



TUITION ASSISTANCE INITIATIVES

Tuscaloosa Academy offers three tuition assistance initiatives that can be used individually or in combination: an eleven-month payment plan, multi-child discounts, and Need-Based Merit Awards.

ELEVEN-MONTH PAYMENT PLAN

Families may make payments toward tuition throughout the year. Tuition plus a 6% handling fee is divided into 11 installments, payable the 10th of each month June to April. Books, activity fees and other fees are due prior to the first day of school. Tuition Insurance is required.

MULTI-CHILD DISCOUNTS

15% tuition discount for second child 30% tuition discount for third child 50% tuition discount for fourth child

NEED-BASED MERIT AWARDS

A limited amount of scholarships are available to students grades eight through 12 who qualify. Awards range in amount and are determined by level of need and demonstration of academic, artistic, or athletic merit.

Need-Based Merit Awards Categories

Academic Elite

Students who have 27-36 ACT or 1210-1600 SAT and at least at 3.5 cumulative GPA will be considered for Academic Elite Merit Award. Students who have not yet taken the ACT or SAT may take the ISEE test at Tuscaloosa Academy. Appointment for ISEE testing is required.

Artistic Elite

Students who excel in the fine arts will be considered for Artistic Elite Merit Award. Candidates are required to submit a portfolio or samples of work. Must meet regular academic admission standards.

Athletic Elite

Students who excel in sports will be considered for Athletic Elite Merit Award. Candidates are required to meet Athletic Director and coaches in order to determine the best method for assessing athletic merit. Must meet regular academic admission standards.

Knight Pride Scholarships

Ninth through 12th grade students who maintain a 3.0 GPA, participate in two or more sports, and possess strength of character and self-motivation will be considered for Knight Pride Scholarships.

African American Scholarships

African American students who possess the aptitude, abilities and desire to succeed will be considered for African American Scholarship. Must meet regular academic standards.

Eligible Grades

Only students entering grades eight through 12 will be considered for Academic, Artistic, and Athletic Merit Awards. Only students entering grades nine through 12 will be considered for Knight Pride Scholarships and African American Scholarships.

NEED-BASED MERIT AWARD INFORMATION

Tuscaloosa Academy operates under a need-blind admission policy and is committed to providing access to qualified students regardless of their financial need. Tuscaloosa Academy's Need-Based Merit Awards are intended to provide access to a TA education for qualified students who might otherwise not be able to attend because their household financial situation does not support payment of full tuition. Tuscaloosa Academy communicates the availability of Financial Aid to all current and applying families.

- Tuscaloosa Academy seeks to fully fund demonstrated need. Due to limited funds, not all who qualify will receive an offer of assistance, or an offer that fully funds demonstrated need.
- Merit Awards are made for one academic year. Re-enrolling families should complete a new application for each year that the student enrolls.
- Applications must be completed on time to be considered. Late applications will be handled as they arrive and as funds allow. Only complete applications will be considered.
- The amount of a Financial Aid award is based upon each family's demonstrated need as determined by the methodology used by the school: the School and Student Service for Financial Aid (SSS) serves as a guide, augmented by Parents' Financial Statement (PFS), and income tax documents.
- Tuscaloosa Academy reserves the right to request additional information including, but not limited to, tax schedules. Income tax documentation substantiates information provided through the Parents' Financial Statement (PFS), but is not considered in isolation.
- TA takes into consideration family circumstances that affect ability to pay. All Merit Award decisions are made on a case-by-case basis.

All information disclosed by families for Need-Based Merit Awards is considered confidential. Aid decisions are communicated in a fashion that allow families to make an informed enrollment decision.

STEPS TO COMPLETE

The following steps must be **completed by April 1** to be considered a complete application for priority deadline:

1. **Complete the Admissions Process.** All students applying for Need-Based Awards or Scholarships must be either current students or candidates who have been accepted through the Admissions Process.
2. **Complete and return Merit Award & Scholarship Application (page 3).** Submit application along with copies of the parent/guardian IRS 1040 and W-2s from past 2 years. If there are circumstances that the Financial Aid Committee should be aware of, you may also include a letter with your application.
3. **Complete the Parents' Financial Statement (PFS).** This form asks questions about your assets and debts in order for the School and Student Service (SSS) branch of the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) to determine and report your level of need. To access the form online or to print your own pdf, go to www.sss.nais.org and click the prompt to begin. PFS forms are also available in the Admissions Office at Tuscaloosa Academy. Note: SSS charges a fee of \$35 for online processing and \$45 for paper processing. Be sure to indicate Tuscaloosa Academy's school code: 7793.

4. **Submit or complete the following** for each category that you wished to be considered as a candidate:

Academic Elite: Contact admissions office to set up interview with academic dean, submit copy of ACT, SAT scores or schedule ISEE testing at Tuscaloosa Academy.

Artistic Elite: Contact admissions office to set up interview with Fine Arts Department Head, submit portfolio or cd of samples of work and resumé of accomplishments and awards.

Athletic Elite: Contact admissions office to set up interview with TA athletic director and coaches, submit resumé of athletic accomplishments and awards.

Knight Pride Scholarship: Contact admissions office to set up interview with Knight Pride Scholarship Committee, submit resumé of athletic participation and evidence of character and self-motivation.

African American Scholarship: Contact admissions office to set up interview with academic dean, submit resumé of awards and accomplishments.

TUSCALOOSA ACADEMY

NEED-BASED MERIT AND SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

STUDENT

Name _____
first Middle Last preferred name

APPLICATION TYPE

- Academic Elite Award Artistic Elite Award Athletic Elite Award
 African American Scholarship Knight Pride Scholarship

CUSTODIAL PARENT INFORMATION

Names _____

Home address _____
street address

_____ city state zip telephone number

Father's (Stepfather's) Occupation _____

Employed by: _____

Mother's (Stepmother's) Occupation _____

Employed by: _____

NON-CUSTODIAL PARENT INFORMATION

Names _____

Home address _____
street address

_____ city state zip telephone number

Father's (Stepfather's) Occupation _____

Employed by: _____

Mother's (Stepmother's) Occupation _____

Employed by: _____

RETURN THIS APPLICATION along with ACT Scores (Academic Merit Only), portfolio (Artistic Merit Only),
resumé of accomplishments and awards (see details under page 2, step 4),
and copies of custodial and non-custodial parent W-2 and 1040 Forms from the past 2 years.
Submit to: Admissions at Tuscaloosa Academy, 420 Rice Valley Road North, Tuscaloosa, AL 35406

April 1 is the priority deadline.

For additional information, phone (205) 758-4462 ext. 202 or e-mail ahuffaker@tuscaloosaacademy.org