



## Financial Aid Policies

The Pennfield School is a need-based educational institution. It is a member of the School and Student Service for Financial Aid (SSS) program, an organization that is utilized by the majority of independent schools to assist in determining tuition aid grants to families. Financial aid helps families cover a portion of the cost of tuition. Grants make Pennfield more accessible to a larger population of people. Applying for financial aid is an annual process.

If you are applying for financial aid for your child (ren) entering grades kindergarten-grade 8 in the forthcoming year, please note the following guidelines:

1. Financial Aid information must be on file for returning families on December 20, 2024 and February 5, 2025 for new families to be considered in the first round of grants. After these dates, financial aid will still be available and awarded on a rolling basis. Complete the Clarity Financial Aid form at [clarityschools.com](https://www.clarityschools.com). This application typically takes less than 30 minutes to complete. The Clarity Application is also mobile-friendly.
2. In cases of divorce, unmarried or separated parents both parents need to submit a PFS and a copy of their 1040 tax return. Children living with grandparents or guardians will be reviewed case by case.
4. When one parent does not work outside the home and all children are of school age and able to attend school, we will add \$20,000 to the income of the family, about the average cost of the Pennfield tuition. Exceptions will be made for the care of a critically ill or disabled child, parent, or grandparent. If a parent chooses to leave their job or change jobs for a decreased salary, Pennfield is unable to underwrite this difference with a larger financial aid grant.
5. Families will sign up with a payment plan through BLACKBAUD TUITION, a service offered through the Pennfield Business Office.
6. Families reapply for aid each year if they want to continue to receive a yearly grant. Families will typically receive a grant that is at least the same amount as the prior year unless there is a significant income change.
7. It is understood that The Pennfield School is not obligated to award the amounts recommended by Clarity for Financial Aid. Tuition aid will be distributed as equitably as possible and will be based upon the number of applicants, the total amount of funds available, and the recommendation of Clarity.

**To learn more, visit <https://www.pennfield.org/affording-pennfield>,  
call the Admission Office at (401) 849-4646 ext. 147 or email [contact@pennfield.com](mailto:contact@pennfield.com).**