

Montessori 3K and 4K Program Tuition Frequently Asked Questions

1) Is there a tuition for the Montessori program?

Tuition is charged on a sliding scale for 3K and 4K students in the Montessori program. Students in 5K and above have no tuition fees since tax dollars fund these programs.

2) How does the “sliding scale” work?

Tuition is determined by a family’s income. Information the district gathers from the **MONTESSORI TUITION BENEFITS APPLICATION** determines your family’s tuition category. If a family qualifies for FREE tuition, tuition is free. If a family qualifies for REDUCED tuition, tuition is at the Reduced Rate below. If a family does not qualify for free or reduced tuition, they pay the FULL PAY fees.

<u>TUITION CATEGORIES</u>	<u>Full-Pay Tuition</u>	<u>Reduced Tuition</u>	<u>Free Tuition</u>
3K (half-day program)	\$1,200 \$120 / month	\$400 \$40 / Month	\$0
4K (full-day program)	\$2,000 \$200 / month	\$600 \$60 / month	\$0

3) How do I apply for Free or Reduced Tuition?

The **MONTESSORI TUITION BENEFITS APPLICATIONS** will be mailed home by Montessori Services to all 3K and 4K Montessori students at the end of July. Any family wishing to be considered for free or reduced tuition must submit this completed form to Montessori Services by the first of August.

4) When will I know whether or not I qualify for free or reduced tuition?

Once your **MONTESSORI TUITION BENEFITS APPLICATION** has been received your status is reviewed. Letters are mailed out mid-August by Montessori Services notifying you of your status. If you owe reduced or full tuition, you will also receive coupons and self-addressed envelopes to send in your tuition payments.

5) When are payments due?

Payments are due on the **FIRST DAY OF EACH MONTH** beginning in September through June (10 monthly payments). You may pay all or several months in advance if you would like. The last payment will be due the first of June.

6) What do I do while I am waiting for my application to be processed? What should I pay?

You may wait until you are notified by Montessori Services of your tuition status, but the 1st payment is due by the first of September.



TURN OVER

7) How do I make my monthly payments?

Tuition is payable by check or money order (no cash) to: Richland County School District One. Please write your child's name and school on the bottom left portion of the check. In August you will receive by mail tuition coupons and self-addressed envelopes to send with your payment each month.

Mail your payments to:

Richland County School District One
Financial Services – Montessori Tuition
1616 Richland St.
Columbia, SC 29201

8) Will I get a receipt for each payment I make?

No. Your cancelled check will serve as your receipt.

9) Will I get a summary of tuition paid for tax purposes?

Yes. You will receive periodic payment summaries throughout the school year. Also, a statement will be mailed to you by January 30 with the proper tax ID number to use for tax purposes.

10) What if I am unable to make the tuition payments?

If a change in your job/financial status occurs and you are unable to keep up with payments, please notify Montessori Services to discuss the matter. It may be possible for you to reapply for Free or Reduced Tuition and thereby reducing the amount of tuition fees that you owe.

If no contact is made, you will receive a letter indicating the amount that is past due. If a family falls behind two months in payment of tuition, with no hardship identified, their child may be withdrawn from the Montessori program. Therefore, it is important that you fulfill your monthly tuition obligation for your three or four-year old.

Montessori Tuition Information

Richland County School District One

*Brockman Elementary
Caughman Road Elementary
Logan Elementary*

**If you have any questions or concerns, please contact
Montessori Services at 803-231-6708.**

