Means-Tested Bursary Award Criteria

Eligibility of Applicant

To be considered, the applicant must meet the award admissions eligibility criteria both financially and academically as follows:

- You and your child must be British or Irish Citizens or have a permanent right to reside in the United Kingdom which is appropriately evidenced.
- Must be aged 11+ (Grade 6/UK Yr7), 13+ (Grade 8/UK Yr9), or 16+ (Grade 11/UK Yr12) by start date
- Without financial assistance families would be unable to afford the full fees - awards are made between 10% to 100% of full tuition fees. Applicants whose families have a combined approximate gross household income a maximum of £90,000 per year with modest assets are most likely to be successful in receiving awards. *(See Financial Criteria)*
- Your child is suited to an international education through to graduation.
- Must be able to understand, engage with, and successfully meet ACS curriculum objectives
- Must be currently residing in the UK and living within the designated busing zones of your chosen campus
- Current families whose financial circumstances have significantly changed and meet the above criteria.

Procedure for Application Submission and Review

- Confirmation that the above eligibility requirements are met
- Submission of Admission Application* by published November deadline
    - Copy of the student's passport on application and relevant visa for entrance to the UK before the start of school
    - Student Questionnaire – completed by the student in their own handwriting
    - Two teacher reference forms – completed by student's current teachers
    - School records from previous three years and any standardised test results
    - Students applying for the International Baccalaureate Diploma need to complete an IB Application form (Grade 11/Year 12 only)
    - English as an Additional Language (EAL) testing may be required
    - Any Individual Education Plans (IEP), psychological assessments, occupational therapy, language reports or medical reports
    - Any available school records or information regarding any support received in school

** Application fee waiver is available for eligible applicants. Admission application is not required for current students.*

- Admissions Committee Review of application and acceptance of admissible applicant
- For admissible students, completion and submission of financial application conducted by Bursary Assessment Associates (BAA) which provides ACS with your detailed financial assessment and award recommendations *(See Financial Criteria)*

Student and Parent Interviews and Assessments

Following Admissions' acceptance and BAA's financial recommendation, selected families are invited to student and parent interviews with the Bursary Committee and possible candidate academic assessments* in January. The interview process offers families the opportunity to ask questions and for the Committee to review which candidates they believe have the most potential and would benefit from the learning environment offered at ACS. More information regarding interviews and assessments will be included with your invitation to attend, if applicable.

**Accommodations available, if recommended.*

Selection Criteria

The Bursary programme seeks to identify students who can thrive at ACS, and who are placed to take advantage of the international education offered by ACS schools.
The Bursary Committee assesses all applications and considers a number of factors when making selections, including:

- strong academic achievement and exceptional potential
- personal engagement
- exceptional contributions to the school
- clearly articulated desire to set and achieve challenging personal goals

Current students may apply; however, the student's admission status and current place in the school does not confer preferential status in the FAP programme. ACS academic records and activities will form part of applications from current students. Selection is based on exceptional personal and academic potential, high levels of intrinsic motivation, and demonstrated capacity for independent learning. The Bursary programme seeks to identify students who can thrive at ACS, and who are placed to take advantage of the international education offered by ACS schools.

The decision of the Bursary Committee is final and whilst taking into account the needs of the students and parents applying, will also consider the needs of ACS within financial and capacity constraints across the different schools and grade levels, for the current and future years of the programme.

Financial Criteria

All parents are required to complete a financial application conducted by Bursary Assessment Associates (BAA), a third party assessor, that seeks to establish the financial circumstances of the applying family. The application requests details of both parents' income, outgoings, assets and liabilities. The application must be completed accurately and in full. All statements and declarations made must be substantiated with documentary evidence upon request. A home visit by BAA will be arranged to verify applications. Once BAA completes their financial assessment, they will provide ACS International School with their recommendations.

As bursary funds are limited, priority will be given to those students the Bursary Committee determines will be the best fit for an ACS education. It is recognised that judgements about what sacrifice a family should make to pay school fees will be personal. However, the school has a duty to ensure that all bursary awards are carefully considered and so, as well as current earnings, other factors will be considered in determining the appropriate level of award which will include:

- The ability to improve the financial position or earning power of the family
- Value of any assets and equity (Assets include but are not limited to full current value of any properties owned, banking, savings, business and digital currency accounts, investments, vehicles and other assets offset by liabilities such as mortgages, loans and credit card balances.)
- Maintenance payments, alimony payments or any other contribution made to household costs by other, wider family members, absent parents, any adults unrelated to the child or by outside sources
- Where fees are being paid to other schools (or universities) the award will take these into account along with other outgoings

Acceptance

In early March, the offer of place will be made subject to availability and the student applicant and the parents satisfying the School's bursary admission requirements. On receipt of a bursary award and admissions place, parents are required to review the documents enclosed with the offer letter before accepting any award offer and place.

Annual Review

Each award will be subject to annual review to reflect both any changes in a parent's financial position and the school's ability to fund the award. Parents will be required to submit an annual questionnaire and a possible BAA review after 3 years from the date of award.