



## Frequently Asked Questions about Riordan's Financial Aid Program

### **When is the deadline to apply for financial aid for the 2019-20 School Year?**

The deadline to apply for financial aid is February 4, 2019 using the TADS program. Late applications will be considered if there are still funds available.

### **Should I wait until my child is accepted before applying for Financial Aid?**

No! A common misconception among first-time applicant families is that they should wait to hear about their child's admission before applying for financial aid. Under no circumstances is it recommended that you wait, due to the timing of the admissions notification which falls after the financial aid deadline. There is a risk that funds will have already been allocated by this time. **The deadline to apply for admission for the 2019-20 school year is December 3, 2018.**

### **What are the expectations regarding divorced or separated families requesting Financial Aid?**

Riordan's Financial Aid Committee has mandated that the school must consider the assets of both natural parents, if living, before making any award of financial aid. The school cannot be bound by the claim that one parent denies responsibility for educational expenses. In view of this policy, both natural parents are required to complete the financial aid application form and provide financial information. However, if the parent with full custody has a court order showing they have full financial responsibility for the child, we use only the custodial parent's application. In addition, it is the responsibility of the primary custodial parent to ask the non-custodial parent to fill out the additional application.

Until this information is provided, the financial aid application will be considered incomplete and the school will be unable to make a decision on the application. If either parent has remarried or is living with another adult who is contributing to the household income, the school may consider the assets of the stepparent or live-in person, always bearing in mind that the primary responsibility for payment rests with the natural parents.

### **What is the school's expectation regarding a non-working parent?**

Both parents are expected to make every attempt to contribute financially to the education of their child.

### **Does Riordan offer full tuition assistance?**

Our program is designed to help those families who, even with their sacrifices, are unable to afford full tuition. You should expect to pay something as a private school education is a partnership between the school and the family.

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**Do you award scholarships based on academic, athletic performance etc.?**

All financial aid awards are based on financial need.

The St. Francis Scholars Program is a merit-based scholarship that does not require the completion of a TADS application. Riordan's website also lists many of the school's external scholarship partners.

**How will I know if I qualify for assistance and the amount of my award?**

You will be notified of financial aid status with your enrollment decision letter in March.

**What is the maximum family income you can make in order to qualify for financial assistance?**

As the applicant pool changes each year, it is difficult to identify the qualifying income from one year to the next.

**If I qualify for assistance, when do I receive my grant?**

Your award is credited on your tuition account in July. Your revised monthly payments are identified on your July tuition statement.

**Is there any commitment from the student if they are awarded financial assistance?**

Students should maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0, and have a good discipline record with the Dean's office.

**How much does tuition increase every year?**

Over the past few years, tuition has increased between 4 to 8 percent per year. Likewise, the financial assistance has also increased each year.

**Are there any other charges besides tuition?**

Yes, there is a registration fee, (which must be paid in full, in order for the student to be officially enrolled), along with purchasing an iPad, as well as any required books/supplies required by the teachers (approx. \$320). Students are also responsible for purchasing the needed uniform (approx. \$160-\$225).

**What happens if my child withdraws from Riordan?**

Tuition and fees and any financial aid will be prorated for the time your child attended Riordan, with two months non-refundable to cover administrative costs of the withdrawal.

**If we are awarded aid will we be awarded the same amount each year?**

Grants awarded are not guaranteed for subsequent school years. Parents are responsible for submitting applications for financial aid each year by the deadline.

**If I apply for Financial Aid at Archbishop Riordan, can I use the same application for other Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of San Francisco?**

Most of the Catholic high schools in the San Francisco Archdiocese utilize TADS (mytads.com) and you may include the schools of your choice on one application.