

**Casa di Mir Montessori School
Tuition Assistance Program
2016-2017**

Program Description

Casa di Mir's budget provides limited funds for tuition assistance so that the ability to pay full tuition will not be a deciding factor in admitting students to the school. This assistance is intended as a supplement to family resources and awards are made to qualifying families whose ability to pay school costs are limited. Tuition assistance decisions are made independent of admission decisions and in no way affect an applicant's chances for admission. The Tuition Assistance Program is open to students of any race, color, sex, religion, national or ethnic origin. The school does not give awards for after school or summer school programs.

The Tuition Assistance Committee administers the Program.

How to Apply

In order to allocate assistance in a fair and objective manner, Casa di Mir has enlisted the services of FACTS Grant and Aid Assessment. Tuition Assistance packets are available from the Business Manager after Feb. 1, and the application must be filed by March 1. Parents must file the Tuition Assistance Application online. You can access the online application at <https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/4GG56>. A copy of your completed form 1040 with attached schedule and W-2 or 1099 wage and tax statements for both parents must be sent to FACTS. There is an application processing fee of approximately \$30.

Policies

Selection: Casa di Mir follows the guidelines for evaluation of financial need established by the School and FACTS Grant and Aid Assessment. FACTS will perform an independent analysis of your financial situation and make a recommendation to the school. The Tuition Assistance Committee considers a number of factors when deciding on a grant. These factors include a family's income, assets and liabilities, number of children and a variety of other factors including school funds budgeted for aid and the number of applicants. Because there are so many variables, it is difficult to predict what, if any, the amount of a grant might be. Approximately 10% of enrolled students receive some amount of tuition assistance.

Continuing Students: Awards are granted on an annual basis and do not roll over from one academic year to the next. Returning student applicants must meet the deadlines and all application requirements. Because of the varying resources of the school and of the applicant, and the changing composition of the applicant pool, awards may vary from year to year.

New Students: Families of students new to Casa di Mir may apply for tuition assistance once they have submitted an enrollment application with payment of the \$100 application fee. However, funds for new students may be limited (see "Priorities").

Arrears: Awards will not be made to families in arrears on their account with the school for the current academic year. Any award is made conditional upon the family continuing to pay charges to their account when due.

Priorities: Subject to the availability of funding, the school gives preference to timely applications for assistance in the following order:

- 1) Children of Casa di Mir employees,
- 2) Returning students already receiving tuition assistance,
- 3) Returning students applying for aid for the first time,
- 4) New Elementary students,
- 5) New Primary students.

Applications will be considered after the deadline on an individual basis.

Family Resources: Casa di Mir considers the income and assets of both parents to arrive at an award and will not be bound by the assertion that one parent has disclaimed responsibility for educational expenses. If the custodial parent has remarried, the income and assets of the step-parent will be considered, bearing in mind the obligations that individual might have to his or her own children. Parents are assured that all information submitted will be kept in strictest confidence and that such information will not be shared with either family. Any financial support that may be available beyond the parents' income and assets should be reported. These might include resources from grandparents or other relatives.

If there are circumstances that a family believes might warrant waiving this requirement, a written request for a waiver should be submitted to the Tuition Assistance Committee with a copy of the Application for Tuition Assistance.

Confidentiality: Casa di Mir will refrain from and will discourage others from making any public announcement of the amount of tuition assistance awarded to a student. Casa di Mir will safeguard the confidentiality of all financial information supplied by applicants.

Awards

Awards are given to students of those families who have demonstrated need. Awards are given to individual students and are not transferable to siblings or other students. Before accepting an enrollment agreement with a tuition assistance award, a family must judge whether the award is adequate and that they can pay the balance of tuition and other charges when due.

The Committee strives to make tuition assistance decisions and to notify families of awards no later than April 1.