



Variable Tuition FAQs

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 right for their families' financial situation. Thus, this makes a Christian Life Schools' education affordable to many qualified students who could not otherwise join our school community.

How Does Variable Tuition Work?

Any family (current or new) of a full-time PreK-3 through twelfth grade student may apply for Variable Tuition if they are concerned about affording the full tuition rate at Christian Life and they think they may qualify for the program. Many factors are considered when determining the tuition amount a family is able to pay, including income, assets, unusual expenses, and the size of the family. The resources available for the family in a given year must also be considered in light of the Variable Tuition awards available at Christian Life.

How do I apply for Variable Tuition?

All Variable Tuition applications must be submitted online and can be found on our website at: www.clschools.org/variabletuition

What kind of economic situation is typical of a family who qualifies for Variable Tuition?

Family circumstances range widely. While some families can afford only minimal tuition, others can afford to pay around the midpoint or almost at the top of the tuition level. Many factors are evaluated, including income, assets, unusual expenses, and the size of the family.

Will applying for Variable Tuition hurt my student's chance of being admitted to the school?

No. An application for Variable Tuition does not affect the re-enrollment or admission process. Regardless of financial need, parents should initiate the re-enrollment or admission process as early as possible. Families may apply for Variable Tuition only after they have applied for re-enrollment or admission to the school.

What will my Variable Tuition amount be?

It is not possible for a family or the school to estimate the tuition level for which a family qualifies without the completion of a Variable Tuition application. Applications are submitted directly to Smart Aid, a third-party agency. Smart Aid evaluates the application based on criteria set by the school and makes a recommendation to the school's Variable Tuition team. Families are notified of the tuition level for which they qualify from the school's admission office.

Does everyone who applies, receive Variable Tuition?

Unfortunately, the school is not able to provide Variable Tuition to every deserving student. We work within the available resources to make the school accessible to as many students and families as possible.

Do I need to apply to Christian Life Schools before I can apply for Variable Tuition?

Yes. For new students, application to Christian Life Schools and application for Variable Tuition are two separate processes. However, new families may complete both application processes simultaneously. For re-enrolling students, re-enrollment application and fee must be paid prior to applying for Variable Tuition.

Variable Tuition FAQs, continued

Upon completion of my Variable Tuition application, when will I receive confirmation of my Variable Tuition?

Please reference the Variable Tuition Calendar, on our website, to determine when your Variable Tuition discount will be announced to you. Please note that applications must be fully completed, and all required paperwork must be submitted to Smart Aid in order for applications to be submitted and reviewed.

If I do not qualify for Variable Tuition this year, can I apply again next year?

Yes. A family that does not qualify this year is welcome to reapply the following year.

Do I need to apply for Variable Tuition every year?

Yes. A new application must be submitted every year.

Can I receive both the “additional student discount” and my awarded Variable Tuition amount together?

No. Multiple students are one of the key factors in determining Variable Tuition. One of the important questions asked on the confidential Variable Tuition application relates to family size and number of students enrolled at Christian Life.

Will Variable Tuition lead to larger class sizes?

No. The leadership team at Christian Life Schools has established maximum class sizes that cannot be surpassed. Within those limits, we will continue to accept qualified, mission-appropriate students.

Who should I contact with questions about Variable Tuition?

Questions about Variable Tuition should be directed to:

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