



Meadowbrook Waldorf School

Through its Tuition Adjustment (TA) program, Meadowbrook Waldorf School offers adjusted tuition rates based on demonstrated financial need.

Program Goals

- Help MWS honor its mission statement by providing a means to make Waldorf education available “to those who seek it” and maintain the “breadth and diversity of humanity” in our community.
- Strive for fairness through a balanced, confidential, and thorough process that considers each family’s unique set of circumstances.
- Offer a financial safety net for parents of enrolled children.

Program Scope

- Approximately 35% of MWS families receive some form of TA.
- TA adjustments generally do not exceed 50% of tuition, though exceptions are made.

MWS Expectations

- The primary responsibility for financing this education rests with the student’s family.
- Parents turn to other sources before asking MWS for adjustment.
- Parents align their resources and discretionary spending in a way that indicates they value this education.
- Both parents are employed unless there are young children at home.
- Divorced parents submit financial information for both households unless parental rights have been terminated.
- MWS conducts this process with the utmost confidentiality, and we expect parents to do the same.

TA Process

- Begins after the child is accepted for enrollment, has returned their enrollment package and deposit, and registered with Facts Management.
- Applicant families complete a TA application on Facts Management to provide a detailed picture of their financial status.
- The TA Committee confidentially reviews the completed application.
- TA applicants meet with school representatives to discuss their request.
- TA Committee decision is communicated to the applicants. If no agreement is reached and the parents withdraw their child, the enrollment deposit is refunded.
- TA application deadline is March 1, although the Tuition Adjustment Committee meets throughout the year to meet the needs of transfer students, or families whose financial situation has changed.



Meadowbrook Waldorf School

FAQ:

Isn't accepting tuition adjustment weakening the school?

Meadowbrook Waldorf School has been delivering a Waldorf education in Rhode Island for over 40 years. The stability of our school is due to both our financial soundness and our diverse community. Some families make our school strong organizationally while others make us stronger spiritually and artistically. This diversity of ideas and contribution is a critical component of our community and something we wish to cultivate.

Will I be expected to volunteer more if I accept tuition adjustment?

While willing volunteers will never be turned away, there is no intention that acceptance of tuition adjustment puts more of a burden on a family to contribute to Meadowbrook in terms of time and effort. By the same token, we ask all parents – including those paying full tuition – to join into the life of the school in whatever ways they are able and willing. Children who are surrounded by happy, caring, involved, helpful adults feel supported and cherished. Additionally, we know that by modeling volunteerism, children will grow to engage passionately in their own interests.

When my second (third, etc.) child is old enough, will we have to make a choice over which one can stay at Meadowbrook?

Multiple child families are crucial to our school's success. Just as college financial aid considers multiple children, Meadowbrook understands that paying tuition for two or more children strains nearly every budget. To encourage multiple child families, Meadowbrook offers sibling discounts (10% tuition discount on the second child; third and additional siblings receive a 40% discount). These discounts are available upon request and are separate from tuition adjustment.

By allowing some students a reduced tuition, is Meadowbrook forcing other families to pay more?

More accurately, our goal is to become a school of full classrooms, healthy families from diverse backgrounds, and families committed to the ideals specified in the school's mission statement. Our tuition adjustment program makes a Waldorf education a possibility for those seeking it, increases the diversity in our classrooms and can help reduce the stress for families with tight budgets. We feel by helping those who truly want to undertake this journey with us, we strengthen our community.