

**June 2023 Annual Report
NMM Tuition Assistance Committee**

The amount available for tuition aid to Newtown Monthly Meeting Members who will be attending Friends schools in the 2022-23 academic year is **\$11,852**, all from income on endowment allotted for this purpose.

\$11,852 is the highest amount we've ever had, dating back to at least 1997. For the 2022-23 school year we had \$10,151, and the average for the 10 years up through 2022-23 is \$9167. This year, 5 students applied for and were awarded grants. This is 3 fewer than the number of students awarded grants for 2022-23 but includes all from the previous year's group who will again be enrolled at a Friends school in 2023-24. (Two of 2022-23 applicants graduated from George School and one student who received a grant in 2022-23 has switched to public school.) There were no new applicants this year. The average number of students receiving grants over the 10 years prior to this one is 7.3, and the last time we made just 5 grants was 2017-18. One of this year's students will be at Newtown Friends, three will be George School, and one will be at another Friends school. (Over the previous ten years, the average numbers for NFS and GS were 2.6 and 4.1 respectively.)

Our traditional guideline is that grants for students at Newtown Friends, which is under the care of this meeting, should be roughly three times that of grants to students at other schools, except in years where an especially small number of applicants would mean the NFS grants exceeded 10% of NFS tuition for grades 6-8. Since this was one of those years where we were able to make a grant for the NFS student that exceeded 10% of tuition, the remaining grants are substantially more than one-third of the NFS grant. This year's NFS grant covers 11.4% of the 2021-22 tuition (in comparison with 8.4% last year). We have allocated the money as follows:

Newtown Friends Total
\$3000 per grant × 1 \$3000
George School Total
\$2200 per grant × 3 \$6600
Other Friends Schools Total
\$2200 per grant × 1 \$2200
\$11,800

For comparison, grants in 2022-23 were \$2100 for students at NFS and \$770 for students at other schools. Average awards over the 10 years prior to this were \$1824 for students at NFS and \$826 for students at other schools. These are the largest grants we've been able to make, dating back to at least 1997, and likely ever. While we are very pleased to be able to make such substantial grants this year, it would be prudent for recipients to plan for smaller grants next year.

As is our practice, when this money is sent to the schools, our treasurer will ask the schools to confirm that this aid is being treated in the same way as the aid that comes from the Friends Education Fund and Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. Specifically, we ask them to acknowledge that these grants "are intended to give Quaker families enhanced affordability at Friends schools. In practice, this means that schools that accept these tuition aid funds agree that the amounts shall be in addition to, and not in place of, other tuition aid credits for Quaker children."

The application families make to Newtown Meeting is also considered by the Friends Council on Education for funds available through the National Friends Education Fund (NFEF) and Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. PYM notifies families of the joint award from those funds.

We are grateful to all who have contributed to our meeting's education endowment fund for education over the years. Contributions can be sent to treasurer Rich Richardson.

On behalf of the Tuition Assistance Committee,
Laura Kinnel, Clerk