



## How does SF Youth Theater's Sliding Scale Tuition program work?

SFYT is proud of its commitment to be accessible to all interested children, regardless of financial situation or past arts experience. All of our classes are on a sliding scale and no one is turned away for lack of funds.

We are able to accomplish this goal through the generosity of private and public funders and individuals. About 35% of our budget comes from tuition payments. Those tuition payments are essential to SFYT's viability as well as its ability to provide financial assistance to those who need it. The sliding scale tuition program works only if each family pays to the maximum its ability. We recognize that the economy puts stress on families of all income levels; therefore we set SFYT's classes tuition at reasonable prices so that they are affordable to those who are not eligible for financial aid.

If you are interested in the sliding scale tuition program, here's what you need to do:

1. When you register online, select the "financial aid deposit" of \$65 at the checkout.

### **DEPOSITS APPLY TOWARD TUITION.**

- \$65 minimum payment for everyone and all classes.
  - This minimum payment can be waived if necessary
2. [Fill out the financial form here](#), or on our website.
    - **You must answer all questions and attach the first page of your most recent income tax return, or if you do not have one, proof of income, unemployment or disability.**
    - Make sure to include any special circumstances that may contribute to your need to apply for financial aid.
  3. On the line, "How much of the \_\_\_\_\_ tuition do you feel you can afford to pay?" fill in the blank with the tuition for the class you are selecting.
    - Then follow the guidelines below for the percentage of the full tuition you should contribute.
    - If you need to make more than one payment, indicate it in that space as well.
    - Please try to request the maximum payment possible, even if it exceeds the guidelines. Although we cannot guarantee to honor your exact request, we try to come within the range of your estimation.
  4. All payments can be made in installments. Please select this in the form if needed.

**General Guidelines for determining sliding scale tuition rates:**

- 90% assistance for gross family incomes under \$30,000
- 80% assistance for gross family incomes under \$35,000
- 70% assistance for gross family incomes under \$40,000
- 65% assistance for gross family incomes under \$45,000
- 60% assistance for gross family incomes under \$50,000
- 50% assistance for gross family incomes under \$55,000
- 40% assistance for gross family incomes under \$60,000
- 20% assistance for gross family incomes under \$65,000
- 15% assistance for gross family incomes under \$70,000
- 10% assistance for gross family incomes under \$75,000
- If gross family income is above \$75,000 please explain your need circumstances if requesting financial aid.
- In addition, we use a rubric that considers other factors such as number of family members, financial assets, current employment status, medical expenses.

Again, these are guidelines only. Bear in mind that we have many requests for financial aid, and we like to spread our scholarship funds out to as many children as possible, so please stretch a bit when you calculate your needs. On the other hand, we keep in mind the number of people in your family and any special circumstances you have.

Sometimes the minimum payment will exceed the 80 or 90% level. In that instance, a \$65 minimum is required until the percentage exceeds \$65

Otherwise, roughly follow the chart according to your income level.

Thank you for your interest in the SF Youth Theater. We welcome your children and hope to accommodate your financial needs. After we receive your financial aid form, we will get back to you with your financial aid reward and volunteer assignments. Feel free to e-mail [info@sfyouththeatre.org](mailto:info@sfyouththeatre.org) with any questions.

Thank you,  
Emily Klion, SFYT Executive Director