

# VARIABLE TUITION FAQ'S



Lighthouse Christian School is committed to providing an accessible, high-quality education built on a Biblical worldview. We recognize not only the importance of a Christian education, but also the investment families make to secure that priceless gift for their children. Our variable tuition program provides a customized tuition rate for students in grades K-8 for whom the full cost of education may otherwise be prohibitive.

## WHAT IS VARIABLE TUITION?

Variable tuition is a system designed to make private education more accessible by adjusting tuition costs based on a family's individual financial situation. It is not a "one-size-fits all" tuition approach.

Tuition costs range from 45-93% of the total cost to educate a student and matches your child's tuition rate to your family's unique financial situation. This makes an LCS education accessible to many qualified families who would not otherwise be able to join our school community.

### DID YOU KNOW?

No student pays 100% of the cost of an education at Lighthouse Christian School. Through the generous financial support of donors to our various funds, programs and Endowment, the cost of tuition has already been supplemented for every Lighthouse student. Instead of passing on the full cost of education, Lighthouse families pay no more than about 93%.

## HOW DOES VARIABLE TUITION WORK?

Many factors, including income, assets, unusual expenses, and the size of the family are taken into consideration when determining the amount of tuition a family is able to pay. Families submit a financial profile (i.e. application) to FACTS, who evaluates the application on the basis of criteria set by LCS and makes a recommendation. The Tuition Evaluation Committee then reviews those recommendations and makes a final determination on the customized tuition responsibility for each family.

## WHY DOES LIGHTHOUSE OFFER A VARIABLE TUITION PROGRAM?

LCS wants to help change the perception of affordability and make a quality, Christ-centered education accessible to more families. This program is part of the school's enrollment growth strategy. Growing enrollment will help us maintain and enhance both academic, spiritual and extra-curricular programming and services that will benefit every student.

## WHAT IS THE TYPICAL FINANCIAL SITUATION OF A FAMILY WHO QUALIFIES FOR VARIABLE TUITION?

A wide range of families with a variety of circumstances qualify for the program. Because each family's financial situation is different, variable tuition rates are matched to each family's unique financial situation within the variable tuition range. Many factors are evaluated when determining each family's rate including income, assets, unusual expenses, family size, and LCS enrollment.



## HOW DOES TUITION RANGE WITH VARIABLE TUITION?

Customized tuition rates fall within a range of 45%-93% of the full cost of education per student.

ELEMENTARY K-5TH	MIDDLE SCHOOL 6TH-8TH	FULL COST OF EDUCATION PER STUDENT
\$5,992 - \$13,315	\$6,356 - \$14,125	\$15,954

## HOW DO I APPLY?

Go to <http://lcschool.org/tuition>. Follow the steps to start an application.



1

Complete the online application



2

Upload the required documentation and sign the Statement of Confidentiality



3

Application reviewed by independent third party



4

Third party provides recommendation to LCS Tuition Evaluation Committee



5

Tuition Evaluation Committee decides customized tuition amount



6

Decision is communicated to the applicant

## WHO SEES MY APPLICATION AND THE INFORMATION I SUBMIT?

All records and correspondence are held in the strictest confidence. Only our third party tuition partner and the Tuition Evaluation Committee will review this information. The identity of all students receiving a variable tuition rate is confidential.

## IS VARIABLE TUITION INTENDED ONLY FOR THOSE THAT NEED FINANCIAL AID?

No. Many factors are considered when calculating variable tuition, including the number of students a family may have enrolled. However, discounted tuition rates come from an available pool of funds, so priority will be given to families with the most need.

## IF I DON'T QUALIFY FOR THE PROGRAM THIS YEAR, CAN I APPLY AGAIN NEXT YEAR?

Yes. We recognize a family's unique financial situation may change from year to year. A family that does not qualify one year is welcome to apply the following year.

## IS IT NECESSARY TO RE-APPLY EACH YEAR?

Yes. Since financial situations can change, families receiving a customized tuition amount would need to apply for variable tuition each year.

### HAVE ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS?

Please send your questions and inquiries to [TuitionEval@lcschool.org](mailto:TuitionEval@lcschool.org)