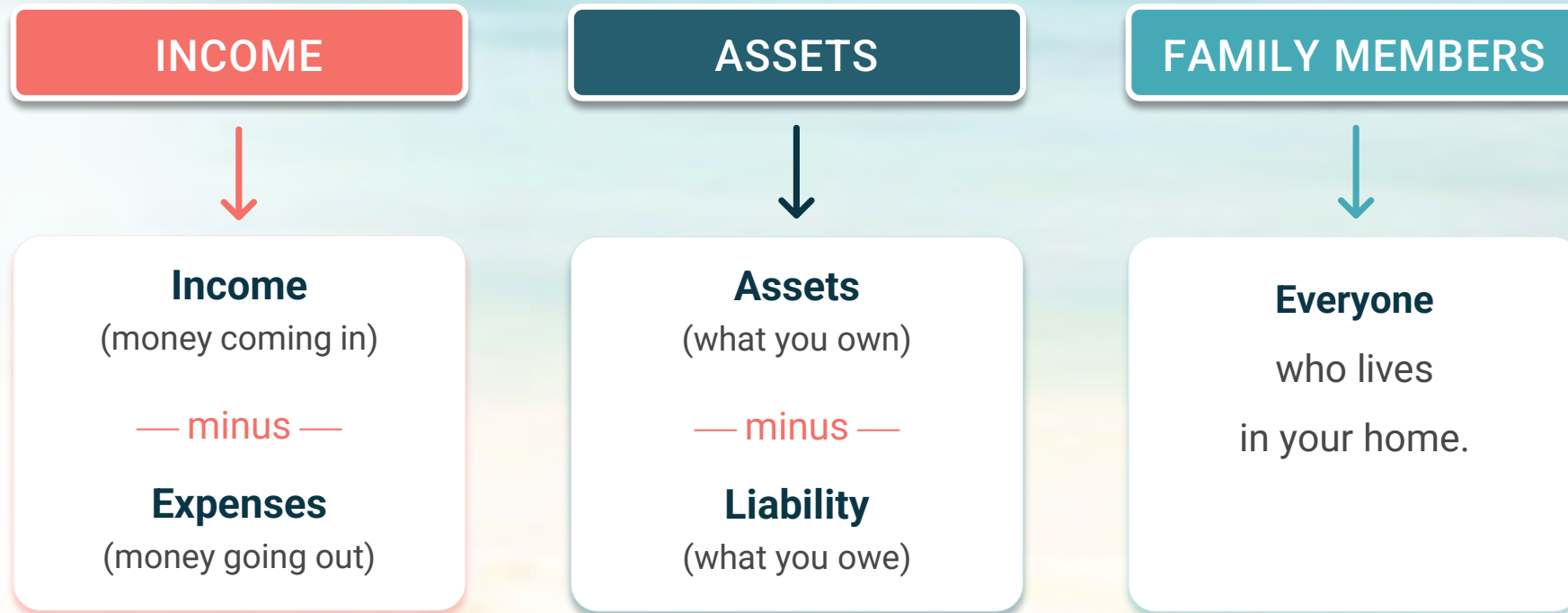
FILE 2023 TAXES AHEAD OF APPLYING



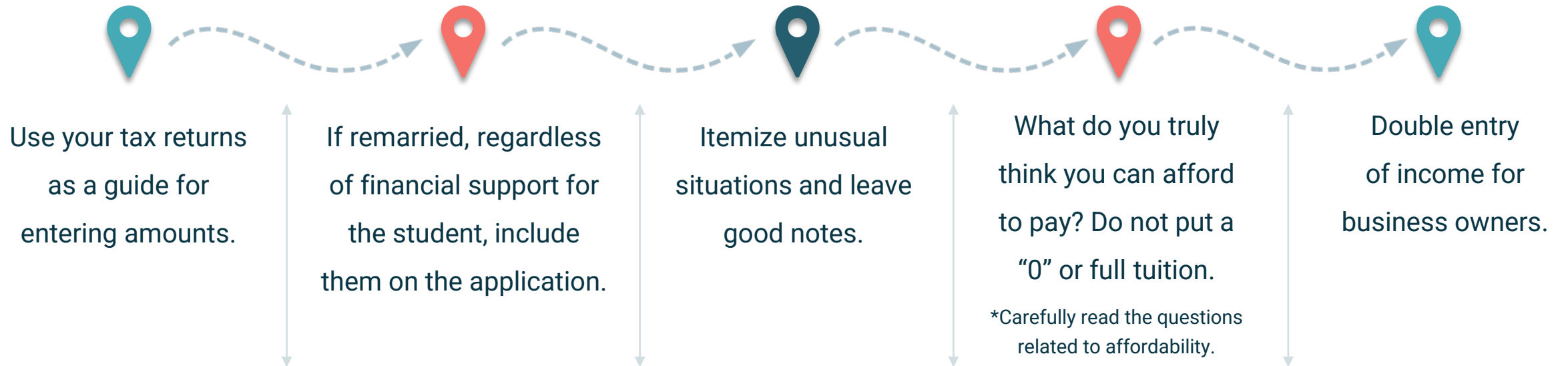
Make sure you have filed last year's taxes well before applying. The IRS can take up to 7 weeks to process a transcript from your filed tax return.



Clearness



Avoid the Traffic Jam



Frequently Asked Questions



1. How do separated/divorced families apply for aid?
2. What are the expectations around working parents?
What if I'm a stay-at-home parent?
3. Do I need to apply every year?



Log into Clarity

<https://app.clarityapp.com/sign-in>

1

A screenshot of a web browser showing the URL <https://app.clarityapp.com/sign-in> in the address bar, which is circled in yellow. The page content includes a 'Welcome to Clarity' message, the text 'An Easier Financial Aid Application for Families.', and an illustration of two children with backpacks. A sign-in form is overlaid on the right side of the page.

2

A screenshot of the Clarity 'Home' page. It features a sidebar with navigation links: Home, Application History, Documents, and Communications. The main content area has a 'Home' heading and a purple banner announcing that 'Applications for the 2025/26 school year are now available!' with a 'Start your application' button.

Applicant vs. Dependent



Student Applicants

For whom you are completing the application.

Other Dependents

Do not list anyone who is listed under the Parent/Guardian or Student Applicant sections.



Include any family members you may not claim on your tax return as a dependent but supply with 50% or more financial support.

- 1 People
 - ☐ Guardians
 - ☐ Address
 - ☐ Student Applicants
 - ☐ Other Dependents
 - ☐ Household Summary
- 2 Background
- 3 Verification
- 4 Financials
- 5 Review & submit



Speedbumps

Detailed information is provided at the start of each section of the application:



Please provide guardian details

Start by telling us about yourself and then list any additional parents or guardians living in your household. Every living biological parent and legal guardian (including step-parents) will need to submit their information in order for an application to be considered complete. Later, you will have the opportunity to invite parents and guardians (including step-parents) from outside of your household to create their own account and fill out a separate application.



Clarity's application has **5 main sections:**

- 1 People
- 2 Background
- 3 Verification
- 4 Financials
- 5 Review & Submit



School Selection



1

Select Schools

Please select the schools that you wish to receive this student's Clarity application.

2

+ Add a School

What is the amount your household can realistically afford to contribute towards tuition in the 2025-26 school year for Brandon Garnett? Please answer with an annual amount, and do not include what you expect to pay for summer or aftercare. i

USD

Add a Student +

⚠ Click 'Save and Continue' to move to the next page or you may lose your progress

← Previous

Save and continue →

3

Cancel

Add School to Application

School Selection

Select a school to apply to i

e.g Clarity Academy

Montgomery School

Clarity Academy - South Campus

The Bryn Mawr School

Saint James School

The Gooden School

Gilman School

Unland Country Day School

Is this student currently enrolled at this school?

Yes

☒

No



Income



This section includes **income** for:

- 1 Parents (taxable and nontaxable income)
- 2 Applicants




What is the key to completing the **Total Taxable Income** section?

- Using your most recent 1040 tax return and W2s.

2024 taxable income for Anita

If your 2024 taxable income is not finalized, list your best estimate. You may be required to submit additional documentation for verification.

Combined gross total salaries and wages for 2024. This should be the sum of all W2's for Anita.

Total Salaries and Wages 

Dividend and



Hovering over the purple "i" offers additional guidance.

Assets and Liabilities



Assets

Information on:

- Investments
- Bank accounts
- Retirement
- Housing
- Vehicles

Liabilities

Information on:

- Past medical (longer than 1 year)
- Student loans
- Credit cards
- All other debts

- ✓ Assets
- ✓ Liabilities



Business/Farm Ownership



In this section, you will answer questions about:

- 1 Gross profits
- 2 Net income
- 3 Business assets
- 4 Total liabilities



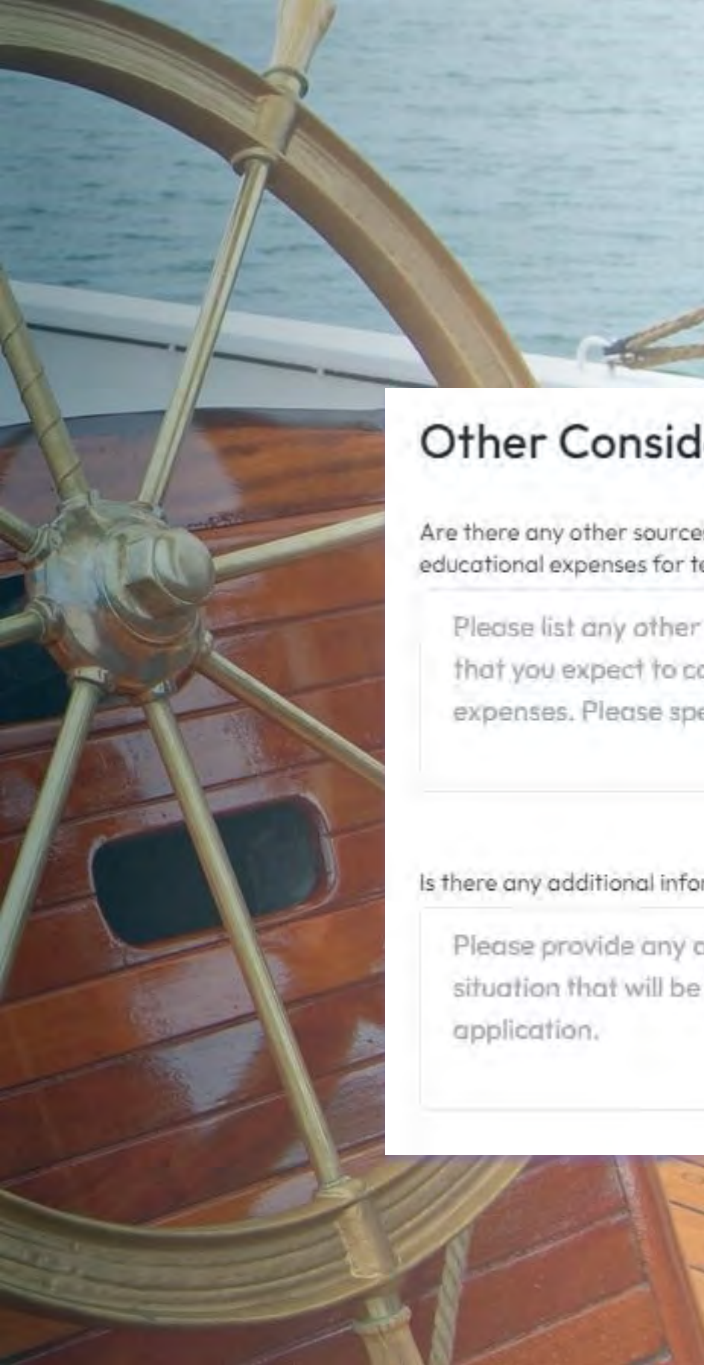
Gather these documents to help answer questions if you file/receive any of them referencing financial activities for the current and previous calendar year:

- Individual tax returns (1040, Schedule C, Schedule E, Schedule F)
- Business returns:
 - ▶ S-Corporations → 1120-S and K-1
 - ▶ Partnerships → 1065 and K-1
- Self-employment information



Be sure to upload all associated business tax returns with your individual tax returns.





Beyond the Numbers



Other Considerations

Are there any other sources (relatives, friends, foundations, etc) that may contribute toward educational expenses for testy in the upcoming school year? If so, please indicate here.

Please list any other sources such as relatives, friends, or third party scholarships that you expect to contribute towards your 2025-26 school year educational expenses. Please specify amounts expected from each source.

Is there any additional information that you would like to have considered?

Please provide any additional explanations or context about your financial situation that will be helpful for the school to know when evaluating your application.

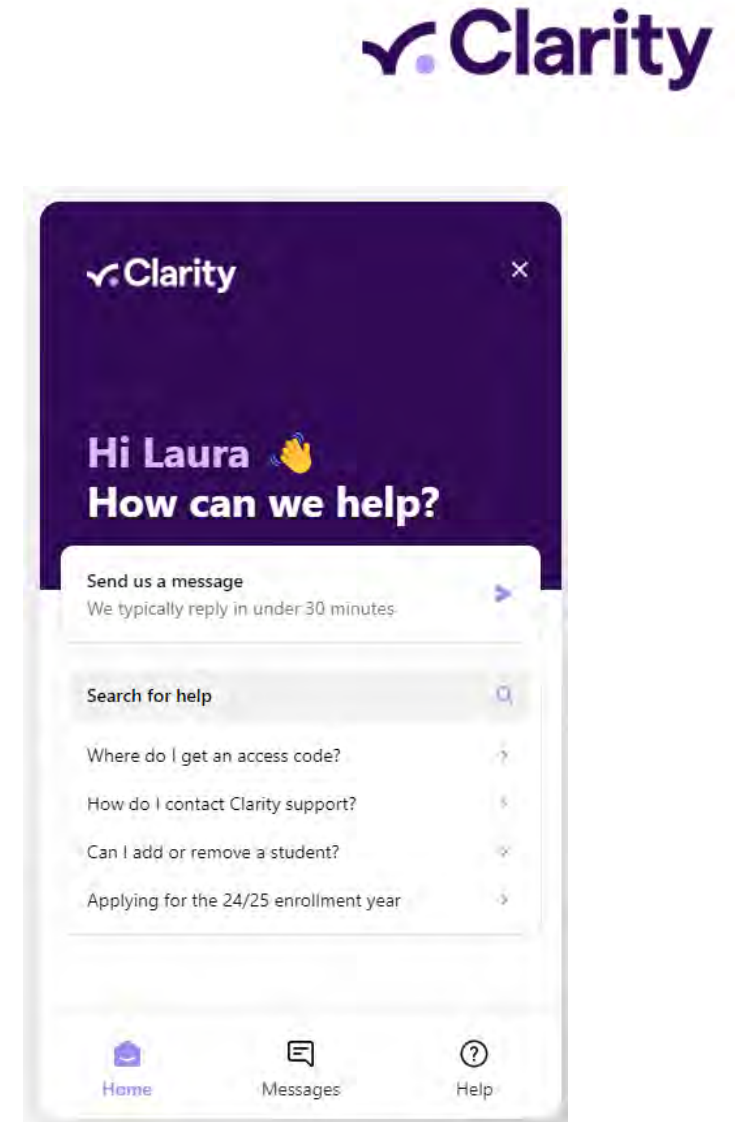
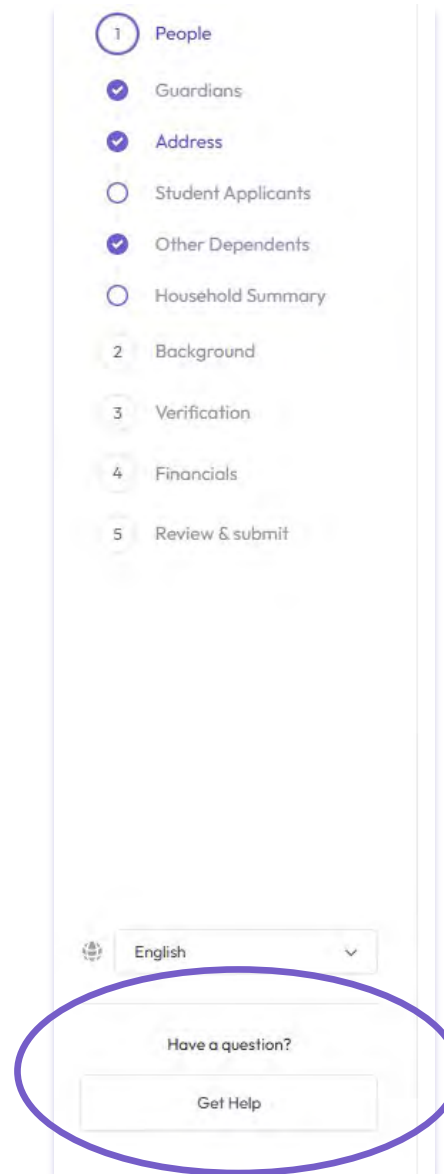
Tell us your story.

Share what the numbers may not show with the school(s). This is more than a plea for admission or assistance. This is your spot to tie everything together and ensure the school understands your family makeup beyond the numbers.

Help and Resources

Clarity Family Support

- support@claritytuition.com
- (206) 210-3752
- In-app “Get Help” chat and “Have a Question?” buttons





ALISA EVANS
Founder and CEO
Mission Enrollment

Thank You

Questions?



MISSION
ENROLLMENT

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