

# Applying for Financial Aid

TADS<sup>®</sup>

*for the 2025-2026 academic year*

We partner with TADS for our financial aid process. You will complete the TADS financial aid application at [secure.tads.com](https://secure.tads.com) to apply for financial aid at our school.

By submitting a TADS application, you're granting TADS permission to analyze your financial information. Using their unique methodology, TADS estimates the amount your family can contribute to school expenses.



## How to complete the TADS Financial Aid Application

Create your Family Portal account with your email address and a password at [secure.tads.com](https://secure.tads.com).

If you applied for financial aid last year, log into the Family Portal as a Returning Family using the same email address and password.

Complete an application for the 2025-2026 Academic Year. You can log out of the portal at any time and return later to finish it.

Once all sections are complete with green check marks, click "Save and Continue" to go to the payment page. The financial aid application fee is non-refundable and is payable by checking/savings account or credit card.

## Next steps

After you pay for and submit your application, the next steps will require you to upload required documents by their deadlines as part of the application process.

The school office will then communicate the financial aid decision to you directly. Each school and program use the information from the TADS application as a starting point. Schools and programs also consider school policies, practices, and available budget when making financial aid decisions.



## Plan Ahead and Know Your Deadlines

The TADS application is a comprehensive application that will take some time to complete. Give yourself the time you need by not waiting until the deadline approaches. It's important to note the difference between the deadlines for admission and financial aid applications.

If you do not have your 2024 tax return, complete the application using your 2023 return. When the requested tax forms arrive, such as W2s or 1040s, log back in and upload them (if required) by the deadline.



## Tips for completing your financial aid application



### Separate salary from profit

If you are a business or farm owner, you will be asked about your salary in the W2 section. Enter only the amount you draw as salary as reported on your W2. You will provide information about profit/loss elsewhere in the application.

### Use your legal name

Make sure your name on your TADS application appears exactly the way your name appears on your tax documents.

### Be honest

Take time to carefully consider how much you think you can pay towards tuition on your own. Make a budget of income and expenses to see how much you can include for school costs.

### Include all members of your household on one application

You can apply for aid to up to 7 schools using TADS for all your children. All children in the household, including students not applying for financial aid, should be included on your application. Please note that if you have more than 5 children, you will need to contact [tads-support@communitybrands.com](mailto:tads-support@communitybrands.com) after completing your application to ensure all children are included on your application.

### Enter whole numbers

When entering numbers, do not enter decimals or cents — simply round to the nearest whole number. All monetary values must be in US dollars.

### Upload your required documents

Once you submit your application to TADS, you will see a list of documents available under the Required Documents tab of your Family Portal Account on [secure.tads.com](https://secure.tads.com). Be sure to upload all required tax documents via the Family Portal.

### Tell your story

Offer explanations when requested, so your story or situation is clear and understandable to those reviewing your application.

### Estimate your taxes

We realize 2024 tax forms are not available until late January. If you don't have your current year's taxes available, please estimate your answers based on your prior year's (2023) tax return.

### Gather your required documents

Before completing your application, gather your most recent tax documents, mortgage statements and other financial aid documents.

You will receive a unique list of documents required to submit to TADS upon completion of your application that represent your unique income and household situation, and that represent the unique requirements of each program you apply to.

## Need help with your application or required documents?

Contact TADS Family Support at (800) 477-8237 or [tads-support@communitybrands.com](mailto:tads-support@communitybrands.com)