



**MORRISON SCHOOL  
TUITION GRANT POLICY MANUAL  
For the academic year 2020 - 2021**

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## **I. TUITION GRANT OBJECTIVE**

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Tuition Grants are provided to assist families who do not have the means or resources sufficient to pay full tuition.

The process is detailed and thorough in order that the Tuition Grant Committee may have as much information as possible to accurately assess a family's ability to pay tuition.

The Tuition Grant Committee has a fiduciary responsibility to the donors who have made the gifts for Tuition Grants to distribute the funds to families who demonstrate both need and few options to meet that need.

Tuition Grant funds are limited and every effort is made to distribute them fairly among the applicants.

## **I. TUITION GRANT POLICIES**

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## **A. APPLICATION DEADLINES**

Due to the limited availability of Tuition Grant funds and the large number of families applying for Tuition Grants, families should submit all forms, tax returns, and requested documentation by the specific deadlines identified in the timeline on page 11.

In order to make Tuition Grant awards in a timely manner, complete applications will be considered in the following order (\*):

In early-March, the Tuition Grant Committee will consider ONLY completed applications from returning students who have had Tuition Grant in the prior school year.

In mid-March, the Tuition Grant Committee will consider ONLY completed applications from returning students who have NOT had Tuition Grant in the prior school year.

In early April, if Tuition Grant funds remain, the Tuition Grant Committee will consider completed applications from students who will be new to Morrison School in the fall for the upcoming school year.

In late April, if Tuition Grant funds remain, the Tuition Grant Committee will consider the remaining completed Tuition Grant applications in this order:

1. Applications from returning students who had Tuition Grant in the prior school year.
2. Applications from returning students who did not have Tuition Grant in the prior year.
3. Applications from students who will be new to Morrison School for the fall of the upcoming school year.

(\*) The Tuition Grant Committee reserves the right to meet during other times and schedules as it deems appropriate and beneficial.

## **B. ENROLLMENT FEES- RETURNING STUDENTS**

All returning students must have submitted their re-enrollment application and have paid the application fee to reserve their class place for the upcoming school year in order to be considered for Tuition Grant.

If the Tuition Grant award is insufficient for the student to be able to return to Morrison School, the family will be given a period of time in the award letter to withdraw the enrollment contract without an obligation to pay the tuition. **The withdrawal must be in writing to the Head of School by the deadline specified in the award letter from the Tuition Grant Committee.** The \$35.00 FACTS fee and \$100.00 of the \$200.00 application fees are non-refundable.

### C. UNEMPLOYED PARENT

If one spouse or partner is unemployed and is not disabled and does not have extenuating circumstances, one half of the Morrison School tuition will be added to the income of the family for the calculation of need. The assumption of the Tuition Grant Committee will be that that parent has the opportunity to work at least part-time and contribute to the school tuition.

### D. DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS

Tuition Grant will not be awarded to any student whose present account balance is delinquent. **If the account balance becomes delinquent after the Tuition Grant award has been made, the school reserves the right to withdraw the award if the account is more than 30 days past due.**

### E. STUDENT IN GOOD STANDING

To be considered for Tuition Grant, students must be in good standing academically, behaviorally and have good attendance. The parents must understand and support the mission of the school.

Once a student receives Tuition Grant, it is expected that the student will remain in good standing academically, behaviorally and have good attendance and that both the parents and student will continue to support the mission of the school. Should it be demonstrated that these criteria are not being met, the school reserves the right to withdraw financial assistance.

## **F. APPLICATION DISCREPANCIES/INACCURACIES**

Should discrepancies and/or inaccurate information be discovered in the information provided to Morrison School, the school reserves the right to withdraw financial assistance at any time during the school year.

## **G. NEW STUDENT APPLICATIONS**

New applicants for admission to Morrison School must have completed the application process and have been accepted to the school before an application for Tuition Grant can be considered by the Committee. The family may, however, begin the Tuition Grant process at the same time that they are applying for admissions. The completed grant file will remain pending until such time as the student has been accepted to Morrison School.

If the family decides to submit the enrollment application in order to reserve the student's class spot, the enrollment can be contingent upon the receipt of Tuition Grant and the family will be given a window of time after the Tuition Grant award is made to decide whether or not to attend. **However, should the student begin attending class, the enrollment contract becomes binding on the withdrawal date as set forth in the contract.** If the family chooses not to attend and puts this decision in writing to the school, prior to the deadline specified in the Tuition Grant notification letter, the family will not be responsible for the tuition. The enrollment fee is non-refundable.

## **H. CREDIT CARD DEBT, BUSINESS LOSSES**

The Tuition Grant Committee will not consider business losses, credit card debt, business depreciation or rental real estate depreciation in calculating financial need.

## **I. OTHER SITUATIONS AND INFORMATION**

1. Tuition Grant is not automatically renewable. Each family must reapply for Tuition Grant each year.

2. Morrison School reserves the right to request additional financial information from the applicants at any time.

### **III. APPLICATION PROCESS AND TIMETABLE**

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#### **A. ROLE OF THE TUITION GRANT COMMITTEE**

The Morrison School Tuition Grant Committee is comprised of several members of the Board of Trustees, the Head of School, and the Program Director.

All of the Tuition Grant applications are considered confidential and are processed by the Administrative Assistant. The only other people who review this information are the members of the Tuition Grant Committee.

#### **B. THE TUITION GRANT PROCESS**

1. Parents are sent a packet from Morrison School with the Tuition Grant Manual and general information for the filing process.
2. Parents read the Tuition Grant Manual thoroughly.
3. By the deadlines specified in the timeline on page 11, parents must complete the FACTS form online at the School website, or go to this link: <https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/3R9Y6>.
4. By the deadlines specified in the timeline on page 11, parents must provide all required documentation.
5. Upon receipt of the original application/documentation by the school, the Administrative Assistant will set up a Tuition Grant file for the student and will indicate the receipt date on the file.

6. The Administrative Assistant will then evaluate each application received for completeness and will notify applicants by US mail, by email, or by telephone regarding additional information needed by the school in order for the application to be deemed complete.
7. Once the school has received all required documentation, the report from the FACTS system, have met all other criteria for Tuition Grant (as specified in the Tuition Grant Policies above), the application will be deemed complete and the Head of School and/or his/her assistant will analyze each completed application.
8. Sometimes the report from FACTS will indicate areas that the school should investigate and possibly recalculate. If so, this will be done by the Head of School and a new report will be prepared for the Tuition Grant Committee.
9. The completed applications then go to the Tuition Grant Committee for consideration in the order specified in Section II, B above. The Tuition Grant Committee looks at each application and complete file individually, discussing the need for Tuition Grant, any choices the family might have for spending or other options that would provide funds for tuition, and whether or not the application meets the Tuition Grant Objective of Morrison School and all policies as described herein. *The FACTS report is used as a guideline for making decisions, but is not the sole determining factor.*
10. After the Tuition Grant Committee meeting, the Head of School will document the decisions made and the Administrative Assistant will notify the applicants in writing.
  - The notification letter will identify whether or not the applicant received an award and if an award was made, the amount of the award.
  - In addition to the notification letter, an amendment to the enrollment contract will be shared with the family.
  - For those students who did not receive an award, notification of this will be sent along with a deadline by which the parents must notify the school of any changes

in enrollment status. No changes to the enrollment status will be possible after the stated deadline.

- The letter will specify a deadline for submission of the signed document(s). If the document(s) are not received by the deadline specified in the letter, the Tuition Grant funds will be released to help other students with need.
- The parents should submit the document(s) to the school and the school records and student account will be updated to reflect the award and the enrollment status for the upcoming school year.

### C. REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

1. All Parents requesting Tuition Grant are asked to complete the **FACTS Application** online at the School website or follow this link. <https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/3R9Y6>  
**This should be completed on or before March 2**  
(See timeline on page 11). The FACTS form is only available for online submission. This will be an interactive, adaptive application, using a password that will allow for multiple sessions. The Tuition Grant Policy Manual may also be found on the Morrison School website as well as a hard copy sent home with your child on January 17, 2020.
2. Copy of both your **2019 complete tax returns (including all schedules and copies of all W-2(s), K-1(s) and 1099-MISC, as applicable and at a minimum your W-2(s) for 2019)** must be provided to the school no later than **March 2, 2020**. **All tax returns must be signed**. **If you have filed your 2019 tax return** please include a copy of the completed return. Parents must submit a complete tax return and not an electronic return summary. In order to apply for Tuition Grant, parents will be required to prepare their federal income taxes before March 1. The Tuition Grant Committee will follow the timeline on page 11. If parent(s) are unable to prepare taxes early and submit them and taxes are submitted at a later date, the student may be ineligible to receive funds due to limited availability of Tuition Grant dollars.



3. Parents who own private businesses or farms will be required to furnish a copy of the current business tax return. Cash flow statements, balance sheets, and other information relevant to the business may be needed by the school as well.
4. Parents in partnerships, S-Corporations or LLCs should furnish a copy of all K-1(s) to the school.
5. Military families should furnish a copy of the Leave and Earnings statement.
6. In the case of separated or divorced families, the custodial parent and, if applicable, the present spouse or partner, should complete the FACTS application online as described above.

All divorced parents must provide the school with a copy of the **divorce decree and parenting plan** in order that the school may be informed as to whether or not either parent has a financial obligation with regard to private school education.

The non-custodial parent should send the school a copy of their 2019 tax return with all schedules. If the non-custodial parent provides this information to the school, the school may notify the non-custodial parent of the Tuition Grant decision. The custodial parent should notify the Head of School if this is not acceptable or allowed for any reason.

If the non-custodial parent refuses to submit the necessary information to the school, it is possible that the Tuition Grant application will not be able to be processed.

7. In situations where couples are living together but not married, the school requires financial information from both parties. This may be consolidated in one application. If the child is from a former marriage of either parent, forms will be required of current family and non-custodial parent and spouse, if applicable.

8. If a student has assets in a trust fund, parents must furnish a copy of the trust agreement.

#### **D. OPTIONAL DOCUMENTATION**

Some families have circumstances that impact their ability to pay tuition that are not reflected in all of the documentation provided. If the parent(s) believe that this is the case, the parent(s) are welcome to write a letter to the Tuition Grant Committee describing these circumstances. While more information for the Tuition Grant Committee is always more helpful than not, a letter is not a requirement for consideration for Tuition Grant.

#### **E. TUITION GRANT WAITING LIST**

Once all Tuition Grant funds have been awarded, the school will maintain a waiting list of applicants who qualify for aid, but have not yet been awarded Tuition Grant.

#### **F. TUITION GRANT TIMELINE**

***January 17, 2020***

Morrison School sends Tuition Grant packets to all families.

***January 20, 2020***

Morrison School sends a letter to all families in the inquiry file notifying them of the Tuition Grant process and telling them to request a Tuition Grant packet from the school office if they are interested in applying. This will be posted on the website, Facebook page and newsletter.

***January 31, 2020***

Parents receive W-2 forms from their employers. These are needed to file tax returns and to file the Financial Aid Application

***March 2, 2020***

Parents file Tuition Grant application in FACTS. If unable to file by this date or newly enrolling student to Morrison School, please contact the office at 276-669-2823.

***March 2, 2020***

Enrollment contracts due for all returning students.

Parents send any other documentation for Tuition Grant file to Morrison School.

***Beginning March 2***

Morrison School administrative assistant prints and analyzes Tuition Grant applications.

***Late March\****

Tuition Grant Committee to review applications from returning students currently receiving Tuition Grant.

***Late April\****

Second meeting of Tuition Grant Committee to review applications from students new to Morrison School.

***15 days from letter***

**All Tuition Grant files should be completed no later than 15 days from the date of the incomplete file notification sent to families by the administrative assistant.**

***May-August, 2020***

If Tuition Grant funds remain, the Tuition Grant Committee will meet, as necessary, to make any final determinations.

\*The Tuition Grant Committee may meet at more frequent intervals as able and as files become complete.