



Guiding Equitable Tuition Principles for Families

Recognizing that each family bears the primary responsibility for financing a student's education costs, these Guiding Principles for Families in the Equitable Tuition Process are designed to serve as guideposts for families' responsibilities as partners in the equitable tuition process. Through these guiding principles, The Derryfield School expresses its belief that the purpose of an equitable tuition program is to provide monetary assistance to those students who cannot afford the cost of attending an independent school. Furthermore, these principles reflect the standards of equity and fairness the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) embraces and the collaborative nature of the equitable tuition process for yielding the best result that works for families and schools.

1. The family seeks equitable tuition options only after it has been determined its own resources are insufficient to cover school costs and has exhausted the potential resources and options available to it.
2. The family is proactive in seeking information and answers to questions related to the equitable tuition process directly from the school to which it is applying.
3. The family is open and honest when completing equitable tuition applications and when providing any supporting documentation.
4. The family adheres to school deadlines and documentation submission requirements.
5. The family submits true and accurate tax-related documentation, such as the 1040, when required by the school.
6. The family is responsive to school requests for additional information to support the application.
7. The family understands that the school is not obligated to provide equitable tuition, even if the family shows eligibility for it.
8. The family is respectful in communications with the school's equitable tuition staff and administrators.
9. The family uses school-established channels for disputing or appealing an equitable tuition decision.
10. The family is discreet about disclosing its equitable tuition outcomes.
11. The family respects the privacy of other families who choose not to disclose their equitable tuition details or outcomes.
12. The family works to the best of its ability to arrange its financial resources to pay any determined family contribution in the timeline prescribed by the school.