THE HARKER SCHOOL

INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL AID

Thank you for your interest in The Harker School for the 2025-26 school year. To be eligible for consideration for financial aid, you must complete the Clarity Application for Financial Aid (CAFA) by Jan. 31, 2025. Financial aid awards are based on need. Please see next page for qualifications, priorities and process. We will communicate decisions about financial aid on March 21, 2025.

I would like to apply for financial aid. What do I do?

To begin your financial aid application for the 2025-26 enrollment year, follow the steps below:

Step 1

Open a financial aid file at Harker.

- Complete the two-page Harker Financial Aid Application and email it to Mary Ortiz (<u>fainfo@harker.org</u>)
- Due date: immediately (please complete and return this brief form as soon as you can, <u>before</u> you complete the CAFA).

Step 🕗

Open a file at Clarity and complete the CAFA on or before Jan. 31, 2025.

How to complete the CAFA online:

- Beginning Aug. 30, 2024, go to <u>https://auth.clarityapp.com/en/signup</u>
- Create your Clarity account with your email address and a password.
- Begin a CAFA for academic year 2025-26. You can log out of the CAFA at any time, then return later to complete it. Please make sure to click the "Save and continue" button at the bottom of the page to save your work.
- The application fee is \$60. Harker may require additional documents in addition to your 2024 Form W-2 and 2024 tax return. Check the "Document Requests" panel on your portal to see what you need to upload.

Step 3

Submit the following supporting documentation to the Clarity website on or before Feb. 17, 2025:

- 2024 Tax Return (Form 1040 with all supporting schedules)
- · 2024 W-2 forms
- · 2024 Form 1099 (if applicable)

How To Submit Additional Required Documents Online

- Prepare your documents to be uploaded. Make sure the documents are on your computer, each saved as a separate file. Remove any security or password protection from your document files.
- Return to the CAFA Online and log in.
- Return to the "Documentation Requests" page.
- · Click on "Documents" in the left menu.
- On the "My Documents" page, you will see an Upload Document button to the right of a specific document name in the "Documents" section of the CAFA. Click on the "upload document" button to choose a file to upload.
- Click on the arrow to view all uploaded files and/or to delete any uploads.

If you need help completing the CAFA, contact Clarity customer service at 206.210.3752 or via email at <u>support@clarityapp.com</u>.

Here's key information you need to know about our school as you complete the CAFA:

- Our school's full name: The Harker School
- Contact information for Clarity: 206.210.3752
- Contact information for our financial aid office: 408.553.5759

Qualifications

Financial aid awards are based on need. There is no financial assistance based on high academic or other achievement. As with all applicants, students must qualify for acceptance into the school at the appropriate grade level and show evidence that he or she will make a positive contribution to the school, both in academics and extracurricular activities.

Attending The Harker School is a rewarding educational experience, and the school seeks to make that experience affordable to qualified students, regardless of their family's financial resources. Harker encourages families to apply for assistance while keeping in mind that the obligation for financing a student's education rests primarily with the family.

Priorities for Distribution of Funds

The amount of individual awards is based on the determined need and the funds available in the school's financial aid budget. Those funds available during a particular school year will be distributed according to the following priorities:

- 1. Students who are currently receiving assistance and have completed their paperwork by the deadline.
- 2. Students who have been enrolled in the school, are not receiving financial assistance currently, who would not be able to continue without financial help, and who have completed their paperwork by the deadline.
- 3. Qualified new student applicants who have completed their paperwork by the deadline.

The Process

We partner with Clarity to process our financial aid applications. Based on the financial information you provide, Clarity gives us an estimated amount that your family can contribute to educational expenses. We use this estimate as a starting point to help us make fair and objective financial aid decisions, and also consider our school policy, practices and budgetary constraints.