

Financial Aid Policy 2011-12

Tarbut V' Torah would like to make a Jewish education available to any qualified family that would like to receive one, and offers needs based financial aid to families that cannot afford the full amount of tuition and fees. Each year the Board of Directors sets a financial aid budget to make a Jewish education available to as many children as possible, mindful of its fiduciary obligation to the school.

In an attempt to be as fair and even handed as possible, TVT uses the services of Student & School Services (SSS), a division of National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) an organization that has many years of experience evaluating the financial needs of families. SSS provides this service to thousands of private schools across the country, including many Jewish Day Schools. The report, provided by SSS, includes regional adjustments that reflect cost of living differences to be used as a base for financial aid grants. TVT then makes further adjustments in order to balance the financial needs of the school. Below are some guidelines the financial aid committee will use to make its decisions. These guidelines are intended to ensure that the scarce resource of financial aid is allocated to those families with the greatest need and at the same time is available to as many families as possible. They are also intended to allow TVT to plan effectively for the coming year, as these decisions affect both budget and program decisions.

- Receipt of a financial aid grant is for one year and does not ensure the availability of grants in future years.
- Both parents/guardians - if living - must submit an application as well as tax returns and supporting documents before a grant may be offered. In the event that a tax return has not yet been filed a conditional award may be made subject to the return supporting the numbers in the application
- Financial aid will not be entertained if the applicant is not current on their financial obligations to the school or if suitable arrangements have not been made for the payment of such obligations
- Financial aid may be denied if applicant has not kept current with financial obligations throughout the year.
- Financial aid will be denied if applicant is suspected of making material misrepresentations on his/her application regarding income, assets or current economic status.
- If it is later determined that the applicant materially misrepresented relevant financial information, the full amount of the financial aid granted will be immediately due in full, both for the year in question and all subsequent years.
- 25% of the financial aid budget will be awarded to families seeking aid for the first time. This will include new applicants as well as currently enrolled students.
- Out of that 25% priority will be given to existing families.
- Both TVT and SSS will handle all information in the strictest confidence. Applicants need to fill out only one application form.
- The RFC (Report of Family Contribution) is only a guide, which the school may increase or decrease depending on the availability of funds, and awareness of particular circumstances.
- The process relies on the accuracy of the data you provide. If the information provided is inaccurate or incomplete, SSS and the school will have to make assumptions that may not produce a favorable result.
- SSS uses objective information as the basis of its needs-analysis system.

Irrespective of the recommendations made by SSS the minimum amount that a reapplying family will be required to pay will be 25% of tuition for the first child 20% of the total tuition for two children 15% of the total tuition for three or more children. The minimum amounts that are applicable to families applying for the first time is as follows; 30% for the first child, 25% of the total tuition for two children, 20% of the total tuition for 3 children.

Please keep in mind, and be assured of the following:

1. Both TVT and SSS will handle all of your information in the strictest confidence. Applicants need to fill out only one application form. We encourage applicants to contact the TVT Business Office if any assistance in completing the form is required.
2. The RFC (Report of Family Contribution) is only a guide, which the school may increase or decrease depending on the availability of funds, and the Committee's awareness of particular circumstances.
3. The process relies on the accuracy of the data you provide. If the information provided is inaccurate or incomplete, SSS and the Financial Aid Committee will have to make assumptions that may not produce a favorable result.
4. SSS uses objective information as the basis of its needs-analysis system. It processes applications from hundreds of thousands of applicants from around the country, and has been doing so for decades. The fairness of the process is reflected in the number of prestigious institutions who rely on the service.
5. This procedure may relieve the need for an interview, but will not take away your opportunity to meet with the Financial Aid Committee.
6. Each applicant must adhere strictly to the due dates.
7. TVT will only consider the financial aid request of families that have participated in this process.