

Tuition Adjustment

The Upper Valley Waldorf School is dedicated to serving families drawn and committed to Waldorf education. Our tuition adjustment program supports this goal by making the School more accessible to families of varying economic backgrounds. UVWS demonstrates this commitment by allocating a sizeable share of the annual budget to need based support. During the application process, the needs and well-being of the school and the family are balanced to determine the family's contribution. We are a non-profit entity that supports itself through tuition, grants, and development efforts. Although our funds are limited, we are dedicated to offering a tuition adjustment to as many eligible families as possible.

How to Apply

The first step to request a tuition adjustment is to submit a confidential Parent Financial Statement (PFS) form on School & Student Service for Financial Aid (SSS), a third party service that collects all financial data. **Please see Applying for Tuition Adjustment for the 2019-2020 School Year.** Decisions are made by our Tuition Adjustment Committee based on the family's financial circumstances documented in the SSS materials. Returning families interested in continuing to participate in tuition adjustment submit a new PFS form each year.

Although the process for applying is the same, there are two distinct tuition adjustment funds at UVWS: The UVWS Tuition Assistance Fund (TAF) and the Tacy Neri Tuition Fund (TNTF). Please see Fund Descriptions below to learn what distinguishes these two funds.

Fund Descriptions

UVWS Tuition Assistance Fund (TAF)

UVWS TAF Funding

The majority of aid awarded from the UVWS Tuition Assistance Fund comes directly from the School's operating budget but a percentage is supported by the Tuition Assistance Fund (TAF). Fundraising for the TAF happens annually. The TAF thereby strengthens our ability to meet the needs of families of students in the grades and early childhood students who turn 5 before September 1.

Distribution of Aid

Early childhood students who turn 5 years old by September 1 and all grades students are eligible for aid from the UVWS TAF. For early childhood students who are eligible for aid from the TAF, Afternoon Program expenses for the 12 noon – 3 pm segment qualify for aid.

The Tacy Neri Tuition Assistance Fund (TNTF)

Tacy Neri, November 30, 1949 - March 18, 2006

Tacy Neri was a founding parent and beloved early childhood teacher at the Upper Valley Waldorf School. This scholarship fund was initiated by her husband, Peter Neri, at the time of her passing in 2006. Peter's vision was to initiate a fund that would be used in Tacy's memory to offer financial support to the youngest students at our school, the age group that Tacy taught for many years.

TNTF Mission

The TNTF mission is to provide assistance to families of children in our early childhood program (excluding parent/child classes), who are not eligible for assistance from the UVWS TAF.

TNTF Funding

Fundraising for this Fund happens annually. While we hope that the fund will grow, at this time there is a modest amount of money to be awarded. Please discuss award ranges with the Admissions Director.

Please see reverse of this sheet for other funding resources that families can pursue.

Other Resources That You Can Pursue:

Vermont Publicly-Funded Pre-Kindergarten

Parents of preschool children in Vermont are eligible for ACT 166 funds to help offset the cost of tuition. Under Act 166, districts pay tuition for prekindergarten education on behalf of a prekindergarten child to a prequalified education program. UVWS is a prequalified program. For the 2018–2019 school year, the subsidy is \$3,267. This program is not income based.

Vermont STARS Program

UVWS is enrolled in the Vermont subsidy program administered through the Bright Futures STARS program. This is an income based program that provides subsidies to qualifying Vermont families who wish to enroll their children in a STARS accredited program. For more information, visit the Bright Futures website: www.brightfutures.dcf.state.vt.us Families may combine the Vermont subsidy with assistance from STARS.

Childrens Scholarship Fund (NH)

UVWS partners with the Children's Scholarship Fund of New Hampshire, which works to provide additional scholarship money to low-income families. To apply for additional scholarship from CSF, please visit <https://nh.scholarshipfund.org/>

529 Plan

Beginning in 2018, 529 plan savings are eligible to be spent on K–12 tuition. A 529 plan is a tax-advantaged savings plan designed to encourage saving for education costs. 529 plans, legally known as “qualified tuition plans,” are sponsored by states, state agencies, or educational institutions and are authorized by Section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code.

For additional information about 529 plans, visit: <https://www.edchoice.org/blog/can-i-use-a-529-plan-for-k-12-expenses/>

VT: <https://www.vheip.org/how-tos/>

NH: <https://www.nh.gov/treasury/college-savings/index.htm>

*The Upper Valley Waldorf School seeks to develop a culturally and economically diverse student body
and we welcome students of any race, religion, gender, or ethnic/national origin.*