

Returning Families,

The financial aid process is changing at Wheaton Academy. These changes could be significant for your family, so please review the following information carefully.



The new deadline for financial aid applications for the 2022-2023 school year is December 31, 2021.

Why the change?

- This modified timeline allows Wheaton Academy to grant aid awards to returning families before new family aid awards are considered.
- This 2021-2022 school year yielded record enrollment for Wheaton Academy. We anticipate another year of full enrollment, and more financial aid requests than funds available. An earlier deadline is needed for the school's continued financial and enrollment health.
- Over 80% of our financial aid awards are distributed in February, so we want to include our returning families in this distribution.

Our records indicate that your family received a financial aid award this year. To be considered for an award for the 2022-2023 school year, **we require your family to re-apply through the FACTS® application starting November 1, 2021 and before December 31, 2021.**

YOUR CHECKLIST

Visit wheatonacademy.org/affordable and click to access the [FACTS® application](#) starting **November 1**

Submit the FACTS® application and upload supporting documentation to the FACTS® portal

This required documentation could include:

- W2
- Most recent pay stubs per working parent
- Tax Returns. Wheaton Academy permits families to use their 2020 tax returns to apply for financial aid considering the December 31 deadline.

Confirm receipt of the FACTS® application

The status of your FACTS® application can be found on the FACTS® portal upon log-in.

Please note that FACTS® takes about two weeks to process finished applications and verify submitted documentation. The FACTS® portal will directly email families reminders to complete any outstanding items, so please look for these notifications and respond accordingly.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

In **mid-January 2022**, the Wheaton Academy Financial Aid Committee will review the recommended aid award from FACTS®. The Committee will then issue financial aid award decisions to families beginning **February 15, 2022**. This award will be issued to your family through a notification from the FACTS® portal.

Then, should your family qualify for an award, your family will need to accept the financial aid award through the FACTS® portal within one week's time.

Please note: Awards are distributed as funds are available. There may be a season of a financial aid wait pool for families, even after awards begin to be issued. Thanks in advance for your patience should this possibility become a reality.

SOME COMMON QUESTIONS

Q: Will my family receive the same financial award as last year?

A: Current families who pay reduced tuition because of financial aid can expect to receive similar levels of funding each year if their financial circumstances remain the same. Typically, families pay part of any annual tuition increase. However, every family must re-apply for financial aid each year and meet all stated deadlines.

Q: I am applying another student for the 2022-2023 school year? Is there a separate process for new students?

A: No—your family's FACTS® application should include both your returning student(s) and new student(s). Additionally, your family's financial aid award amount may be re-evaluated considering your family's increased enrollment.

Q: I need help completing my FACTS® application. Who do I contact?

A: If you have specific questions regarding your application and how to upload your required documentation, we recommend you contact FACTS® Customer Service directly: 866-315-9262. Their service is fantastic and completely confidential. If you have any other questions, please contact Pat Brooke pbrooke@wheatonacademy.org or Sheri Guarnizo sguarnizo@wheatonacademy.org in the Business Office.

Q: My family's financial circumstance has changed, and we are no longer in need of financial assistance. Who do I contact?

A: Please contact Pat Brooke pbrooke@wheatonacademy.org directly so we can update our files accordingly.

Q: Are there any other factors that contribute to financial aid awards?

A: All aid awards are need-based; however, families must be current in their tuition payments to receive future awards.



Thank you in advance for your timely response.

Please let us know if you have any questions about our updated financial aid process

Kind regards,
Steve Karlson