



## 2020-2021 Pandemic Financial Aid Policy

### Policy Purpose:

St. George's Episcopal School understands that the COVID-19 pandemic has negatively impacted students and families' incomes with reductions and job losses. We are diligently working with all students (returning and newly admitted) to determine best options during these challenging times. As we make these decisions, we encourage you to share your family's experience so that we can ensure that you are receiving the assistance that you need to be more secure for 2020-2021.

Eligibility for financial aid was initially calculated based on the information provided to St. George's for the upcoming academic year, 2020-2021. Using that information, St. George's engaged in a fair and consistent evaluation of all families' ability to pay for the following year at the school. The evaluation assumed that a family's income in prior years would be a solid indicator of the family's financial strength during the student's 2020-2021 enrollment.

If your family's financial situation has changed for one of the four reasons outlined below, St. George's has implemented this special, one-year policy to review financial aid need. This policy is based on a one-time special circumstance and depends on the availability of funds and the timeliness of the appeal request.

Submitting an appeal does not guarantee an adjustment or increase in your financial aid award, but be assured that St. George's will take seriously every appeal received. In the event that we are not able to offer additional financial aid, please allow us to discuss alternative payment plans available to help finance your child's education.

### Process:

St. George's intends for this process to be as simple as possible for those families who have already submitted a request for financial aid. For those families who would like to apply for financial aid, but have not yet applied in the first instance including families in our Early Childhood Program, please direct your questions to [Katie Harris](mailto:Katie.Harris@stgnola.org), Director of Admissions.

To request a pandemic financial aid award consideration for the academic year 2020-2021, please submit a written request using the subject: Financial Aid Award Pursuant to the 2021 Pandemic Financial Aid Policy, and send to Katie Harris, Director of Admissions, at [tuitionassistance@stgnola.org](mailto:tuitionassistance@stgnola.org).

### What is the reason for requesting an appeal?

In that letter, please selected one of the following four reasons for the appeal request:

1. Significant Loss of Parent, Student, or Spouse's Work Income in 2020
2. Loss or Reduction of Other Taxed/Untaxed Income, Benefits or Other Assets
3. Family's Unusually High, Uninsured Medical or Dental Expenses
4. Other Special Circumstance Occasioned by Financial Hardship due to Pandemic

All families requesting an appeal or consideration of a financial aid award based on one of these four categories must provide written documentation as support for the reason selected. This may be in the form of a termination letter or furlough or lay-off notice. Or, it may be in the form of medical payments or unpaid bills. Or,



it may be a signed letter from your family outlining the special circumstances and considerations of which you would like the Financial Aid Appeals Committee to be aware. Families may select more than one category.

All appeals and requests will be handled in a uniform and consistent manner by the Financial Aid Appeals Committee and are reviewed within 30 days after receipt of all required and supporting documentation. However, response times may vary depending on volume of appeals at the time of your request.

**Appeal Certification**

By submitting an appeal request, each signer certifies the following:

To the best of my knowledge, the information provided in the appeal/request is correct and complete. I/We understand that falsification of any of the information in my appeal could jeopardize my financial aid eligibility. I/We understand that submitting a written appeal/request letter does not guarantee that financial aid will be increased. I/We understand that if our financial aid is revised based on projected income, St. George's may require additional verification of projected income and financial aid may be revised if projected income was inaccurate. I/We understand this is a one-time special circumstance and depends on the availability of funds and the timeliness of the appeal request.

**Contact for Questions:**

Katie Harris, Director of Admissions, at [tuitionassistance@stgnola.org](mailto:tuitionassistance@stgnola.org)