

Ellis Financial Aid – Frequently Asked Questions – FY27

Is my family eligible for the scholarship?

- This scholarship is intended for families who currently pay full tuition at Ellis and are experiencing financial hardship. In certain cases, exceptions may be considered for extenuating circumstances—for example, families whose income would typically qualify them for a voucher but who have not received one.
- At this time, families receiving state subsidies to attend Ellis are not eligible for this scholarship program. However, Ellis remains deeply committed to supporting our subsidy-based families, who make up the majority of our community.

How will the decision be made?

- Ellis is partnering with FACTS, a third-party grant and aid platform, that uses a comprehensive formula to determine anticipated need by family. All decisions will be finalized by the Aid committee, which is composed of Ellis staff and members of the board. The Ellis Aid Committee reviews the outcomes, exercises limited discretion for extraordinary circumstances, and finalizes award amounts within the total Board-approved budget.

What is the application timeline?

- An email with the application link and details will be sent to families in early April. Ellis will begin accepting applications at that time, and the application deadline will be included in the email.

When will I learn the outcome?

- Families can expect to hear about award decisions in June and will then have a few days to accept or decline their award.

How will the financial aid be awarded to my family?

- The award will be posted as tuition credits for families on a percentage basis, which will be applied to every Ellis tuition payment for the year.
- For example, if your child is in the infant class and your family is awarded a scholarship of \$6,000, that corresponds to roughly ~15% discount on every tuition payment for Ellis for one year.
- If your family withdraws from Ellis scholarship award year, the remaining balance will be returned to the Ellis financial aid pool.

How much financial aid can I expect?

- Because scholarship funds are limited, not all applicants will receive an award, and the amount granted may cover only a portion of what the family requests.
- The typical range of the scholarship is expected to be around ~\$2-6k per child, or 10-15% of the annual tuition expenses depending on what grade your child is in.
- However, all awards will vary based on individual family circumstances, collected in our application, including, but not limited to: income, monthly expenses, annual expenses, childcare education expenses, major job changes, etc. Additionally, the committee will look at extenuating circumstances if there are factors outside of this range.

What is FACTS?

- Ellis is partnering with FACTS Grant & Aid, a 3rd-party software provider that hosts the application for the scholarship application. As a platform, FACTS will collect and verify application documentation, provide an unbiased formula to evaluate family need, and notify families of decisions on Ellis' behalf.

Is my data secure?

- Ellis is partnering with FACTS to ensure data security via storage and verification of document applications. FACTS maintains data encryption and secure document

storage; Ellis retains no hard copies. All digital access is permissioned. Recipient identities remain confidential outside the Aid Committee and billing staff.

- For more information on data security at FACTS, please refer here: [FACTS Data Security](#)

What if I don't have some of the information in the application?

- Please fill out the application to the best of your abilities. For any questions that do not apply to you, please answer with "0".

Who do I contact with questions?

- If you have any questions about the scholarship, eligibility, or the application process, please contact the Ellis Finance Team at billing@ellisearlylearning.org