



**TUITION SCHEDULE 2025-2026**

**Fees (not applied toward tuition)**

**New Students:** \$395 application fee due at time of application (refunded if student is not accepted).

**Returning Students:** \$200 per child due April 15, 2025. Payment may be made by cash/check or through Blackbaud Tuition Management. Unless, you notify Head of school of withdrawal, you will be automatically billed the re-enrollment fee due on that date.

TUITION			
Program	Age	School Hours	***Tuition
Children’s House half-day	2.5-4+ yrs	8:30am-noon	\$ 8,928
Children’s House full-day	2.5-6+ yrs	8:30am-2:30pm	\$11,544
Elementary (grades 1-6)	6-12+ yrs	8:30am-3:30pm*	** \$13,236
Middle School (grades 7-8) <b>*** Note: The 2-week Residential Experience and the 1-week Peace Trip are not included in Tuition shown, but will be paid along with tuition (see page 2).</b>	12-14+ yrs	8:30am-3:30pm*	\$15,048
* 2:45pm early dismissal on Wednesdays; included in tuition is classroom supervision until 3:30pm.			
** Elementary Tuition includes the cost of the two overnight ‘Earth Experience’ trips students take each year. <b><u>Not included with tuition is the annual \$75 classroom fee; Montessori Aspect (aka before/after care); athletics and any other after school programs.</u></b>			
<b><i>Blackbaud Tuition Management provides our online billing and payment system. They charge a \$28 annual admin. fee per family account. Their monthly bills will include any of the following charges that may apply: Tuition; Classroom Fees (\$75); and any monthly MA (before/after care) Fees that might be due. For Middle-School families, bills will also include applicable fees for both the two-week Residential Experience and the one-week Peace Trip. (Blackbaud does not bill for After-School programs).</i></b>			
<b>Sibling Discounts:</b> Families with 2 attending children: 5% discount on total tuition Families with 3 attending children: 7.5% discount on total tuition Families with 4 or more attending children: discount determined by Head of School			

(\*\*\* FMES Tuitions have increased on average only 1.9% annually since 2019 vs CPI at 3.6%+ annually during that time.)

**TUITION PAYMENT OPTIONS**

**Annual (2% discount):** One payment in full for tuition and any annual fixed fees, due July 15, 2025 by cash/check. Visa/MasterCard payments are accepted. There will be a 4% fee for bankcard charges to offset the School’s fees/costs. There is a **\$30** fee for failed transactions. MA (before/after care) may be billed monthly through Blackbaud Tuition Management, if preferred. There is a **\$28** annual Blackbaud administration fee.

**Semi-annual (1% discount):** Two payments of one-half tuition and any annual fees, due July 15, 2025 and January 15, 2026 by cash/check. Visa/MasterCard payments are accepted. There will be a 4% add-on for bank fees charged. There is a **\$30** fee for failed transactions. MA (before/after care) may be billed monthly through Blackbaud Tuition Management, if preferred. There is a **\$28** annual Blackbaud administration fee.

**Monthly:** 12 monthly payments; July 15, 2025 through June 15, 2026 online via Blackbaud Tuition Management. There is a **\$28** annual Blackbaud administration fee.

- Monthly payments are invoiced 20 days before your due date through e-mail from Blackbaud Tuition Management. If not paid after the due date, a late fee of \$40 per month will apply.

- Payments are accepted through Blackbaud Tuition Management via checking & savings account, Visa, MasterCard, Discover, or American Express. **ACH Payments will have a platform fee of 1% + \$.30 per transaction, with a maximum of \$2.50 per transaction. The \$2.50 cap applies for any transaction of \$220 or more. Credit/debit card transactions incur 3.12% usage fee.**
- For failed transactions, Blackbaud Tuition Management bills a \$30 fee.
- Other 'Monthly Payment Plan' fees invoiced through Blackbaud will include: MA charges incurred (aka before/after care); \$75 Classroom fees.; and the Middle School two-week Residential Experience (\$450), and the one-week Peace Trip (\$920).
- For students moving to a new level or starting school after the first instructional day, a prorated tuition is assessed based on the number of instructional days remaining in the school year.

**Tuition contract: Contracts are sent in early May via email. Be sure to sign and return the contract via mail, e-mail or fax.**

### **MONTESSORI ASPECT (BEFORE/AFTER CARE)**

**Hours of operation:** 7:00-8:15am and 2:30-6:00pm (Children's House) 3:30-6:00 pm (Elementary)

**Rate:** \$8.00 per hour, per child (\$3.00 per minute, per child after 6:00pm) billed monthly.

**Pre-registered time cancellation policy:** During school breaks parents must pre-register for Montessori Aspect. If illness or family emergency requires absence, a 24-hour notice of cancellation is required for fees to be waived. Without advance notification, fees associated with the pre-registered time will be billed.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE SCHOOL'S ANNUAL APPEAL FOR DONATIONS**

All families are expected to contribute a minimum of **\$200** to the school's Annual Appeal each year. These monies help close the 8-15% gap between tuition rates and the total annual cost of educating each FMES student; they also help with tuition assistance, which supports lower-income/financially distressed families, and members of our staff with students attending FMES.

Full participation in this effort each year by our student families is also of particular importance to larger outside donors/grantors, who consider this a very quantifiable factor when deciding which of numerous applicants are most deserving of their support.

### **EARLY WITHDRAWAL POLICY**

We require a 30-day written notice before a student is withdrawn. Complete early withdrawal policies are outlined in the FMES Parent/Student Handbook and summarized as follows:

- loss of tuition paid in July and August plus the repayment of any original discounts (e.g. 2% full payment discount)
- loss of paid fees
- a charge of one additional month's tuition to help defray the school's fixed annual costs
- payment of all Montessori Aspect and other accrued fees
- completion of all exit paperwork

### **TUITION ASSISTANCE**

Financial assistance for our families is intended to be temporary and is limited to, and reserved for, students beyond their first year of attendance. Parents should consult with the Head of School for more information and help in completing their request. All requests are due by April 15, 2025.