

STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

- **Local Church Sponsorship**

Many churches have a tuition assistance program that parents can apply for at the local church.

Amounts are solely based on the church's ability to give. Please talk to your pastor or head elder early so they can process your request and send us their decision.

- **Sponsorship Programs**

Family members and friends may provide financial encouragement to students by –

- Supporting their scholastic success with a one-time financial incentive or a financial incentive paid at each semester to their tuition expenses.
- By becoming a work sponsor. Sponsors guarantee a specific amount to be added to the student's base wage on a per hour basis.
- These sponsorships are not tax deductible.

New Member Discount

Assistance is available to newly baptized Seventh-day Adventist (either dormitory or day students) who have had no previous Adventist background and will be attending GSAA for the first time.

This assistance is awarded for three consecutive semesters. The amount of assistance is 75%, 50% and 25% of tuition for each respective semester. Eligibility: Must be baptized within 18 months of the start of each school year.

Summer Work Matching Scholarship

If employed by a eligible summer work program, such as Camp Ida-Haven Idaho Conference's Maga-Book program, GSAA will match 15% of your earnings that you turn in to us for tuition, not to exceed \$500.

Worthy Student Scholarships

Gem State Academy is blessed to have a loyal alumni community and a highly invested church family provides funding for students whose families can pay only a portion of the cost of attending GSAA. Requests are considered on a first come, first served basis. Therefore, it is in the family's best interest to file early.

To allocate the resources wisely and fairly, we have enlisted the help of Independent School Management's FAST (Financial Aid for School Tuition) program. ISM's FAST does not decide whether financial assistance will be given or how much to give; rather FAST provides a need-based financial aid analysis service. FAST provides the school with a report, which includes a recommendation of what a family should reasonably contribute toward tuition. All information from FAST is kept confidential.

Worthy Student Application & Procedures

1. To access the F.A.S.T. Program website specifically for Gem State Academy, click the FAST icon on the previous page. Then follow the online instructions. All financial information should be entered directly through the secure server.
2. Mail a copy of your most recent tax return to F.A.S.T.
3. There is a fee of \$43 to process the application.
4. Once the application is entered and F.A.S.T. has processed it, notification will be sent to GSA's VP for Finance.

5. The Financial Aid Committee will make a decision regarding how much aid to allocate. The decision is based on the recommendation from F.A.S.T as well as other information communicated by the family during the interview.
6. The decision is then communicated via email or letter to the family. Upon acceptance, Gem State Adventist Academy draws up a financial agreement and both the parent and Gem State Academy sign the contract.