



The New School Montessori Center

Tuition Assistance Information

The information below shares tuition assistance options intended to support affordability and accessibility for families. As a participating school in each of the programs listed below, The New School is committed to broadening access to our programs.

NC State Government Tuition Assistance

The following state-supported programs offer tuition assistance to eligible families applying for Kindergarten through 12th grade.

NC Opportunity Scholarship

The NC Opportunity Scholarship Program offers tuition assistance to eligible North Carolina families who enroll their child in a participating nonpublic school. Award amounts determined annually based on household income and available funding. In recent years, eligibility has greatly expanded, allowing more families to qualify who may not have been eligible in the past.

NC ESA+ Program

The NC ESA+ Program provides scholarship funds to eligible North Carolina students with documented disabilities to help cover education-related expenses. The program is available for students who have an IEP Eligibility Determination from a North Carolina public school. ESA+ funds may be used for a variety of approved educational expenses, including tuition at eligible nonpublic schools, tutoring, therapy services, and educational materials.

Key Dates and Information

Application Opens:	February 2, 2026
Priority Application Deadline:	March 2, 2026
Late Applications:	Accepted after March 2 if funds remain available
Award Notifications:	Early to mid-April 2026
How to Apply:	Online through the state portal
Application Fee:	None
Opportunity Scholarship Info:	http://www.ncseaa.edu/OSG.htm
ESA+ Program Info:	http://www.ncseaa.edu/CDSG.htm

Child Care Aware® of America

The school is a verified provider with Child Care Aware® of America, which administers tuition fee assistance programs for eligible active-duty military families. This assistance is designed to help offset the cost of civilian childcare when on-base options are unavailable or do not meet a family's needs.

Eligibility and application requirements vary by branch of service. Families should visit the Child Care Aware® of America website and select their branch of service to review current eligibility guidelines and begin the application process. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis, subject to program guidelines and available funding.

School-Provided Tuition Assistance

The school uses ISM FAST (Independent School Management's Financial Aid for School Tuition) as an independent, third-party service to evaluate a family's ability to pay tuition. Based on this assessment, the school may grant tuition assistance using funds set aside specifically for this purpose. All students are eligible to apply.

FAST evaluates a family's full financial profile, including both income and expenses, rather than income alone. This approach allows FAST to consider a family's overall financial picture.

There is a **\$53 non-refundable application fee per family**, payable directly to FAST. All required documentation must be submitted directly to FAST. In cases of separation or divorce, both parents are required to complete the application; FAST provides a process for submitting information independently.

The **application deadline is March 15**. Applications submitted after this date are less likely to be awarded and may require additional processing time. Families are responsible for regular tuition payments until a determination is made. Please note that the school will not override tuition assistance determinations made through FAST.

Families must reapply each academic year to be reconsidered for FAST tuition assistance. As part of the FAST process, families are also required to provide documentation to the school confirming that they have applied for all eligible government tuition assistance programs.

Tuition assistance is provided in the form of tuition discounts and may offer **up to a 50% reduction in annual tuition per child**, in accordance with school policy. The school's ability to provide this assistance relies on generous community donations as well as a portion of regular tuition revenue. Families or community members who wish to support this fund and help sustain access to our programs are encouraged to contact info@montessoricenter.org.

Please feel free to reach out to Dawn at billing@montessoricenter.org with any questions about tuition assistance or if you need assistance.