Fairfield College Preparatory School

A Jesuit, Catholic School of Excellence

FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION POLICY: DIVORCED OR SEPARATED PARENTS

Assessing need when adjudicating a financial aid application in the case of divorced or separated parents:

1. **The Financial Aid Committee requires that a copy be supplied** of the relevant section of the court-approved divorce decree or court-approved separation agreement (as amended and currently in force) which stipulates each parent's responsibility for payment of private secondary school tuition.

   By the financial aid filing deadline, send this copy to financialaid@fairfieldprep.org, or to:

   Kevin Altieri
   1073 North Benson Road
   Fairfield College Preparatory School
   Fairfield, Connecticut 06824

2. **For the purpose of assigning financial aid awards,** in the case of divorced or separated parents the Financial Aid Committee assesses each parent's need independently of the other's, using as a basis for the Committee's decision the tuition-payment responsibility assigned to each parent as stipulated in the divorce decree or separation agreement. Note that this stipulation applies regardless of which parent(s) sign(s) the enrollment contract.

3. **In the absence of any court-approved language** stipulating each parent's respective responsibility for payment of private secondary school tuition, when adjudicating a financial aid application, it is the Financial Aid Committee's policy to assign equal payment responsibility to each party for the purpose of determining need. Note that this stipulation applies regardless of which parent(s) sign(s) the enrollment contract.

4. **The Committee does not honor private agreements** made between the divorced or separated parents for assignment of tuition payment responsibility, nor does the Committee honor either unilateral assignment of such responsibility or unilateral disavowal of such responsibility.

5. **If both parents are seeking financial aid,** each parent must submit a separate financial aid application to FACTS Management. According to #2 above, it is possible (and indeed likely) that the Committee may render a different decision for each parent, according to the Committee's separate assessment of need in each individual parent's case.

6. **If only one parent files a financial aid application,** the Financial Aid Committee will assess need and render its decision only for that portion of the tuition which is the filing parent's tuition-payment responsibility; the non-filing parent will be expected to pay his or her portion of tuition in its entirety.

Kevin J Altieri '00, P'28
VP for Enrollment Management
Chair, Financial Aid Committee

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