

Applying for Tuition Assistance at Valley Montessori School for the 2012-13 Academic Year

VMS partners with School and Student Services by NAIS (SSS) in our tuition assistance process. To begin your tuition assistance application, you will complete the Parents' Financial Statement (PFS). Complete just one PFS, even if you have more than one child applying for assistance. Completing the PFS online will save you time and money, and will help us expedite the process of making our tuition assistance decisions.



How to Complete the Parents' Financial Statement (PFS) Online

- 1. Starting February 6, 2012, contact Teri Barnett, Director of Admissions and let her know of your intent to apply for Tuition Assistance. Following that, go to the SSS Website at sss.nais.org/parents. Click on the green "Apply Now" button to enter the PFS Online.**
- 2. Login to the PFS Online.**
 - *Are you applying for aid for the first time?* Click on the green "Create an Account" button. You'll be asked to enter your name and email address and to select a password.
 - *Did you apply last year?* Enter in your login and password from last year in the section called "Returning Families." If you have forgotten your login information, click on "forgot your password."
- 3. Begin a PFS for Academic Year 2012-13.**

Download the PFS Online Workbook and refer to on-screen help for guidance along the way. You can log out of the PFS Online at any time -- then return later to complete your PFS.
- 4. Pay for and submit your PFS.**

The fee of \$37 is nonrefundable. Once you have paid for and submitted your PFS, we will receive your information at our school. About 24 hours after you submit your PFS, you can go back to the PFS Online to submit any additional documents (see next section) and to view your Family Report, which summarizes the information we will receive.

VMS Tuition Assistance committee will communicate our decision to you. To make our decision, we use the information from the PFS as a starting point. We also consider our school policy and practices, as well as the budget we have available.



If you wish to complete the PFS using the paper form, please contact Teri Barnett 925-455-8021 x 100 for a form. Mail to School and Student Services, PO Box 449, Randolph, MA 02368-0449. For overnight service, use: School and Student Services, 437 Turnpike Street, Canton, MA 02021

If you have questions as you complete the PFS, contact SSS customer service at (800) 344-8328.



How to Submit Additional Required Documents Online

Approximately 24 hours after you have paid for and submitted your PFS online, you will have access to the Manage Documents section of the PFS Online, where you can upload documents.

- 1. Prepare your documents to be uploaded.**

Make sure the documents are on your computer, each saved as a separate file. They can be saved in any of the following file formats and each must be not more than 1.5 MB in size: Microsoft Word, Excel, Adobe pdf, .jpg, .gif or .tif. Remove any security or password protection you may have on any pdfs and black out any social security numbers.
- 2. Go to the PFS Online and login.**
- 3. Select the Academic Year 2012-13 button.**
- 4. From your PFS Online Dashboard, click on the purple "Manage Documents" tab.**
- 5. On the Manage Documents page, under "Upload Documents," click "Browse," then locate the place the document is on your computer.**
- 6. Click "Upload Documents."**

Once you have uploaded a document, it will NOT appear immediately in the "Received Documents" section on this page. It can take up to 72 hours for it to be received and then validated. Once it does appear in the "Received Documents" section that means that we, at our school, now have access to it.

If you wish to submit documents by mail, send them with a COVER SHEET (found at sss.nais.org/go/coversheet) to School and Student Services, PO Box 449, Randolph, MA 02368-0449. For overnight service, use: School and Student Services, 437 Turnpike Street, Canton, MA 02021

Here's key information you need to know about our school as you complete the PFS:

Our school's full name: **Valley Montessori School** Our School's SSS code: **1243**

Contact information for our financial aid office: **Teri Barnett, Director of Admissions, 925-455-8021 x100**

Due date for completing the PFS: **March 1, 2012** Due date for submitting additional documents (see below): **March 1, 2012**

NOTE: prior years we accepted applications after the deadline date. This year ~ March 1 is the DEADLINE.

Documents we require you to submit, in addition to the PFS: X IRS 2010: 1040, 1040A or 1040EZ X IRS 2011: 1040, 1040A or 1040EZ

PFS APPLICATION AND DOCUMENT TIMELINE

Follow the timeline to meet the Valley Montessori School deadline.

If you are applying with ONLINE PFS Application and Uploaded Documents

96%
of families apply online at
sss.nais.org/parents
because it's
faster and easier!

At least **4** Days Prior to Deadline
Complete Online PFS Application.

At least **3** Days Prior to Deadline
Upload required documents.
You can electronically upload documents to your PFS account 24 hours after submitting the PFS application.
Please note: completing the application online does not mean that you must upload your required documents. If you wish to mail your documents, please complete the Online PFS following the mailed docs timeline.



If you are applying with PAPER PFS Application and/or Mailed Documents

At least **10** Days Prior to Deadline
Mail PFS and Required Documents to SSS.

Allow plenty of time for mailed documents to travel to the document center and for processing. Don't forget your coversheet!
Please note: paper applications and mailed documents do not need to be mailed together, but each should be sent at least 10 days prior to the deadline.