

Affording Overlake:

A Guide for Families



Affording Overlake

Since its founding in 1967, The Overlake School has remained steadfast in its mission to make a world-class education accessible to students from all walks of life. We believe that cost should never be a barrier to opportunity. Through a robust, need-based financial aid program, we partner with families to ensure that an Overlake education remains within reach.

At Overlake, we know that a community made up of diverse socioeconomic backgrounds better prepares all students for the complexities of the world they will inherit. That's why our commitment to financial aid and reducing cost barriers to an Overlake education is a mission critical priority to ensure our classrooms reflect the richness and depth of the broader community.







\$128,000

Average Household Income of Financial Aid Recipients



75%

Average amount of tuition covered

Average Grant: \$37,650



Awarded for the 25-26 school year

\$1.8 million awarded for the 25-26 year



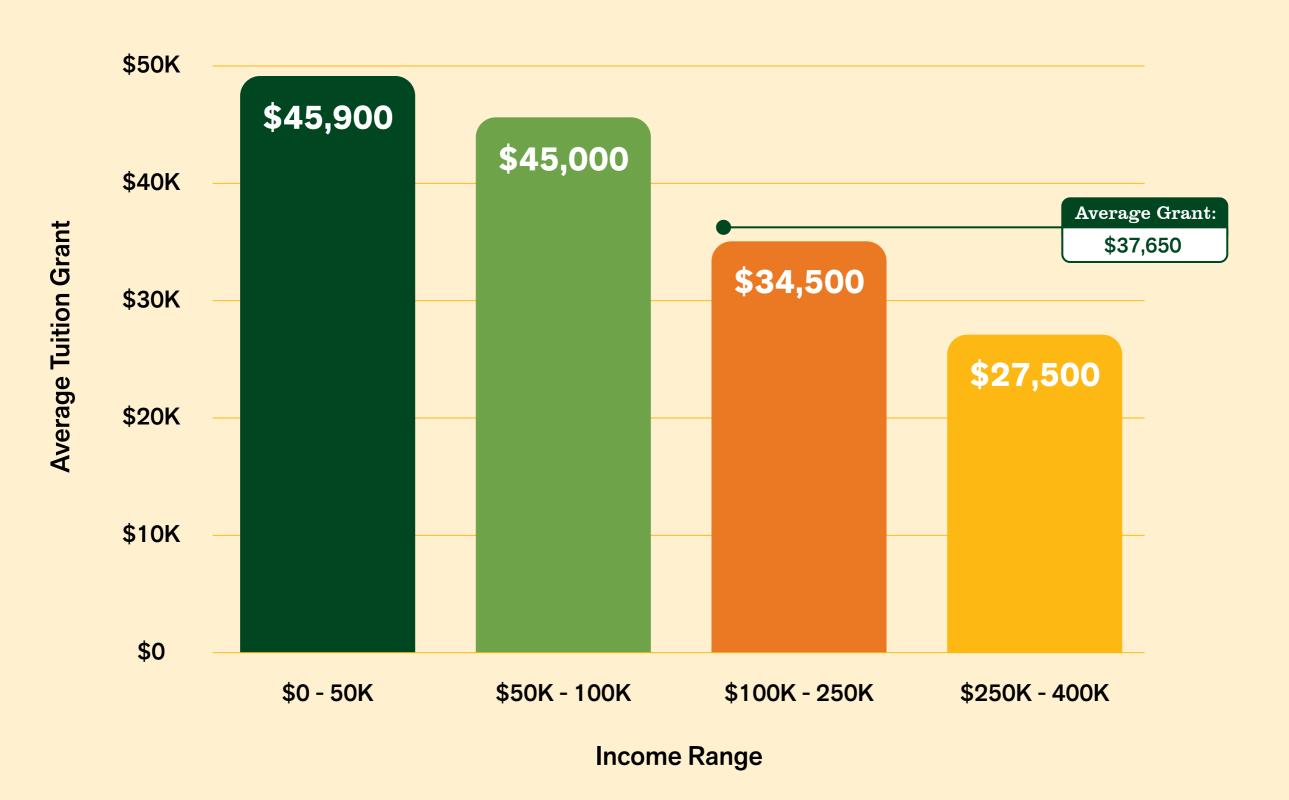
Financial Aid Case Studies

Every family's financial circumstances are unique, so we calculate every financial aid application on a case by case basis. These case studies highlight how factors like income, housing, expenses, and number of children influence a family's financial aid award. While no two situations are the same, we hope these examples give you a clearer picture of how our process works and how awards are tailored to individual needs.

| | Family 1 | Family 2 | Family 3 | Family 4 |
|------------------------|----------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Total Income | \$40,000 | \$161,000 | \$209,000 | \$380,000 |
| Children* | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Housing | Rent | Owns 1 property | Owns 1 property | Rent |
| Annual Expenses | \$44,000 | \$82,000 | \$86,000 | \$71,000 |
| Financial Aid | \$48,500 | \$41,200 | \$28,489 | \$15,000 |
| Tuition per Student | \$0 | \$6,500 | \$20,000 | \$33,500 |

^{*}Number of children attending tuition charging schools
**The numbers are approximations of dollar amounts

Average Tuition Grant by Household Income



How is Financial Aid Calculated?

The Overlake School uses Clarity to help process financial aid applications. Families submit their financial information and IRS tax documents, and this information is used by the Financial Aid Committee to determine a need-based award per applicant.

The Financial Aid and Admissions Committees operate independently, and the only information the Admissions Committee is provided is that a family has applied for financial aid. This does not disadvantage a student's application, and may actually strengthen it, as increasing access for students is a strategic and mission critical priority.

Income

Annual income includes wages from all household earners, self-employment earnings, non-taxable income (like child support or government benefits), and any adjustments to taxable income. In addition to reported earnings, we use a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) to account for regional differences.

Assets

In addition to income, we evaluate a family's assets to help determine financial need. Families report values for items such as bank accounts. investment holdings, property, business equity, and 529 plans. A weighting system is used to assess each asset's impact to ensure that families are not over-penalized for long-term savings.

Expenses

We take a family's essential living expenses in to account to provide a holistic picture of financial need. These include housing, food and clothing, transportation, and healthcare. We compare reported expenses against standard benchmarks, ensuring that families facing higher-thanaverage living costs are evaluated equitably.

Other Expenses and Debts

The application factors in other expenses such as student loan payments, child support, union dues, charitable contributions, childcare, eldercare, and alimony. These expenses are also subject to caps based on regional norms.

Children in Tuition Based Schools

We also consider the number of children attending any tuition-charging elementary school, middle school, or high school in into the application.

The Value of an Overlake Education

Overlake Values



? Curiosity















A community that truly values character, connection, and contribution—where who they are matters just as much as what they achieve.

77 acres of discovery: a living campus of protected wetlands, where learning extends beyond the classroom through experiential trips at the local, national, and international scale.

Preparation for a life of purpose: Overlake equips students to thrive and contribute meaningfully to the world.





Educators who are committed to an environment where students are known, challenged, and supported.

How to Apply for Financial Aid

1

Start Your Financial Aid Application on Clarity

Start your Application

There is a \$60 fee to submit the application. However, families who qualify for financial aid will have this fee refunded after their application is reviewed.

2

Submit Required Tax Documentation

Clarity will automatically retrieve prior-year IRS tax documents (like IRS Tax Form 1040s and W-2s) for re-applying families.

Applying families will then be prompted to upload any additional required documents depending on various financial circumstances (self-employment, contract work, etc.) 3

Review Financial Aid Award Decisions

Returning families can review their financial aid award details in their Online Re-Enrollment Portal.

Newly admitted families can review their financial aid award notification in their admissions decision letters. 4

Verify Final Documents Upon Award

All awarded families—both new and returning—will be required to submit current-year W-2s after aid is granted. This step is necessary to finalize and verify the award amount.