



**Summer Institute for the Gifted (SIG) – 2011
Financial Assistance Program
Frequently Asked Questions**

- 1. When are financial assistance applications accepted?**
SIG accepts financial assistance applications beginning December 1. Applications will be accepted until all available funds have been exhausted. Traditionally, all funds have been distributed by March.
- 2. How can I get a financial assistance application?**
The application and instructions are located on our website at http://www.giftedstudy.org/financial_aid.asp.
- 3. Does everyone who applies receive assistance?**
Unfortunately, no. SIG has limited funds to distribute and each application is reviewed according to our financial eligibility criteria.
- 4. What are the eligibility criteria?**
SIG uses income level, number of family members, monthly expenses and special circumstances as the criteria for eligibility. In general, the neediest students are provided with assistance.
- 5. Are there full scholarships?**
SIG is in the development process of writing grants to provide scholarships to students. Currently, the possibility of a full scholarship is extremely rare. The average award for residential students is \$1,000, for commuter students it is \$750 and for day students it is \$500.
- 6. Can I submit a financial assistance application to see if I am eligible and then apply to the SIG program upon notification of an award?**
No, the SIG program application and financial assistance application are separate processes. In order to be considered for financial assistance you must submit a SIG program application with the \$95 application fee. This fee is a processing fee and is not refundable.
- 7. When will I be notified of whether or not I received a financial assistance award?**
In most cases, you will be notified (by mail) within one month after we receive your application and eligibility paperwork (i.e. tax return, W-2 statements, proof of free/reduced lunch eligibility). Applications are processed upon receipt and consideration is given on a first come, first served basis based on the financial eligibility criteria.
- 8. Will the amount of the award be automatically credited to my account?**
No, the amount of financial assistance is applied as your final payment once your payment obligations have been met. You will receive statements indicating the full amount due. Your award letter will indicate the amount you will not need to pay.
- 9. Does SIG have a payment plan?**
Yes. SIG requests a deposit upon acceptance and a final payment due 30 days before the start of your session. However, if you are in need of a payment plan, please contact our office to discuss terms. We will accept payments in any denomination. However, all fees must be paid in full before the start of the program. Students with balances will not be assigned a dorm room or be able to take classes.