



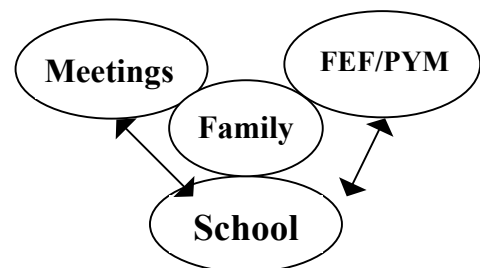
Philadelphia Yearly Meeting *of the Religious Society of Friends*

TUITION AID FOR FRIENDS CHILDREN IN PYM FRIENDS SCHOOLS 2012–2013 SCHOOL YEAR GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES for Families, Schools and Meetings

- 1) **FUND PURPOSE:** This fund increases the ability of PYM members to afford to send their children to Friends schools within Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.
- 2) **ELIGIBILITY:** Grants from this fund are available to children of PYM members in grades K-12 at PYM Friends schools whose families indicate financial need.
- 3) **APPLICATION PROCESS:** The application process begins when the family submits an Application Form (attached) to the Monthly Meeting. The overall sequence and timing of this process are set forth in the “Application Timeline” (attached). Completed applications received by PYM by April 1 are considered approved, unless subsequent information changes the status of the application. Those received after April 1 are approved on a case-by-case basis, as availability of funds permits.
- 4) **AWARD DETERMINATION:** Each year, the grant amount per-student depends on the amount of funds available and the projected number of applicants. **The grant amount for 2011–12 will be at least \$700 per student, and \$1,100 for each student enrolled in a Friends schools for children with learning differences.**
- 5) **AWARD DISTRIBUTION:** Awards from the Fund take the form of grants, paid during the first week of October. Checks are sent to the schools, in a lump sum for all participating students at each school.
- 6) **FUND INFORMATION:** Income sources for this Fund include: Jonathan E. Rhoads Endowment Fund; Friends Education Fund; Shaw-North Fund; Samuel Jeanes Fund; Partenheimer Fund; Anna Gray Morris Trust; and the DeCou Trust. Applications are administered by PYM Education staff, in consultation with the Committee on Friends Education, Meetings, families and schools.

WORKING ASSUMPTIONS AND AFFIRMATIONS FOR QUAKER FAMILIES, MEETINGS & SCHOOLS:

- 1) Ensuring access to Friends education requires a partnership of mutual trust by families, schools, Monthly Meetings and Yearly Meeting. These partners must have a shared commitment and close communication. Families, schools and Meetings commit significant budget portions to this effort; PYM is working toward increasing available funds for this effort and encourages Meetings to do likewise.



- 2) Families choosing a Friends education must make difficult choices, placing tuition payment high on their list of financial priorities. PYM views the decision by Quaker families to enroll their child(ren) in a Friends school as a leading of the spirit. Understood in this way, the financial sacrifice made by Quaker families is part of a larger vision of a “rightly-ordered” life.
- 3) PYM affirms the authority of each Friends school to use its own methodology (including the “Princeton Form” of the School and Family Scholarship Service, “SSS”) to ascertain and quantify “financial need” for its families. PYM further entrusts the Friends schools with the final responsibility for determining the overall financial aid package for each of their Quaker families.

INFORMATION FOR MEETINGS:

- 1) Monthly Meetings are encouraged to match or exceed the grant level announced by the Yearly Meeting.
- 2) PYM requires that Meetings give assurance that families requesting PYM funds meet the criteria of the Jonathan E. Rhoads Endowment Fund for Friends Children in Friends Schools.
- 3) The PYM Education office will be happy to consult with any Meetings that have concerns or questions about their families’ participation in this program, or about these policy guidelines.
- 4) Quarterly Meetings – The PYM Education office will communicate and coordinate with each Quarterly Meeting after compiling the information received from the Monthly Meetings (via the schools). It is expected that the decision-making processes of each Quarterly Meeting will be coordinated with the various Monthly Meetings that comprise that Quarter.

INFORMATION FOR SCHOOLS:

New Students – Those families who are awaiting an admissions decision are expected to submit a PYM Application Form as part of their application for financial aid to the school. Schools should notify PYM of any student whose status is still pending as of April 1st.

Fund Restrictions – These funds are donor-restricted. PYM grants are intended to give Quaker families enhanced affordability at Friends schools. In practice, this means that schools that accept these tuition funds agree that the amounts shall be in addition to, and not in place of, other tuition aid credits for Quaker children.

Compliance with these Guidelines – PYM anticipates that there may be questions or concerns about these guidelines, particularly as they may relate to the school’s overall financial aid process. The PYM Education office will welcome inquiries from schools, and will be happy to provide examples of practice that satisfy the fund restrictions in a variety of contexts. We look forward to working collaboratively with schools to ensure that Quaker families get the full benefit of these resources.