



Fearless, Forward
Learners



TUITION ASSISTANCE

The purpose of tuition assistance at MAC is to increase financial accessibility to a MAC education, as well as socioeconomic, racial, and ethnic diversity in our community. MAC offers the below financial assistance options to eligible students.

1. Curtis Park Scholarship

MAC is committed to being an integral part of the vibrant Curtis Park community and has worked with a group of MAC donors to supplement tuition costs for children who live in the 80205 zip code. If you are interested in the Curtis Park Scholarship and live in the 80205 zip code, please submit a Clarity application on our website to be considered as these scholarships are need-based and awards are designed to supplement, rather than cover, tuition.

2. MAC Endowment Scholarship

MAC offers a limited number of Endowment Scholarships for elementary or middle school students demonstrating financial need who are committed to remaining at MAC through 8th grade. So long as the student and family is in compliance with MAC's policies, Endowment Scholarships renew automatically annually and do not require families to re-apply. Please contact us directly at tuitionassistance@tmaoc.com if you are interested in learning more about our Endowment Scholarship.

3. MAC Middle School Merit Scholarship

MAC offers a limited number of Merit Scholarships for rising 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students. Though these students may not demonstrate financial need, they exemplify MAC's mission and our unique purpose-based Middle School curriculum. So long as the student and family is in compliance with MAC's policies, Merit Scholarships renew automatically annually and do not require families to re-apply.

Featured in the Fall 2023 issue of Independent School magazine, MAC's Middle School is one of the nation's first purpose-based middle schools. As students engage in rigorous preparation for high school, they do so with an integrated and meaningful purpose-based curriculum that fosters a greater sense of self and contribution to the outside world.

MAC Middle is aligned with the unique developmental needs of early adolescents. Our small, nurturing school community ensures each student is deeply known and understood; our program empowers them to be confident thinkers and doers who emerge as leaders in high school and beyond. In order to make this unique 6th - 8th grade experience available to more students, MAC offers a limited number of Merit Scholarships that are not based on financial need for rising 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students.



Tuition Assistance

MAC Middle School Merit Scholarship Qualifying Factors

Merit Scholarships are awarded to continuing and new MAC 6th - 8th grade students who demonstrate readiness to fully engage in MAC's purpose-based program.

- **Innovative Academics - Thinking:** demonstrate a strong academic background and/or high propensity for success at MAC Middle
- **Exploration of Character - Feeling:** demonstrate character by having contributed in a meaningful way to a community of which they have previously been a part and/or engagement in self-reflection
- **Fearless, Forward Mindset - Doing:** demonstrate leadership experience or potential and/or interest in doing meaningful work

MAC's Middle School is based on multi-year learning cycles and the Merit Scholarships are awarded to students and families who are committed to completing 8th grade at MAC Middle.

Application Process

All applicants must fully complete the Merit Scholarship application process. Students selected as recipients of Merit Scholarships will receive annual awards covering 10% - 100% of their full tuition. Note that deposits and fees are not included in the Merit Scholarship. Families are eligible to apply for MAC's need-based tuition adjustment program in addition to the Merit Scholarship. Please note that all Merit Scholarship applicants must have submitted a MAC admissions application or be current students. If you are a new family, once you are in the application process you may request the Middle School Merit Scholarship Application and it will be made available through the application system. Current families may email tuitionassistance@tmaoc.com to request the application.

MAC's Scholarship Committee will review all Merit Scholarship applications confidentially. The total number of awards and amount of each scholarship will be at the discretion of the Committee. Merit Scholarships will be renewed on an annual basis (there is no need to reapply) provided that the student is in good social and academic standing and all account balances are kept current. Please contact tuitionassistance@tmaoc.com with any questions.

4. 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 Clarity, a third-party service often used by independent schools to securely collect and analyze family financial data. 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 Clarity calculated family need, the strategic goals of the school, and the level of demand for available funds.

Eligibility

Families with new students applying to MAC and returning students re-enrolling in MAC's Primary - 8th grade program whose family demonstrates financial need to meet the full cost of tuition are eligible to apply. This includes MAC staff with Primary-8th grade students. Returning students must be in good standing. You can find key dates and the Clarity application [here](#).

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



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Application & Review

Families must complete an online Clarity application and submit requested documentation according to the timeline. A Clarity 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 Clarity and submit all required documentation directly to Clarity. This information is processed by Clarity 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. Students joining MAC during the second semester will be eligible for tuition adjustment at the discretion of the MAC Tuition Adjustment Program Committee.

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 Clarity application, and is then approved for tuition adjustment, a credit will be applied to the student's billing ledger.

Tuition Adjustment Program Cap

For the 2024-25 school year, the total tuition adjustments ranged from 10% - 88% of tuition. The Tuition Assistance Committee anonymously determines adjustment amounts in accordance with Clarity 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.



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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.

Program Coverage

Clarity 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 Clarity calculated family need and the strategic goals of the school.

Questions

Any questions regarding the program can be directed to tuitionassistance@tmaoc.com.

How to Apply for Tuition Adjustment

The Clarity Tuition Adjustment application typically opens in January and will be available at tmaoc.com under the Admissions tab. Though the majority of tuition adjustments are made in the spring prior to the upcoming school year, awards may be given on a rolling basis dependent upon funds remaining in the tuition assistance budget.

5. Additional Tuition Assistance Programs

MAC participates in [Colorado's Universal Pre-K Program \(UPK\)](#), as well as the [Denver Preschool Program \(DPP\)](#) Tuition Credit. These programs are run through state and local governments and parents must sign up and be approved. While UPK and DPP are primarily offered for children who are four-years old by 10/01, some three-year old students may qualify. Please refer to these respective websites to apply.