



AFFORDING A REDWOOD DAY EDUCATION

Redwood Day's value shines throughout our program and community. Keeping every child engaged and growing is at the core of who we are. To achieve this, diverse experiences and perspectives are essential. We consider diversity through many lenses, one of which is economic diversity. Redwood Day's commitment to economic diversity is supported by an extensive need-based tuition assistance program.

Of course, tuition is essential to our ability to offer all that Redwood Day is known for: an incredible academic program, a deeply connected community, leading-edge, inspirational faculty, and our beautiful 4-acre campus. We know that choosing an independent school education is a significant financial decision for families, and one that impacts children for life.

Our tuition assistance program supports our commitment to each child and each family. Each year, a significant portion of the School's budget is dedicated to tuition assistance. Our need-based tuition assistance program makes the School accessible to families with a wide range of economic experiences. Approximately 24% of students receive tuition assistance in the form of grants that range from \$1,000 up to 95% of tuition. These grants make it possible for so many families to invest in a Redwood Day education. We know that every single Redwood Day student, parent, and teacher is positively impacted by the tuition assistance program.

GROW INTO GREAT

TUITION AND TUITION ASSISTANCE OVERVIEW

Redwood Day is an economically diverse community. Whether or not your family applies for assistance, we want you to be aware of our tuition assistance program and how it connects to the mission of diversity at Redwood Day. Each child's experience here includes having classmates and friends from the full spectrum of economic circumstances.

2025-26 Tuition

Includes: morning extended care, field trips, outdoor education, sports, drama productions, and yearbook expenses.

Kindergarten - Fifth Grade	\$37,510
Sixth - Eighth Grade	\$42,040
Unlimited Extended Care (hourly rates also available)	\$3,750

Tuition typically increases a small amount each year. The 2026-27 tuition amounts will be set by the Redwood Day Board of Trustees in January 2026.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Will my family's application for tuition assistance impact our admissions decision?

A: The tuition assistance application process happens at the same time as the admissions process, but the two processes are separate. The Admissions Committee makes its decisions independently and, once admissions decisions are made, the Tuition Assistance Committee looks at the financial need of those being offered enrollment.

Q: Will every admitted student who is eligible for tuition assistance receive it?

A: Unfortunately, no. Even though Redwood Day's Board of Trustees dedicates over \$2 million to tuition assistance each year, we always receive more applications for tuition assistance than available funds. If we are unable to meet a family's financial need, we will place the student in a tuition assistance wait-pool in the hopes that funds will become available.

Q: How do I know if our family qualifies for tuition assistance?

A: A family should look at all their personal resources. If a family then believes they need assistance to meet tuition cost, the family should apply for tuition assistance. Tuition assistance grants are awarded to individual students on the basis of family financial need. The Tuition Assistance Committee considers many factors when determining a grant amount, including income, assets, liabilities, age of parents, number and ages of children, other educational commitments, budget, and more.

Q: What types of tuition assistance do you offer?

A: Redwood Day offers only need-based tuition assistance grants. We do not offer merit-based scholarships (e.g. in academics, athletics, art, music, etc.) or loans. Tuition assistance grants do not need to be paid back. However, in the spirit of giving, we hope that families of alumni who received tuition assistance will one day contribute to future generations so that others may experience the same educational opportunity.

Q: How are my financial status and my ability to pay evaluated if I am separated, divorced, a non-custodial parent, or unmarried?

A: We partner with Clarity to process tuition assistance applications and to compute the financial need of families seeking tuition assistance. Clarity and the Redwood Day policy for determining financial need is based on the principle that all parents and guardians are responsible for the support and educational expenses of their children. We require all parents, including non-custodial parents, to complete, sign, and submit a Clarity application and all required tuition assistance documents.

A completed tuition assistance application is required from all households with parents/guardians involved in the child's life regardless of any financial arrangements between households. All submitted information will be kept confidential. Financial information from one household will not be shared with the other household.

Waiving any part of this policy will require a written, signed, and notarized statement explaining the non-involvement of a parent to the Admissions and Tuition Assistance Office in advance of the tuition assistance application deadline.

Q: How is our family ability to pay tuition evaluated if a parent in our household does not work?

A: We value diversity of approaches to family life. To maintain equity in our tuition assistance program, unless specific circumstances require a parent not to work, the Tuition Assistance Committee will assign a salary to non-working parents who are not caring full-time for a family member (e.g. a young child). We respectfully ask families to submit an explanation of their non-working status.

Q: What if I miss the tuition assistance application deadline? Can I still apply?

A: Yes, though the likelihood of receiving tuition assistance is significantly reduced. Tuition assistance applications received after stated deadlines will be processed after all on-time applications have been processed. Funds are usually fully allocated with on-time tuition assistance applicants and are not often available for late tuition assistance applicants.

**Q: Is tuition assistance automatically renewed each year?
Will our grant be the same each year?**

A: Tuition assistance awards are granted on an annual basis. Returning families must reapply each year, meet all stated deadlines, and complete all documentation. Assuming the resources of the School to award grants and the family financial circumstances remain the same from year to year, we will make every attempt to keep the grants consistent. Typically, there is a modest (3–6%) overall tuition increase each year which may slightly increase your family's contribution.

Q: When will my family learn if we have been offered a tuition assistance grant?

A: Admissions acceptance notifications are sent in March. Families who have applied for tuition assistance will also receive a response at that time. The response will be one of three: 1) A grant amount awarded to an individual student, 2) Notification that a family does not qualify for tuition assistance, or 3) Notification that the family is in the wait-pool for tuition assistance.

Note: Current families and faculty/staff families applying for tuition assistance must submit their tuition assistance applications by the stated Priority Deadline and will be notified of decisions in February.

**Q: What if my child is offered enrollment by the Admissions Committee but is in the wait-pool for tuition assistance?
What is our next step?**

A: If the School doesn't have sufficient funds to meet a family's financial need, the student will be placed in a tuition assistance wait-pool and will be notified of any funding that becomes available. If a family in the tuition assistance wait-pool accepts admissions and signs a contract without tuition assistance, the family will be expected to pay tuition in full for the coming year and in subsequent years. The ability to pay tuition in one year is considered to be a demonstration of the ability to pay in subsequent years.

Q: How do I apply for tuition assistance?

A: Sign up for your Clarity account by visiting <https://auth.clarityapp.com/en/signup/> to create your account before the deadline. Sign the 4506c form to grant Clarity permission to access your prior year tax return, provide your financial information, and pay the \$60 application fee. Check the "Document Requests" panel on your portal to see if any required documents need to be uploaded. A tuition assistance application is complete when the application and all supporting information are received from all parents, either jointly or separately. It is the family's responsibility to verify that their information is completed via the Clarity portal. Late applications received after the deadline will only be considered if funds are still available.

Q: Does Redwood Day require a minimum contribution from families or can tuition assistance cover the entire school cost?

A: Redwood Day grants provide financial assistance and can cover up to 95% of tuition expenses. The tuition amount includes various components such as the cost of books, field trips, yearbooks, athletics, and outdoor education trips. Additionally, the Redwood grant extends its benefits to other programs within the school, reducing the rate of x-care, x-plus, and summer camp fees by the same percentage as the tuition grant. This means that a family receiving a 25% tuition grant will also receive a 25% grant for x-care and summer camp. However, it's important to note that the optional lunch program is not covered by the Tuition Assistance program.

Q: What tax information is required for my tuition assistance application?

A: To apply for tuition assistance, all families must complete a Clarity application and fulfill the requirement of signing and submitting a Form 4506c. This form grants Clarity permission to retrieve your prior year tax return directly from the IRS. By doing so, your tax return will be seamlessly uploaded to your Clarity application for thorough review. During the application process, you may also receive prompts from the application portal to upload any additional financial documents that may be required.

Grant decisions will be made based on your current and estimated income, assets, and expenses. These decisions are offered on a provisional basis until the final tax return is provided. It is important to note that failure to provide the required forms or a significant variance between the estimated and actual return may lead to a reduction or withdrawal of any provisional grant.

PRIORITIES

We prioritize tuition assistance applications as follows:

- **First Priority**
Returning students already receiving tuition assistance.
- **Second Priority**
Siblings of current tuition assistance recipients, Redwood Day faculty/staff, and returning Redwood Day families demonstrating a significant change in financial circumstances since initial enrollment, and who are applying for tuition assistance for the first time.
- **Third Priority**
New students applying for tuition assistance.
- **Fourth Priority**
All applications received after stated deadlines.

Returning students currently receiving tuition assistance

Tuition assistance awards at Redwood Day are granted on an annual basis. Returning families must reapply each year, meet all stated deadlines, and complete all documentation. Assuming the resources of the School and the family's financial circumstances remain the same from year to year, we will make every attempt to keep the grants consistent. Typically, there is a modest tuition increase each year, which may slightly increase your family's contribution. Tuition assistance grants to returning families may be withdrawn if the current year's tuition payments are not current.

Siblings of current tuition assistance recipients and faculty/staff children

Tuition assistance applications for siblings of current tuition assistance recipients are considered after re-application of all current tuition assistance recipients but before all new family grants. We can typically offer grants meeting a family's financial need to siblings of current tuition assistance recipients and faculty/staff children.

Returning Redwood Day students not currently receiving tuition assistance

We expect families who first enroll at Redwood Day without a tuition assistance grant to understand the long-term financial commitment they are making. If a family enrolls at Redwood Day without tuition assistance, the family will be expected to pay tuition in full for the coming year and in subsequent years. Therefore, we will consider a grant for a returning family who does not currently receive tuition assistance only if a significant change of financial circumstance (such as unavoidable job loss, another student enrolling in independent school creating much larger educational costs, increase in medical costs, etc.) can be demonstrated since initial enrollment.

New students

Although the admissions and tuition assistance processes are independent of each other, a family offered enrollment at Redwood Day who has also applied for tuition assistance will receive a tuition assistance grant decision along with their admissions acceptance notification in March.

Late tuition assistance applications

Tuition assistance applications received after stated deadlines will be processed after all applications received on-time have been processed. To provide an equitable process for on-time applicants, there are no exceptions to this policy. Grants are usually fully allocated with on-time applicants and are not often available for late tuition assistance applicants.

REDWOOD DAY 2026-27

TUITION ASSISTANCE APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Each household must complete an application.

Tuition Assistance Application Deadlines

Redwood Day Families and Faculty/Staff: **November 1, 2025**

New Applicants: **January 16, 2026**

COMPLETE A CLARITY APPLICATION

- 1 Visit <https://auth.clarityapp.com/en/signup/> and click “Sign In” to create your account. The application process typically takes less than 30 minutes to complete.
- 2 Begin by providing your household and applicant information. Then, use the dropdown menu in the application to select Redwood Day as the school to which you are applying.
- 3 Sign and submit a 4506c form to grant Clarity permission to retrieve your prior year tax returns from the IRS. By doing so, your tax return will be seamlessly uploaded to your Clarity application for review.
- 4 Fill out your financial information, including details about your income, expenses, assets, and debts. You can save your progress and return to it at any time.
- 5 Submit and pay the application fee of \$65 per household, which covers all the Clarity schools that you are applying to.
- 6 Check the “Document Requests” panel on your portal to identify any additional financial documents that need to be uploaded.

TIPS FOR COMPLETING THE APPLICATION

- Enter accurate information to the best of your ability regarding assets such as bank accounts, investment portfolios, home value, and balances on car loans, student loans, etc. You may need to gather relevant paperwork or log into your accounts to have this information readily accessible.
- Be sure to consider all of your monthly and annual expenses and include any additional expenses (not already reported) in the designated “out of pocket expenses” section.
- For assistance completing the Clarity application, feel free to contact Clarity at support@clarityapp.com or **206.210.3752**.
- Remember to regularly check the “Document Request” panel on the portal for any additional documents that may be requested. Occasionally, the Tuition Assistance committee may use the portal to reach out to the family and gather additional information required for a comprehensive review and better understanding of the family’s financial situation.

Once the Clarity application is complete and all supporting information has been received from all parents, whether jointly or separately, by the stated deadline, a file is ready for consideration by Redwood Day’s Tuition Assistance Committee. It is the family’s responsibility to ensure the completeness of their information through the Clarity parent portal.

Late applications received after the deadline will be considered only if funds are still available.

QUESTIONS?

Clarity
Family Support Center
206.210.3752
support@clarityapp.com

Redwood Day Tuition Assistance
510.534.0804 x 222
tuitionassistance@rdschool.org