

Sweethaven Christian Academy 2012 Financial Aid Policy

Steps to Apply for Financial Aid

1. Go to www.sweethavenchristian.org.
 - a. Click on the FACTS logo on the right side of the home page.
 - b. Click on the Request Application for Financial Aid link on the right.
 - c. Submit all required forms online to the FACTS Grant and Aid system.
2. Pick up a Financial Aid packet at the front desk.
 - a. Fill out your name on the top of the Pastor Questionnaire.
 - b. Submit Pastor Questionnaire with enclosed envelope to the senior pastor of the church you attend.
3. Sign and return the Statement of Cooperation.
4. Write and submit an explanation as to why financial assistance is needed.

Applicants will be contacted with the results of their application within 2 weeks of receiving all paperwork. Should further information be required, an interview will be scheduled with the financial aid committee.

A ministry of Sweethaven Baptist Church

Sweethaven Christian Academy believes a Christian education is paramount to establishing a Biblically correct and Godly world view. In accordance with our church doctrine, we believe God has blessed us to aid those in need with a true desire to provide their children with a Godly upbringing. As such, to be considered for financial aid, we require that all applicants be a faithful member of a Bible-believing church.

Nondiscrimination & Confidentiality

Sweethaven Christian Academy admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs. All information relating to applications for financial aid will be held by Sweethaven in the strictest of confidence and will not be released to any unauthorized party. Documentation from custodial, non-custodial, and step-parents will not be shared with other members of the student's family.

FACTS Grant and Aid Management

The purpose of the FACTS Grant and Aid Management application is to establish an equitable and consistent approach to the distribution of funds. Using many factors, including income, family size, assets and liabilities, an estimate is made as to how much a family can reasonably contribute towards Sweethaven's educational costs. The difference between this suggested "family contribution" and Sweethaven's total cost is the family's "financial need."

Need-based Aid

Financial aid at Sweethaven Christian Academy is based on a family's demonstrated financial need. Sweethaven will not exceed in its offer of financial aid the amount needed to meet the difference between the resources determined to be available to the family and the student's total educational expenses. A financial assessment will be conducted by FACTS Grant and Aid Management. Along with this assessment, the Pastor Questionnaire and Written Statement of Need will aid the Financial Aid Committee in determining if the family is worthy of receiving aid. Sweethaven's budget for financial aid is a fixed amount and aid will be assessed on a first come, first served basis.

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Complete Documentation

Financial aid cannot be awarded until Sweethaven Christian Academy has received all appropriate documentation. All required forms must be submitted by May 1st, 2012.

Financial Aid and School Admission

Application for financial aid will not affect admission decisions. Students earn admission to Sweethaven by demonstrating that they will profit from and contribute to our educational community in cooperation with the policies outlined in our handbooks.

Wait Pool or Late Applicants

Financial aid funds cannot be guaranteed to late applicants or wait pool students. The availability of funds after initial awards are sent out will vary from year to year.

Returning Students

Returning students will receive the first priority for financial aid funds. This consideration includes returning families who have not applied for prior financial aid as long as application materials are received in a timely fashion.

Expectations of Financial Aid Recipients

Students who are placed on academic probation during one marking period may not be offered aid the following year. This expectation does not apply to students during their first marking period at Sweethaven. It is also within the Administration's discretion to withdraw financial aid from any student or family who demonstrate a continuing inability to be a responsible member of Sweethaven's community.

Separated or Divorced and Step-Parents

When comparing the financial circumstances of families applying for aid, Sweethaven will consider the income and assets of both natural parents. If either parent has remarried, the school will also consider the income and assets of the step-parent, always bearing in mind the obligation of that step-parent to his or her own natural children. Sweethaven will not be bound by the assertion that one parent or step-parent has disclaimed responsibility for a child's educational expenses.

Waiving Non-Custodial Parent Requirements

The non-custodial parent will not be expected to submit a financial aid application only if documentation is provided stating that their location is unknown or that they provide no support and have had no contact with the family for at least two years. This documentation will be accepted from a doctor, lawyer, minister, or any such person outside the immediate family. If there are any other extenuating circumstances that might waive this requirement, written requests should be sent to the Director of Admission and Financial Aid.

Appeals Process

Financial assistance is not changed unless new information is presented that was not available when need was initially determined. Families experiencing job loss or other substantial changes in their circumstances are encouraged to resubmit their application through FACTS at no charge, always keeping in mind that changes are subject to availability of funds.

For any questions please contact the Admission Office at contact@sweethavenchristian.org.