



Financial Aid and Scholarships at Interlochen Arts Academy



Interlochen
ARTS ACADEMY



Investing in Your Future

Choosing to attend Interlochen Arts Academy is more than an educational decision: It's an investment in your child's future. The transformative experiences and knowledge students find in our community prepare them for lifelong artistic and academic success—and we are committed to ensuring that these opportunities are within reach for applicants of all backgrounds.



Extensive Financial Support

At Interlochen, we understand that cost can be a significant factor for many families. That's why we offer comprehensive financial aid options, including both merit- and need-based scholarships.

While many boarding schools limit aid for international students, Interlochen proudly offers equal consideration for merit- and need-based aid to all applicants—regardless of their home country.



Preparation for College and Beyond

Throughout their time at Interlochen Arts Academy, our students work closely with artistic instructors, academic faculty, and college counselors to prepare for their next chapter. This holistic approach to college preparation helps students stand out in the application process: 27% of the class of 2025 attended a highly selective college (>20% admission rate).

Academy graduates receive **more than twice the amount of college scholarships** when compared to public or charter school students. The Class of 2025 received a total of \$14.8 million in college scholarships their first year. Beyond awards from their schools, Arts Academy students have found success in national scholarship and award programs such as the National Merit Scholarship Program, YoungArts, the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, and the Coca-Cola Scholars program, among others.

Students who spend more time at Interlochen fare even better in the college application process. Scholarship averages rise with each year a student is enrolled at Interlochen; four-years seniors receive more than double the national average in college scholarships. In 2025, 91% of the Academy's four-year seniors were accepted into one of their top-three college choices.

Interlochen Arts Academy can also offer a fast track to a career in some artistic fields, allowing students to bypass college and begin working in their industry after graduating from high school. A terrific example of this is 2019 dance graduate Austin Dabney, who joined the Boston Ballet in fall 2019. The success of Austin and other graduates who followed the Interlochen-to-career path speaks to the exceptional artistic preparation available at Interlochen.



How it Works

To apply for financial aid, families should complete the Clarity application, a quick and easy process that can be completed in under 30 minutes on a mobile device. Once submitted, your student will be considered for both merit- and need-based awards. It's important to note that these scholarships are not loans and do not need to be repaid. Financial aid is awarded on a first-come, first-served basis, so apply early.

Merit-Based Awards

Scholarships ranging from \$2,500 to \$15,000 are awarded based on the strength of a student's audition or portfolio. This type of aid recognizes exceptional talent and supports students in pursuing their artistic goals.

Need-Based Aid

Interlochen's need-based aid takes into account family income, cost of living, and other financial obligations, ensuring that assistance is tailored to individual circumstances.

Arts Camp Financial Aid

Interlochen Arts Camp can provide an enriching preview of the Interlochen experience. Financial aid for the Camp includes both merit- and need-based options, with a limited number of full-tuition scholarships available for high school wind, string, and percussion students. Our generous donors also support various geographic-based scholarships across the U.S.



A Commitment to Access

Interlochen's dedication to accessibility extends beyond funding; it's a core part of who we are. Our Financial Aid Committee aims to ensure that every student who is admitted can attend—regardless of their financial background. Meeting the full demonstrated need of admitted students is a central goal for Interlochen's next century.



Interlochen Financial Aid by the Numbers

84% of Academy students received aid during the 2025-26 academic year.

\$18 million in financial aid was awarded to Arts Academy students in 2025-26.

53% of Camp students received aid for the summer 2025 session.

\$5.1 million in need- and merit-based aid was provided to Camp students for summer 2025.



Learn More

If you'd like to learn more about how Interlochen's financial aid can help make this investment possible for your family, or to discuss your specific financial circumstances, please contact **Executive Dean of Admission Ken LaBate** at finaid@interlochen.org.



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