

The Horizons School Scholarship Application Guidelines

What is the process for applying for financial aid from The Horizons School?

1. The student must be accepted into The Horizons School before an application for financial aid will be considered.
2. The family must submit financial information to Tuition Aid Data Services (TADS). You may apply online or request a paper application from TADS. Please note there is a \$39 application fee payable to TADS.
3. Additional information must be submitted upon request from the Horizons Foundation or from TADS (*see section titled "What information will you need to submit to TADS in order for your application to be considered"*)
4. Change in family circumstances (increased income, substantial gifts, awards received from outside sources, like vocational rehabilitation agencies) may decrease scholarships in subsequent trimesters. Withdrawal as a student will result in allocation of unused scholarship support to other students.

What information will you need to submit to TADS for your application to be considered?

1. Employment information for all parents and guardians (including any step-parents that reside in the same household as the student). This includes most recent pay stubs and W2 forms, as well as actual gross income for each job during last year and estimated income for each job for the current year.
 - a. Income from a parent (including step-parent) can only be omitted from the application if there is a legal separation or divorce. If a court of law has determined that a biological parent should be excluded from paying school tuition, that parent does not have to submit information to TADS. You may be asked to provide this documentation if a parent's financial information is omitted from the application.
 - b. A student cannot fill out a financial aid application using only his or her financial information. The Horizons School requires that the parent(s) or guardian(s) provide their financial information in order for an application to be considered for aid.
2. Entire 1040 federal tax form. If the parents file their taxes separately, a 1040 for each parent must be submitted.
3. Any corporation, partnership or trust tax papers (1120, 1120S or 1065).
4. Monthly income, including: welfare, social security, alimony, food stamps, child support, other income.
5. Yearly income, including: interest and dividends, unemployment, worker's compensation, other income.
6. If renting, you must include rent and renters' insurance.
7. If you own your home, you must include purchase price of home, additions, current market value of home, home loan amounts, mortgage payments, property taxes, home insurance, rental income/expenses.
8. Yearly energy expenses.
9. Assets and expenses for real estate other than primary house; assets and debt for automobiles, recreational vehicles and boats.
10. Checking, savings, cash, CDs, stocks, securities, bonds, mutual funds, yearly retirement fund contributions and total current values.
11. Medical expenses and debt, day care expense, charitable giving.

12. Miscellaneous debt, including: credit card, bank loans, loans from friends or relatives, education, other.
13. Dependent earnings and savings.

Please keep in mind that you may be asked to submit paperwork to verify any of the items listed above (i.e. a bank statement to confirm available balance, a credit card statement to confirm debt, energy bills to confirm expenses, etc.). If at any point it is discovered that financial information was omitted from the application or falsely reported (i.e. income or assets were not reported or expenses were inflated), any scholarship funds awarded may be removed and the family may be barred from re-applying for funds in subsequent years.

What information will the committee use to make its decision?

Using the information on your TADS application and your HCE (Household Contribution to Education as determined by TADS), The Horizons School Scholarship Committee (Committee) will determine the amount of aid you will receive. The Committee will use your HCE to prepare a financial aid package to help you meet your demonstrated financial need. Financial need is the difference between the cost of attendance (which can include living expenses) and your HCE. If you or your family has unusual circumstances that should be considered, please include a letter explaining your circumstances with your application. Some examples of unusual circumstances are: unusual medical or dental expenses, adoption or change in family circumstances, or a large change in income from last tax year to the current year (i.e. change in employment).

Will every student who applies receive a financial aid award?

Horizons School supports access to postsecondary education for all qualified students. While the primary responsibility of paying tuition and fees lies with the student and the student's family, Horizons School offers scholarships based on financial need to assist as many students as possible. An application for financial aid does not guarantee a scholarship award.

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