

## PRINCIPLES OF GOOD PRACTICE FOR FINANCIAL AID

*The following principles were developed and established by the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), and Trinity School intends to be guided by these principles to the extent that resources and conditions permit.*

The primary concern of independent schools must always be for the welfare of their students and their prospective students. The principles of good practice are in keeping with the commitment of NAIS to access and diversity and its belief that member schools should distribute financial aid funds based upon demonstrated financial need. The principles are intended to promote orderly and professional financial aid procedures.

1. A school shall not discriminate in the administration of its financial aid policies because of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, or age in violation of existing state or federal laws or regulations.
2. A school shall strive through its publications and communications to provide students and families with factual information about the total yearly cost of attending its institution and about its aid opportunities, financing opportunities, policies, and procedures.
3. A school shall recognize that the primary responsibility for financing a student's independent school education rests with his or her family.
4. A school shall use a uniform methodology to assess annually, in a consistent and equitable manner, each family's ability to pay for education.
5. A school shall require adequate documentation of family resources when determining need.
6. A school shall not use financial need as a consideration in determining a student's eligibility for admission.
7. A school shall notify accepted aid applicants of financial aid decisions before expecting a binding reply to the offer of admission.
8. A school shall allow applicants sufficient time to select from the offers of financial aid from all the schools to which they have applied.
9. A school shall make every effort to meet the demonstrated need of all admitted or enrolled financial aid applicants.
10. A school shall not exceed in its offer of financial aid the amount needed to meet the difference between the resources determined to be available to the family and the student's total educational expenses.
11. A school shall not set different standards of behavior and academic performance for its financial aid recipients.
12. A school shall continue to fund a student until graduation, unless he or she no longer demonstrates need.
13. A school shall have a review procedure for families who wish to request additional funding.
14. A school shall refrain from and discourage others from making any public announcement of the amount of financial aid awarded to a student.
15. A school shall safeguard the confidentiality of all financial information supplied by a family.