



Variable Tuition FAQs

Variable Tuition Application Deadline: May 1st, 2026

What is Variable Tuition?

Variable Tuition is a need-based tuition assistance program, similar to those offered by many private schools, colleges, and universities. It allows families to apply for a reduced tuition rate that matches their unique financial circumstances. This program helps make a Portland Christian education accessible and affordable for many qualified families who might not otherwise be able to join our school community.

Did You Know?

No family pays 100% of the cost of a PCS education. Donations, revenue-generating activities, and fundraising events contribute to an education discount for EVERY student. The full tuition amount represents only about 85% of the actual cost to educate a student at PCS.

How Does Variable Tuition Work?

Any domestic family (current or new) with a student in kindergarten through 12th grade may apply for Variable Tuition if they need help affording the full tuition rate. The tuition amount a family pays is based on factors such as income, assets, expenses, family size, and available school resources.

Applications are submitted through FACTS Financial Aid, a third-party service that evaluates financial information and makes recommendations to the

school's Variable Tuition

Committee. The school's Finance Department then notifies families of their approved tuition rate.

Applying for Variable Tuition does not affect enrollment or admission decisions. Because awards depend on verified information, it is not possible for the school to estimate the tuition level for a family without the completion of a Variable Tuition application. While PCS strives to make tuition as accessible as possible, Variable Tuition funds are limited and may not meet every family's need.

Is there a cap on the availability of Variable Tuition?

Portland Christian Schools aims to assist as many families as possible through our Variable Tuition program. However, funds are limited and awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. Families who need tuition assistance are encouraged to apply early, as the amount of available funding depends on the number of applicants and the resources available each year.

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

Families in a wide range of financial situations may qualify for Variable Tuition—from those who can pay near the full tuition amount to those who need more significant assistance. Each application is evaluated based on several factors, including income, assets, family size, and any unusual expenses.

Are some families awarded full tuition?

No. Every family is expected to contribute financially to their child's education. Through the Variable Tuition program, Portland Christian shares in that investment by adjusting tuition based on need. No family will receive Variable Tuition that is less than our published range.

More Information



1

Complete the online application through FACTS Financial Aid

- ✓ The application will ask for your family's financial information, an estimate of how much you can contribute toward tuition, and an explanation of your need for financial assistance.
- ✓ You will need to upload supporting documents, such as recent tax returns, W-2 forms, and recent pay stubs, etc.
- ✓ FACTS charges a \$45 non-refundable application fee.

2

FACTS reviews the application

- ✓ Once your application is complete and all required documents have been received, FACTS will begin reviewing your application.

3

FACTS sends a report to Portland Christian

- ✓ FACTS will provide Portland Christian with a confidential financial report based on the information you submitted.

4

Portland Christian reviews the FACTS Financial Aid application

- ✓ The Portland Christian Variable Tuition Committee reviews applications in the order they are received from FACTS.
- ✓ Depending on the time of year and the number of applications in the queue, the review process may take between 2 and 6 weeks.

5

Portland Christian communicates the Variable Tuition decision

- ✓ The Portland Christian Finance Department will notify you of the committee's decision by email.

Helpful Hints:



New students must apply for admission to Portland Christian before their Variable Tuition application will be reviewed.



Please provide complete and accurate information. It helps prevent follow-up questions or research that may delay the processing of your application.



Portland Christian considers certain lifestyle choices to be within your control and not compelling factors in determining need.



A new Variable Tuition application must be submitted each year.



Families who do not qualify for Variable Tuition this year can reapply the following year.



In cases of two households, additional information may be required. Step-parents' income and assets should be included in the application. We will take into consideration any financial obligations they have toward their own children.



If your family's financial situation changes during the school year, please contact our Finance Department as soon as possible so we can work with you to find a solution.

Ready to apply?

Have more questions?

admissions@pcschoools.org
Call & Text: 503.867.9214