TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
2027-2028

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Montessori de Terra Linda's budget offers limited Tuition Assistance funds to help make enrollment affordable for admitted students. This assistance is intended as a supplement to family resources, and awards are made to students of families whose ability to pay school costs is limited. The Tuition Assistance Committee administers the Program. Assistance decisions are made independently from admission decisions and in no way affect an applicant's chances for admission. The Tuition Assistance Program is open to students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin.

Awards are available for children beginning in the 1st year of the Primary program. MdTL does not make awards for non-contracted after school care, before care or holiday/summer camp fees.

HOW TO APPLY

Please complete a Tuition Assistance application through Clarity and pay the $65 application fee. Your 2025 taxes must be filed in order for your application to be processed. There are a limited number of fee waivers available for families who cannot afford the application fee for Clarity, and in some cases Clarity waives the fee completely. For questions, contact the Business Office at businessoffice@mdtl.org or 415-479-7373, ext. 106.

POLICIES

Selection: MdTL follows the guidelines for evaluation of financial need established by MdTL and Clarity for Tuition Assistance. The Tuition Assistance Committee considers a number of factors when deciding on a Tuition Assistance Award. These factors include the determination of need by Clarity, number of school-age children and a variety of other factors including school funds budgeted for assistance and the number of applicants. Because there are so many variables, it is difficult to predict what, if any, the amount of a Tuition Assistance Award might be. In the 2026-27 school year, approximately 42 awards representing 28% of our students were granted, ranging from 3% to 95% of tuition.

Continuing Students: Awards are granted on an annual basis and, therefore, do not roll over from one academic year to the next. Returning student applicants must meet the deadlines and standards of documentation, as must first-time applicants. Because of the varying resources of MdTL and of the applicant, and the changing composition of the applicant pool, awards vary from year to year.

Applicants (Not Yet Enrolled at MdTL): Families of students applying to MdTL may apply for Tuition Assistance once they have submitted an enrollment application with payment of the $100 application fee. However, funds for new students may be limited (see "*Priorities*").

Arrears: Awards will not be made to families in arrears on their account with MdTL for the current academic year. Any award is made conditional upon the family continuing to pay charges to their account when due.

Priorities: Subject to the availability of funding, MdTL gives preference to timely applications for assistance (see the deadlines listed in the calendar) in the following order:

a) Returning students already receiving Tuition Assistance
b) Returning students applying for Tuition Assistance for the first time
c) New students
d) Applications submitted after the designated deadlines

Dual Households: MdTL considers the income and assets of both parents to arrive at an award, and will not be bound by the assertion that one parent has disclaimed responsibility for educational expenses. If the custodial parent has remarried, the income and assets of the step-parent will be considered, bearing in mind the obligations that individual might have to his or her other children, if any. Parents are assured that all information submitted will be kept in strictest confidence and that such information will not be shared between families. Any financial support that may be available beyond the parents' income and assets should be reported in the appropriate section of the Clarity application. These might include resources from grandparents or other relatives.

If there are circumstances that a family believes might warrant waiving this requirement, a written request for a waiver should be submitted to the Tuition Assistance Committee.

Confidentiality: MdTL will refrain from making any public announcement of the amount of Tuition Assistance awarded to a student. MdTL will safeguard the confidentiality of all financial information supplied by a family.

AWARDS

Awards are given to students of those families who have demonstrated need. Awards are given to individual students and are not transferable to siblings or other students. **Awards are available for children beginning in the 1st year of the Primary program.**

Before accepting an enrollment contract with a Tuition Assistance award, a family must judge whether the award is adequate and that they can pay the balance of tuition and other charges when due.

Contracts with awards MUST be returned to MdTL before the expiration date on the offered Enrollment Contract. **MdTL does not hold places or Tuition Assistance awards for students who do not return signed Enrollment Contracts and the Enrollment Fee by their due date.**

FINANCIAL EMERGENCY

If a family experiences a major change to its financial position that makes payment of agreed tuition a significant hardship, we ask that you write to the Tuition Assistance Committee explaining your need for assistance, how much you need, and your proposed payment plan. The Committee will review the request and make an emergency award of assistance only if a compelling case has been made and if there are funds available in MdTL's budget to do so. In an emergency, do not delay. We can only offer help if you communicate your need.

TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
2027-2028 CALENDAR

Fall 2026: 2027-2028 Online Tuition Assistance Applications open in Clarity (your 2025 taxes must be filed).

Families currently receiving assistance must reapply each year. Note: Make sure to use the same email address in Clarity used with prior year's application so that the application is pre-populated with data, saving a significant amount of time in the re-application process. Contact the Business Office if you are unsure of which email address to use.

Returning Students**:**
January 15, 2027: Priority Tuition Assistance Application Deadline for current MdTL students.

February 2, 2027: Re-enrollment Contracts emailed with TA awards to returning students.

February 9, 2027: Signed re-enrollment contracts and the Enrollment Fee are due.

Siblings:
January 15, 2027: Priority Tuition Assistance Deadline for siblings of current MdTL students. Limited TA may be available after this date.

February 25, 2027: Enrollment contracts for siblings of current MdTL students emailed with TA awards.

March 4, 2027: Signed enrollment contracts and the Enrollment Fee are due for siblings of currently enrolled students.

New Students:
January 29, 2027: Priority Tuition Assistance Deadline for new students applying to MdTL. Limited TA may be available after this date.

March 11, 2027: Enrollment contracts emailed with TA awards for new students.

March 18, 2027 (by 10AM): Signed enrollment contracts and the Enrollment Fee are due for new students.

**MdTL does not hold places or Tuition Assistance awards for returning or new students who do not return signed Enrollment Contracts and the Enrollment Fee by their due date.