Middle School and Upper School Financial Aid Information

The Detroit Country Day School Financial Aid Program is designed so that the school may:

- Enroll a talented and diverse community of students who might not otherwise have access to a Country Day education
- Broaden the intellectual and economic diversity of the student body
- Maintain its commitment to enroll qualified students who have demonstrated ability and personal promise in the areas of academic achievement, leadership through participation in school-related activities and exemplary deportment.

Who may apply for financial aid?
The financial aid program is limited to new students entering grade seven through grade 10.

Are my chances of receiving financial assistance better if I apply early?
YES! Our budget dollars for financial assistance are limited. We offer financial aid to the majority of qualified students early in the calendar year. The possibility of receiving aid is much better if you apply early.

How do I apply for financial aid?
Contact the Country Day Admissions Office at (248) 646-7717 to obtain the application portfolio to register students for testing. On the basis of the test results and the admissions portfolio, candidates will be selected and invited for interviews with the Financial Aid Selection Committee.

Once candidates are notified of their semi-finalist status, Country Day requires that the family file a Student Aid Form, the official application provided by Private School Aid Service (PSAS). The Student Aid Form, which exists in both paper and online format, should be completed and submitted by mail to PSAS within seven days of the candidate’s semi-finalist status notification. All questions on the Student Aid Form, including those that require explanation, must be completed in full, or it may not be processed by PSAS or Country Day, delaying your application for aid. In addition, we require that a copy of the completed, signed, and filed IRS 1040 tax form and all supporting schedules, plus W-2s and, if applicable, partnership/sole proprietorship and/or corporate returns, be sent to PSAS with your application.

All information related to the parents' financial circumstances will be treated confidentially. This information will only be used to make a fair determination of financial need.

How is financial need determined?
Financial need is determined by taking into account many factors including income, net worth, standard living expenses, certain unusual expenses, family size, and the number of children attending tuition-charging schools. Country Day admits students of any race, color, national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students in the school. The school does not discriminate on the basis of religion, race, color, national or ethnic origin, age, sex, height, weight, disability, or marital status in the administration of the school’s admission, financial aid/loan, educational, athletic, employment, and other school administered programs, policies and plans.
How is financial aid awarded?
The Financial Aid Selection Committee, made up of Country Day faculty and administrators, reviews all financial aid candidate files and recommends the students who will be invited to return as semi-finalists. Semi-finalists will be interviewed by the Financial Aid Selection Committee members. The committee then convenes to form a recommendation regarding the number of finalists to be accepted to the school based on the interview, financial aid budget for the year, openings, and further review of the candidate's overall portfolio. All recommendations are then forwarded to the Headmaster.

Does applying for financial aid influence the admission decision?
No. Country Day accepts students based on academic and personal merit. However, there are limited financial aid positions available.

When will I be notified of my award?
New students will receive an award letter after the assessment has been completed. Returning students will receive a re-evaluated award as the committee reviews their updated files in June.

What happens if I do not receive financial aid?
Despite our strong commitment to the financial aid program and to enrolling an economically diverse student body, each year the number of accepted applicants who qualify for financial aid is more than we are able to support. Therefore, some students who have been admitted to Country Day will be denied aid and placed on the Financial Aid Waiting List.

What financing options are available?
In order to make a Country Day education more affordable, the school offers tuition payment plans. Options include a two-, five- or 10-month payment plan with applicable fee and tuition insurance as indicated on the contract. Tuition may also be paid in full by August 31, 2007. Other charges including transportation, field trips and school store charges will continue to be billed monthly with payments made directly to Country Day. Monthly statements of student charges are billed the first week of each month and are due by the last day of the month. A service charge of 10% per annum is applied on overdue balances that are not part of the payment plan.

Families who prefer to make lower monthly payments over an extended period of time may want to consider credit-based loans which may be used to cover all or part of a family’s contribution. Loans come from outside companies, not Country Day. For more information, please contact the following:

- Key Educational Resources offers extended loans at variable rates. Contact Key at 1-800-KEY-LEND.
- Chase Bank Educational Loans are available and are credit-based. Call 1-800-663-2456 for more information.

If parents are requesting financial aid for more than one student at Country Day, are there special instructions?
Parents need file only one Student Aid Form in the name of the oldest child attending Country Day and should list the other children in the proper place on the form.

What happens if the parents are divorced, separated or have never been married?
Financial need is determined by a family’s ability to meet educational expenses, not on a willingness or unwillingness to pay. Both parents retain the obligation to contribute what they can afford to the education of their children, regardless of any divorce or agreements stating otherwise. The school will make an award only after considering the financial resources of both parents, unless one parent is uninvolved in the child’s life and has been for some time. If this is the case, you must provide us with a statement to this effect from a lawyer, member of the clergy, school official, or other third party in a professional capacity that is aware of the situation. If you have any questions, please contact the Director of Finance.

If either parent remarries, the financial information of the step-parent must be included on the financial aid form. We will take into consideration individual relationships and financial agreements as well as obligations of the parent and step-parent to their other children as we process this financial information. Each parent and his or her spouse must complete the full application process.
Can families who have not received financial aid before, but have suffered a financial hardship receive aid?
Returning families who have not received financial aid in the past may contact the Admissions Office and request that a form be mailed with the student enrollment contract. The school’s aid budget along with the educational portfolio of the child will be considered in offering an award.

Is financial aid automatically renewed each year?
Country Day requires families receiving financial aid to reapply each year. The Student Aid Form will be sent to the parents/guardians of all returning financial aid recipients along with the enrollment contract. If the family’s ability to contribute to the student’s education increases, the level of aid awarded will decrease accordingly. If the family’s ability to pay decreases, Country Day will make every effort to raise the level of financial aid awarded. Renewal applications are due to PSAS by April 15th of each year. Every application is reviewed annually.

What other options are available to help finance a Country Day education?
There are two scholarship programs which applicants can apply for: the Skandalaris Family Foundation Future Leaders Merit Scholarship and the Skillman Foundation Independent School Scholarship. Students must first be admitted to Country Day in order to apply for either scholarship program.

The Skandalaris Family Foundation Future Leaders Merit Scholarship is awarded to non-current Country Day students who will be entering 6th through 9th grades in the upcoming school year. The family of the Skandalaris Foundation Scholar agrees to pay a significant percentage of tuition in addition to the student’s books, uniform, transportation (optional) and technology fees (which includes a laptop and other miscellaneous expenses). The final decision is made by the Skandalaris Foundation based on their scholarship criteria which can be found by visiting www.skandalaris.org or www.dcds.edu.

The Skillman Foundation Independent School Scholarship provides grants for full scholarships to academically-gifted minority students residing in metro-Detroit. This program is only available for students entering 9th grade in the upcoming school year. Country Day has been granted eight Skillman Scholarships and there will be two openings for the 2007-2008 school year. For more information, visit www.skillman.org/skillscholars or www.dcds.edu.

Are there requirements that financial aid recipients have to meet throughout the school year to retain their aid?
Yes. All Middle School and Upper School students who receive financial aid must adhere to several requirements. Failure to comply with such standards may place the financial aid student on probationary status and may cause financial aid to be withdrawn. The full list of requirements can be found by visiting our website at www.dcds.edu.

Where can I get more information on the financial aid process?
Please visit www.dcds.edu or contact our Admissions Office at 248-646-7717.

How much does it cost to attend Country Day?
Tuition for each school year is set by the board of trustees; annual increases should be expected. Financial aid is awarded based on tuition only.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuition for the 2007-2008 school year:</th>
<th>Fees:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Kindergarten 3: $8,500</td>
<td>Registration Deposit: $100 for financial aid students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pre-Kindergarten: $15,080</td>
<td>Additional Expenses: Laptops, books, uniforms, class trips</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior Kindergarten: $17,440</td>
<td>Optional Expenses: Transportation based on zone, school store purchases, Parents’ Association dues, yearbook, athletic uniforms and equipment, field trips, etc.</td>
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<td>Kindergarten: $18,260</td>
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<td>Grades 1-2: $18,260</td>
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<td>Grades 3-4: $19,060</td>
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<td>Grade 5: $20,110</td>
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<td>Grades 6-8: $21,860</td>
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<td>Grades 9-12: $23,110</td>
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Visit the tuition page at www.dcds.edu for more information.
Detroit Country Day School 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 in the school. The school does not discriminate on the basis of religion, race, color, national or ethnic origin, age, sex, height, weight, disability, or marital status in the administration of the school’s admission, financial aid/loan, educational, athletic, employment, and other school administered programs, policies and plans.