

Spring Garden Waldorf School: Scholarships and Financial Aid

We believe that all students should have access to the enriching, holistic curriculum offered in Waldorf Education, regardless of their family's ability to afford full tuition.

Everyone Qualifies for EdChoice

As of July 1, 2023 *all families* in Ohio became eligible for EdChoice regardless of location or income.

Financial Aid Available: Spring Garden Waldorf School

- **EdChoice Traditional Scholarship**
- **EdChoice Expansion Scholarship**
- **FACTS Tuition Assistance from SGWS**

Will You Qualify?

Financial Aid Eligibility

EdChoice Traditional Scholarship –
Eligibility: Designated Public School

EdChoice Expansion Scholarship –
Eligibility: Income Level

FACTS Tuition Assistance –
Eligibility: Income Level

EdChoice Scholarships

Ohio Department of Education

[Traditional EdChoice Fact Sheet](#)

[EdChoice Expansion Fact Sheet](#)

EdChoice Scholarship Options

EdChoice Traditional Scholarship

Primary Eligibility: [Designated Public School](#)

This scholarship is available to families, regardless of income level, whose children would attend a local public school ranked by ODE as having poor performance.

Average Scholarship Amount - \$6,166 + family typically responsible for Private School tuition balance.

EdChoice Expansion Scholarship

Primary Eligibility: [Income Level](#)

This scholarship is available to all families. The scholarship award level depends on income qualifications.

Average Scholarship Amount - \$6166 + \$0 to variable family responsibility for Private School tuition balance.

Income Eligibility – 25-26

EDCHOICE EXPANSION INCOME ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR 2025-2026

Federal Poverty Levels with Gross Annual Amounts								
Number in Family/ Household	200%	450%	500%	550%	600%	650%	700%	750%
1	\$31,300	\$70,425	\$78,250	\$86,075	\$93,900	\$101,725	\$109,550	\$117,350
2	\$42,300	\$95,175	\$105,750	\$116,325	\$126,900	\$137,475	\$148,050	\$158,625
3	\$53,300	\$119,925	\$133,250	\$146,575	\$159,900	\$173,225	\$186,550	\$199,875
4	\$64,300	\$144,675	\$160,750	\$176,825	\$192,900	\$208,975	\$225,050	\$241,125
5	\$75,300	\$169,425	\$188,250	\$207,075	\$225,900	\$244,725	\$263,550	\$282,375
6	\$86,300	\$194,175	\$215,750	\$237,325	\$258,900	\$280,475	\$302,050	\$323,625
7	\$97,300	\$218,925	\$243,250	\$267,575	\$291,900	\$316,225	\$340,550	\$364,875
8	\$108,300	\$243,675	\$270,750	\$297,825	\$324,900	\$351,975	\$379,050	\$406,125
For each additional person add:	\$11,000	\$24,750	\$27,500	\$30,250	\$33,000	\$35,750	\$38,500	\$41,250

Source: Office of the Asst. Secretary for Planning & Eval/US Dept of HHS

Award Level Est by Income Percentage - 25/26

FPL Ratio	Award Grades K-8	Award as Percentage of Base Amount
450%	\$6,166.00	100.0%
451%	\$6,123.41	99.3%
452%	\$6,081.11	98.6%
453%	\$6,039.11	97.9%
454%	\$5,997.39	97.3%
455%	\$5,955.96	96.6%
456%	\$5,914.82	95.9%
457%	\$5,873.97	95.3%
458%	\$5,833.39	94.6%
459%	\$5,793.10	94.0%
460%	\$5,753.08	93.3%
461%	\$5,713.34	92.7%
462%	\$5,673.88	92.0%
463%	\$5,634.68	91.4%
464%	\$5,595.76	90.8%
465%	\$5,557.11	90.1%
466%	\$5,518.72	89.5%
467%	\$5,480.60	88.9%
468%	\$5,442.75	88.3%
469%	\$5,405.15	87.7%
470%	\$5,367.81	87.1%
471%	\$5,330.74	86.5%
472%	\$5,293.91	85.9%
473%	\$5,257.35	85.3%
474%	\$5,221.03	84.7%
475%	\$5,184.97	84.1%
476%	\$5,149.15	83.5%
477%	\$5,113.58	82.9%

[Click Here for Full Award Amounts by Income](#)

EdChoice Important Dates & Details

Scholarship Max Amount - \$6,166*

Availability - Kindergarten through 8th / 12th Grade.

Applications Open - February 1st

Deadline 25-26 - Oct. 14th (then prorated)

Deadline 25-26- June 1st for SGWS School Start**

*Balance of tuition is owed if income is above 200% Federal Poverty Guidelines. FACTS aid available.

**Applications accepted year round, but after June 1st tuition would be owed until application comes through and then is retroactively applied.

EdChoice Prerequisites & Rules

**Must Apply for Scholarship for
Each Student**

**Must Renew Scholarship / Sign
Acceptance Form Annually**

Before Applying:

You must be accepted by Spring Garden.

During Application Process:

Proof of Residence for EdChoice Traditional Scholarships

Proof of Income for EdChoice Expansion Scholarships

After Acceptance:

EdChoice scholarship money can only be applied to tuition dollars.

Families may be responsible for the remaining balance of tuition after EdChoice is applied.

EdChoice Scholarship Application Process

EdChoice Traditional Scholarship

- Contact Tyra Scott for Application Forms
- Return Forms to Tyra - Application, Proof of Residence and Student Birth Certificate
- Upload Income Data (if Expansion or 200%)
- SGWS & ODE notifies if accepted
- Guardians / Parents must sign scholarship acceptance form
- Guardians / Parents must sign either a limited POA or come in monthly to sign checks for each child.

EdChoice Traditional Scholarship FAQs

Do I live in an Eligible School District? Check Here:

<https://reports.education.ohio.gov/report/nonpublic-data-current-ed-choice-designated-list>

How do I enroll a sibling in EdChoice?

You must fill out a new application for each new student.

What if my public school falls off the eligibility list in upcoming years?

Your scholarship *and your family* will be grandfathered in based on original application date.

What if I want to enroll siblings after our public school falls off the eligibility list?

Once you are an EdChoice family, all siblings will be grandfathered into your EdChoice Traditional Scholarship.

What if I move to a new area and my children would no longer attend an eligible public school?

You will be able to keep the EdChoice Traditional Scholarship if you stay within the same school district as your eligible public school.

EdChoice Expansion Scholarship FAQs

If my student attends an eligible school, should I apply for an EdChoice Traditional Scholarship or an EdChoice Expansion Scholarship?

- If you live in an [eligible public school district](#) and make over 450% above the Federal Poverty Level, you will want to apply for the EdChoice Traditional Scholarship, which gives the full \$6,166 amount.
- If you live in an [eligible public school district](#) and make 450% under the Federal Poverty Level, you can apply for either scholarship because your income designates you will receive the full amount.
- If you do NOT live in an eligible public school district you will apply for the EdChoice Expansion Scholarship.

EdChoice Expansion Scholarship FAQs Cont.

How does ODE determine Income Level eligibility?

Based on the number of people in your [household and reported gross annual income.](#)

What if my income changes?

You only have to submit your income verification one time for the EdChoice Expansion Scholarship. If your income increases, you are grandfathered in at your initial rate. If your income decreases, you are welcome to submit new income verification to receive a larger scholarship.

What if I move?

EdChoice Expansion Scholarships are valid anywhere in Ohio.

Will I owe the balance of tuition?

Only families at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level do not owe the tuition balance.

FACTS Tuition Assistance

Spring Garden Waldorf School

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Important Dates & Details – FACTS

Scholarship Amount - Varied Based on Income

Availability - Kindergarten through 8 + Preschool families w/ K-8 siblings

Deadline - May 1st for SGWS School Start

Important Information:

- You must be accepted by Spring Garden to apply for FACTS aid.
- FACTS aid can only be applied to tuition dollars.
- Families are responsible for the remaining balance of tuition after FACTS aid is applied.
- Families can apply for EdChoice and FACTS.

FACTS Prerequisites & Rules

**All Tuition Responsible
Guardians, whether family or
court designated, must file and
report income to FACTS.**

**There can be No Outstanding
Tuition owed to SGWS to Apply
for FACTS.**

Annual Application is Required

Before Applying:

You must be accepted by Spring Garden.

During Application Process:

Tax Returns and Pay Stubs Required

The Tuition Assistance Committee will review the FACTS recommendation to make decisions for aid.

Each parent or household guardian is expected to contribute income if there are no preschool children at home.

After Acceptance:

FACTS financial aid can only be applied to tuition dollars.

Families are responsible for the remaining balance of tuition after FACTS aid is applied.

FACTS Financial Aid Application Process

- Meet with our Finance Director, Julie Marchetta.
- Apply with our third party financial aid service FACTS by providing:
 - Full tax returns of all legal guardians from previous year
 - Transcripts of last 2 years of tax returns of all legal guardians
 - All W-2s and/or 1099s
 - Copies of two most recent pay stubs
 - Application Fee
- FACTS makes financial aid recommendation and the Tuition Assistance Committee reviews FACTS recommendation.
- Tuition Assistance Committee designates financial aid awarded and Julie Marchetta will inform families of aid amount.
- Letter of appeals are accepted.

FACTS Tuition Assistance FAQs

Should I apply for FACTS or EDChoice?

We recommend that all families start their tuition assistance journey by filling out an EdChoice application. However, it is not required and you are welcome to only apply for FACTS.

If I receive an EdChoice scholarship does that mean I won't get financial aid from FACTS?

Many families apply for FACTS after receiving an EdChoice Scholarship if they are responsible for the balance of tuition and it is beyond their means to pay.

What if my income changes from year to year?

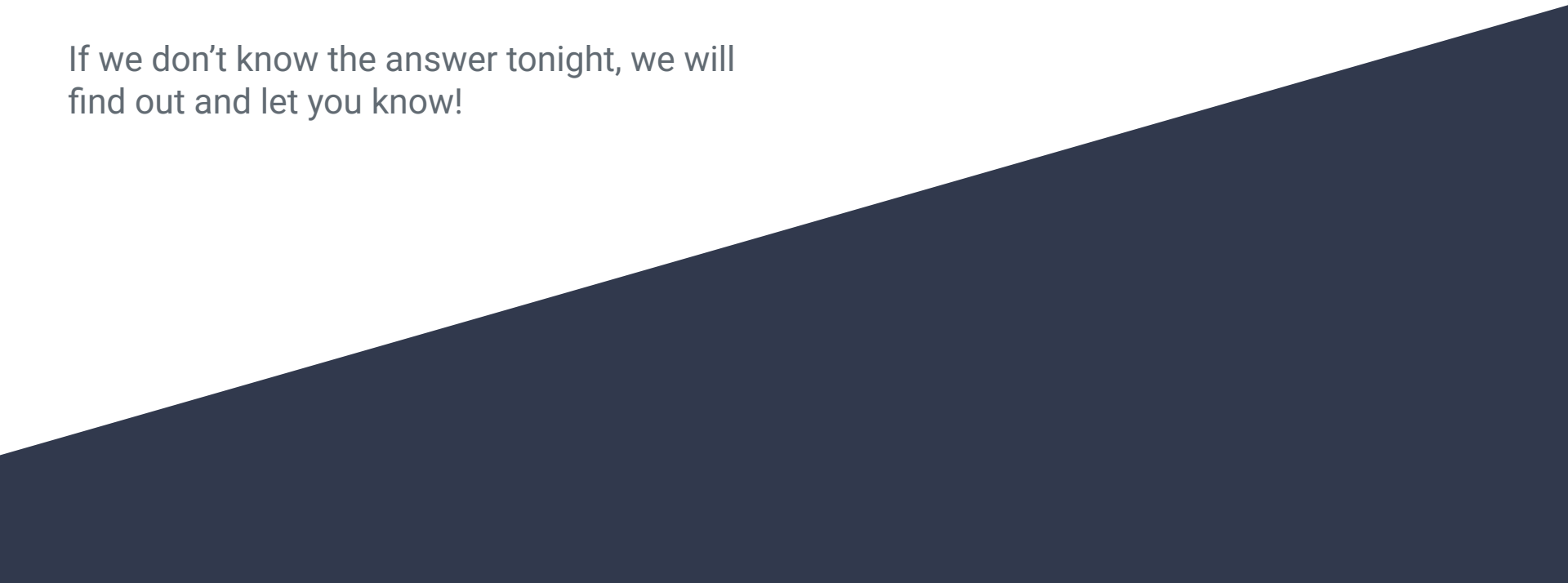
You must re-apply to FACTS each year to receive assistance. Assistance is granted based only on income and income changes may change aid given.

How is my financial aid assistance through FACTS determined?

FACTS is a third party system that recommends aid based on income level, other aid and scholarship given, household members and SGWS tuition owed. Final determination of aid is a decision made by our Tuition Assistance Committee, which is a subcommittee of the Finance Committee here at SGWS.

Questions and Answers

If we don't know the answer tonight, we will find out and let you know!

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