

Education Unlimited – Tuition Assistance and Scholars FAQ

What factors does Education Unlimited (EU) consider when making tuition assistance decisions? The Tuition Assistance awards are given based on financial need. EU requires families send in tax forms and a brief essay describing that family's financial situation. The Scholars Program considers both financial need and academic merit. EU will review the student's transcripts and three letters of recommendation, in addition to the family's income. Please refer to the checklist on the aid application form for more details on application requirements.

Where do the funds for EU's tuition assistance come from? Funds are provided by Education Unlimited and/or through joint sponsorship arrangements between EU and other organizations. EU's tuition assistance awards are not related to University scholarships and are not sponsored by a school or government. EU is a small private company, but we do set aside financial assistance funds for families in need.

What is the deadline to apply for tuition assistance? Our tuition assistance application is made available in January. Applications received by May 10 will be reviewed in May in the order they are received for the first round of awards. It is best to send in your application as early as possible. Additional award funds occasionally become available in the late spring or summer. Applications received after May 10 will also be reviewed in the order they are received, but submission after May 10 may result in notification of award status as late as the week before the program start date.

How many tuition assistance awards does EU give each year? There is no set number of awards given each year. We reserve \$11,000 in funding for full tuition scholarships and we will most likely be able to provide additional funds for partial tuition assistance awards (up to 50% of tuition). Our budget for tuition assistance is dependent on overall enrollment in a given year and other funding as EU can secure it. Therefore, we will not be able to determine the number of awards until the late spring. We will do everything we can to accommodate as many tuition assistance requests as possible.

How many families apply for tuition assistance each year and what percent receive aid? The number of tuition assistance applicants varies from year to year. Typically about 85% of applicants receive some award from us. Of the 40 applicants to the Scholars Program in 2007, 5 received full-tuition scholarships. Nearly all of the remaining Scholars applicants received some tuition assistance from EU.

What are the income parameters for a family to receive tuition assistance? There are no specific income parameters; EU will review all applications and is willing to consider special circumstances. Typically, families who receive our larger awards make no more than \$50,000 yearly (sometimes far less). It is unlikely that a family making more than \$80,000 would receive a Scholars Program award.

Do I need to pay the camp deposit if I am applying for a Camp Scholarship? The appropriate camp deposit is required to apply for both the general Tuition Assistance and the Scholars Program. If your attendance at an EU summer program is dependent upon receiving aid and we are unable to grant your request, or you do not receive a large enough award, your deposit will also be refunded to you. Scholars Program deposits will be refunded when the recipient is notified of the award. To request a waiver of the camp deposit, email campinfo@educationunlimited.com If you decide to cancel enrollment due to insufficient aid, you must notify us within 10 days of award notification in order to receive a full refund of your deposit. Students who receive full scholarships will have their deposit refunded.

What if tax forms are not available for both parents/guardians? Until all application materials are received, we generally cannot consider an applicant for an aid award. If a parent/guardian does not have tax forms, or if it is absolutely impossible to get in touch with one parent, please provide as much information as you can about the situation. Documents such as unemployment notices, medical records, W2s, etc. can be sent in to give our Financial Aid Board a better idea of your family's financial situation. The more information we have about a particular applicant, the more likely EU will be able to give an award.

When will I hear from Education Unlimited about my financial aid award? For applications received by the May 10 deadline, we will make every effort to send a letter or email notification of our financial aid decision by June 5. Families who apply after May 10 will likely not hear back from us for at least 3 weeks and may not hear back from us until shortly before the camp's start date as late aid applications are generally awaiting allotment of new funds.

Is it possible to switch camps or sessions after receiving a financial aid award? It is not guaranteed that a change can be made and generally this is considered dropping and adding a program (see our policy on switches in the Facts at a Glance). Aid packages are proportional to the camp tuition, so switching camps usually alters the amount of the aid award.

How else can I get financial assistance to attend an Education Unlimited program? We strongly recommend that families begin to secure financial assistance outside of EU's financial aid program as early as possible. Former participants have had luck getting additional funding from schools, local business or fundraising. We are more than happy to help you with this process by providing letters of intent to attend our program or documentation of all fees. Please contact us to receive a letter with additional ideas about how to secure alternative forms of tuition assistance.