



Guidelines, Policies and Information Regarding Financial Aid Processing Year 2016 - 2017 / Academic Year 2017 - 2018

Philosophy and Process

Verde Valley School is a community that strives for and thrives on diversity. It is the goal of the Admission Office to build diverse, engaged, talented, and interesting classes. Our Financial Aid Program supports deserving students for whom otherwise a VVS education might not be a possibility. Financial aid and admission are separate processes. Admission decisions are never based upon a family's ability to pay. Financial Aid is need based, Verde Valley School is guided by the principles and methodology of School and Student Services (SSS). Once a student is accepted, the Financial Aid Committee uses the Parent Financial Statement (submitted through SSS) to help define the family's financial need, which is defined as the difference between a family's discretionary resources and the cost of tuition. Although the school grants financial aid to approximately 45% of the student body, we are not always able to meet a family's perceived need. The Committee takes into account each family's resources and individual circumstances. Families should consider all possible resources for funding a VVS education before seeking financial assistance from the school.

Confidentiality

All information submitted is confidential and is only used in the determination of financial aid awards. Only the Director of Financial Aid and members of the Committee have access to a family's financial information.

Divorced, Separated, Never Married or Adoptive Parents

Please realize that the Committee considers the financial resources of both parents regardless of current marital status when determining an award. We are not bound by the declaration that one parent is not responsible for educational expenses. Submission of necessary financial documentation is required of both parents. Failure to comply with this request may result in a denial of financial aid or a reduced award.

Loans

The primary responsibility of financing a VVS education lies with the family, therefore families are encouraged to consider educational loans to supplement grants and/or scholarships. All awards made by VVS are grants or scholarship and are not to be paid back to the school. For information regarding loans, please contact the admission office.

Other Expenses

Financial Aid awards account for costs associated with tuition, and room and board. Additional charges such as travel to and from school, books and supplies, technology fees and spending money are generally not covered by financial aid. Students are encouraged to pursue vacation employment to help defray incidental costs.



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Award Renewal

Families can expect grants to be renewed at the original level of funding from year to year, provided there is no significant change in financial circumstances and that the student remains in good academic and social standing. VVS requires families to file a new PFS each year and to comply with all documentation requests as stated below. Failure to comply could result in a loss of Financial Assistance.

REQUIRED FINANCIAL AID DOCUMENTATION

Please keep this sheet and check off the items as they are completed and submitted.

_____ Parents must submit a completed Parents' Financial Statement (PFS) to the School and Student Service (SSS). We encourage you to use the SSS online application: www.nais.org/financialaid/sss. SSS will send the computed Report of Financial Need to VVS. Please note VVS's code (7930) on PFS.

Due: February 1, 2017

_____ Parents of applicants must send copies of their signed 2015 and 2016 1040s, all related schedules, and copies of all W-2s and 1099 forms to SSS. Please note that SSS will not request the 1099 Forms online at this time, but we ask that you still mail the 1099 form to SSS with all other financial forms and the SSS cover sheet, which you will find on their website: <http://sss.nais.org/parents/>.

Due: Fiscal year 2016 tax returns are due by March 1, 2017.

_____ Parents submitting an application for a student currently receiving financial aid at Verde Valley School must send copies of their signed 2016 1040s, all related schedules, and copies of all W-2s and 1099 forms to SSS. Please note that SSS will not request the 1099 Forms online at this time, but we ask that you still mail the 1099 form to SSS with all other financial forms.

Due: March 1, 2017

_____ If a student applicant applying for the first time has filed or will file a federal tax return for 2015/2016, we require copies of his/her signed 1040 and related schedules, as well as a signed 4506T-EZ form be sent to SSS.

Due: March 1, 2017



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Please contact the admission office if you have any questions regarding Verde Valley School's need-based financial assistance:

Sean Fagan
Director of Admissions
(928) 284-2272 ext. 12
e-mail: sfagan@vvsaz.org

ALL MATERIALS SUBMITTED ARE CONFIDENTIAL.

Nondiscriminatory Statement

Verde Valley School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, ethnic origin, sexual orientation or on the basis of physical handicap in its policies or determination of financial assistance.