



## **Independent & Parochial School Tuition Assistance Grants**

*Over the past five years, The Charles Ellis Trust for Girls has awarded over five million dollars in tuition assistance grants to students attending independent and parochial high schools.*

### **BACKGROUND**

The Charles Ellis Trust for Girls helps young women of limited financial means enhance their high school experience and prepare for post-secondary success. Each year The Ellis Trust awards grants to eligible young women, residing in Philadelphia, to support their education and life goals by providing tuition assistance for students attending independent and parochial high schools. The mission is to change lives by providing funds to enhance girls' high school experience and encourage their life pursuits. More information about The Ellis Trust for Girls, including information on our assistance for students in public schools, can be found at [www.ellistrust.org](http://www.ellistrust.org).

### **HOW TO APPLY FOR A GRANT**

The Ellis Trust application process is now **online** and accessible via smart phone, tablet and/or personal computer. The online application for the 2019/2020 school year can be accessed at [www.ellistrust.org](http://www.ellistrust.org) on **January 1, 2019**. Applicants must complete the Ellis Trust application online to be considered for a tuition assistance grant. Current 8<sup>th</sup> grade students should apply now for consideration for high school tuition assistance.

To complete the application you will need to submit a personal statement and upload documents including your current report card, a signature page, current household income documents (e.g. federal tax, child support, public assistance and Social Security benefits). As you work on your grant application, you will be able to save it in draft form at any point and return to it after you have gathered the required documents for uploading.

### **DEADLINE**

Applications for tuition assistance grants **must be submitted online by midnight on Friday, March 15, 2019.**

### **NOTIFICATION**

Applicants will be notified of grant decisions by May 1, 2019. If you are approved, the grant payments will be made directly to the school. **Applicants must reapply for funding each year; grants are not automatically renewed.**

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Tuition assistance grants from The Ellis Trust for Girls are awarded to girls in grades nine through twelve grades who meet the following criteria:

- Live in Philadelphia,
- Live in a household where one or both parents are absent, or mentally and/or physically disabled,
- Meet the family Income Eligibility Requirements listed below for reduced-priced lunch under the National School Lunch Program,
- Have grades of “C” or better in major school subjects and are making academic progress toward timely graduation,
- Can prove their dependency status (i.e. student’s name appears on their family’s Federal IRS Form 1040 tax return or PA Department of Human Services document(s) or foster care documentation), and,
- Are in a family that does not own property other than their primary home.

## INCOME ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS *(2019/2020 school year)*

- Families of girls need to meet the Income Eligibility Requirements for reduced-priced lunch under the National School Lunch Program.
- Total Gross Family Income (income before taxes) must not exceed the amounts listed below.
- Gross Family Income includes wages, salaries, PA Department of Human Services payments (i.e. food stamps, temporary cash, etc.), disability payments, worker’s compensation payments, Social Security payments (Disability, Retirement, Survivors and/or SSI), child support payments, etc. earned or received by the student and other family members living in the household during 2018, as well as, any contributions from family members not living with the student.

<b>Family Size</b>	<b>Maximum Income</b>
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2 .....	\$30,451
3 .....	\$38,443
4 .....	\$46,435
5 .....	\$54,427
6 .....	\$62,419
7 .....	\$70,411
8 .....	\$78,403

NOTE: Add \$7,992 for each additional person in a family with more than eight members.

## NEED HELP?

If you have questions about the application process please email our staff at [ellistrust@philadelphiafutures.org](mailto:ellistrust@philadelphiafutures.org) or call us at (215) 790-1666 ext. 427 or ext. 442.