



Variable Rate Tuition Frequently Asked Questions

What is Variable Tuition?

Variable Tuition is a need-based tuition assistance program similar to those used by many private schools, colleges, and universities. This program allows families to apply for reduced tuition that is appropriate for their families' unique financial situation. Thus, this makes Firm Foundation education affordable to many qualified families who may not otherwise join our school community.

How does Variable Tuition Work?

Any family (current or new) of a kindergarten through twelfth-grade student may apply for Variable Tuition if they are unable to afford the published tuition rate at Firm Foundation Christian School and they believe they can demonstrate and provide documentation qualifying them for the program. Many factors are considered when determining the tuition amount a family is able to pay, including income, assets, extenuating expenses, and the size of the family. An application for Variable Tuition does not affect the admission process. It is not possible for a family or the school to estimate the tuition level for which a family qualifies without completion of a Variable Tuition application. Applications are submitted directly to FACTS, a third-party agency. FACTS evaluates the application based on criteria set by the school and makes a recommendation based on the applicant's financial situation. Families are notified of the tuition level for which they qualify from the school's Business Office.

Upon completion of my Variable Tuition application, when will I receive confirmation of my award if our family qualifies?

Families may apply for variable tuition as early as February 1st for the following school year. If applicants apply by the April 15th deadline, families are typically notified around May 15th if they qualify—providing all required and requested supplemental documentation is provided to our confidential third party service (FACTS).

What is the cost to apply for Variable Tuition?

The non-refundable FACTS Application Fee is \$45.



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If I apply, how likely am I to receive an award?

Our criteria for determining award qualification is based on the third party evaluation of non-elective income and expenses who are able to demonstrate a documented financial need. Unfortunately, the school is not able to provide Variable Tuition to every deserving student as financial aid funds are limited each year. We work within the available resources to make the school accessible to as many students and families as possible. If the evaluation determines you do not qualify for a variance in tuition, your child(ren) are still welcome to attend, but at the published rate.

Do I need to apply for Variable Tuition each year?

Yes. All awards for reduced tuition come directly from donated or fundraising dollars. Because financial circumstances can and do change from year to year, we do ask that families apply for each upcoming school year.

Who qualifies for a Variable Tuition award?

A wide range of families with a variety of circumstances qualify for the program; adjustments to tuition may be granted to families with a demonstrated and documented financial need.

Do you offer merit based or sports scholarships?

No. We do not offer other scholarships at this time. Our program to offset tuition costs is based on demonstrated and documented financial need.

Are some families awarded full tuition?

No. We believe that every Firm Foundation family should be invested in their child's private school education. In no case, will a variable tuition adjustment exceed 50% of published tuition costs for qualified families.



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Are awards sometimes revoked?

Yes. The school reserves the right to review and cancel the Variable Tuition adjustments at any time because of failure to pay any outstanding tuition amounts on time. Additionally, any student who fails to remain in good standing at the school (academic, attendance, or disciplinary) will jeopardize their Variable Tuition adjustment. Cancellation may also result from a gross overstatement or understatement of income or expenses in any attempt to solicit a greater award amount. The expectation is that all our parents partner with us to steward wisely the funds the Lord has provided FFCS by notifying us if your circumstances change and you no longer require the awarded reduction so that the funds may be released to address other needs here at Firm Foudation Christian School.

Who should I contact with questions about a Variance in Tuition?

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