



I didn't receive the amount of financial assistance I requested. Why not?

Financial aid at Harker is primarily need-based and there is a limited amount of grant money available. We also expect each family to contribute towards each child's education. Occasionally, we are unable to award financial assistance because the applicant did not submit the proper forms and/or documentation we require.

Even with the grant, I'm not sure I can afford the tuition. What can I do?

Many families finance part or all of their children's education with a home equity loan or a student loan. Check with your lender for information about home equity loan programs. *Your Tuition Solution* is one of the organizations that offers a K-12 Family Education Loan. More information can be found at: <https://secure.yourtutionsolution.com/>.

Do I have to pay taxes on my financial aid award?

Generally not. You do not have to pay any federal taxes on a financial aid award that is given as a tuition grant. Awards which cover the cost of books, lunch and other non-tuition items may be taxable. Of course, you should always seek the advice of a qualified financial adviser for answers to any tax-related questions.

What is the Automatic Payment Form?

This form gives us the information and authorization to deduct your monthly tuition payment and any additional student account charges (things such as books, lunch, field trip fees, etc.) from your bank account. We will send you a monthly statement on or about the first of each month and deduct the balance (or the amount of your monthly tuition) automatically on the 15th of the month (or on the subsequent business day if the 15th falls on a weekend or holiday).

Can I just write you a check each month instead of using Automatic Payment?

As the recipient of a financial aid grant, you also receive the benefit of monthly payments for the remainder of your tuition; in return, we require that financial aid recipients use the automatic payment process. Some families find it convenient to set up a separate bank account for the automatic payment and transfer the appropriate amount into this account before the 15th of each month.

What happens if I have some unanticipated expenses one month and can't meet my monthly obligation?

We understand that unanticipated expenses sometimes occur. If this happens and you can't meet your monthly obligation, call Kelly Phan at 408.553.5768 before the 25th of the month and we will do our best to accommodate your request.

What happens if my monthly debit is returned unpaid by the bank?

We will contact you regarding the unpaid debit, and request that you repay the school within 5 business days. School policy states that unpaid balances may attract late charges of 1.5% per month (18% per year). Additionally, there is a \$25 charge if we are unable to debit your bank account due to insufficient funds or a change in bank information for which you failed to notify us. Please note that your financial institution may also charge you fees for the missed debit.

If I accept the financial aid award, will my child be treated any differently at school?

All parts of the financial aid process are strictly confidential and limited to the Financial Aid Committee and the individuals at the business office responsible for processing monthly statements. No one outside of this small group will be told that your family received assistance and your child will never be treated differently because of the financial aid award.

Okay, I just received my child's financial aid award email, Online Enrollment Contract, and I have completed the Automatic Payment Form. What do I do now?

Complete the online enrollment contract using the link in the email (your username and password are the same credentials that you have been using on the Parent Portal); pay your deposit (options for submitting the deposit are listed at the end of the contract); and fill out and return the automatic payment form to Kelly Phan, The Harker School, 4525 Union Ave., San Jose, CA 95124. Please do so as soon as possible in order to keep your child's spot in the class. If you decide not to enroll your child at Harker, please also let us know as soon as possible so that we may offer financial assistance to another deserving student.

I'm very appreciative of the offer of financial assistance. Is there anything I can do to repay Harker's generosity?

A financial aid grant is an award and does not need to be repaid. Many families, however, find ways to give back by volunteering at Harker. Contact Tere Aceves, volunteer director, at 408.345.9622 for information about the various ways you can help.

I have more questions. Who should I talk to?

Call Kathy Caveney, financial aid coordinator, at 408.345.9653.
