

Seeds of Hope

A Vision for the Future of St. Joseph Catholic School

On mission

Excellent

Accessible

Sustainable

Right-sized tuition: Variable Tuition Program

Why Variable Tuition?

The goal: Increase enrollment at St. Joe's while making a Catholic education more accessible to more families.

The strategy: Make Catholic education an affordable option for families, particularly those with several children.

The tactic: We chose the Variable Tuition Program because it institutionalizes what St. Joe's already does on a case-by-case basis.

Key Aspects

Tuition is adjusted to the unique circumstances of each family.

Participation is voluntary for families. Those who want to can choose to pay school's set tuition. No one is required to pay more.

Empty seats are filled.

Increased enrollment leads to a healthier, more sustainable school.

Implementation begins in the 2019-20 school year.

How It Works

School communicates tuition and scholarship application responsibilities to family.

Family chooses not to apply for financial aid or declines to share any personal financial data.

then

Family pays school's set tuition (with multi-child discounts and parish subsidy (if applicable)).

OR

Family elects to complete variable tuition/tuition assistance application.

then

Family visits school website or visits with school rep to create an online account with FACTS Tuition Management. The family enters its financial information, which creates a record on the secureFACTS database.

then

Family will be notified in the spring of variable tuition amount.

Reality Check

No one pays more than 70% of the total cost to educate a child here at St. Joseph's.

The cost of each empty seat in a partially full classroom has already been spent.

Empty seats lead to higher per student cost.

Full schools enjoy many other benefits from a healthy dynamic, including a more engaged student body and parent community. Full schools mean waiting lists, the ultimate sign that something good, vibrant, and healthy is happening.

Full schools are self-fulfilling and self-sustaining, if we keep as our primary motivation and inspiration the generosity of our Lord by constantly seeking ways to make the opportunity of a Catholic education available to as many children as possible.

FAITH ❖ **ACADEMICS** ❖ **SERVICE**

St. Joseph Catholic School

Questions, please contact Mary Ellen LaRose, Principal ❖ maryellenL@stjoevanschool.org ❖ 360.696.2586

www.stjoevanschool.org



MAKE ST. JOSEPH'S YOUR SCHOOL OF CHOICE

VARIABLE TUITION

WHAT IS VARIABLE TUITION?

Saint Joseph School proudly offers Variable Tuition. Tuition at Saint Joe's is not a "one-size-fits all." In fact, tuition for families ranges from 40-90% of the full cost of education. Variable Tuition adjusts tuition rates to meet your family's unique financial situation. No family attending Saint Joe's pays the full cost of education.

To put it simply, variable tuition is a need-based tuition assistance program. Our variable tuition program allows families to apply for reduced tuition, making an education at Saint Joseph School affordable for qualified students and their families.

HOW DOES VARIABLE TUITION WORK?

All families are eligible to apply for Variable Tuition. The goal of our Variable Tuition program is to make a St. Joseph School education accessible for as many hard-working students and families as possible. To make a determination as to a family's eligibility for Variable Tuition, a number of factors are taken into consideration as to what a family can be expected to pay. Those factors include but are not limited to: income, assets, unusual expenses, and the number of students in the family enrolled in tuition based schools.

An application for Variable Tuition does not affect the admission process. Regardless of financial need, parents should initiate the admission process as early as possible. Families are only eligible to apply for Variable Tuition after they have applied and been accepted for admission to the school.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR VARIABLE TUITION?

To assess a family's eligibility for Variable Tuition, we partner with FACTS, a third-party provider used by schools across the country. FACTS calculates what a family can reasonably be expected to pay and passes that information along to St. Joseph School. That information is used as a guide; however, Saint Joseph School retains the right to make its own adjustments and recalculations in determining the Variable Tuition award.

WHO CAN APPLY FOR VARIABLE TUITION?

Anyone who is interested in attending Saint Joe's may apply for Variable Tuition once they have formally applied and been accepted.

WHAT IF I HAVE SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES?

When looking at the needs of families applying for aid, Saint Joseph School considers the financial aid of both parents/guardians. Therefore, in the case of separated or divorced parents, both parents/guardians are asked to fill out a SmartAid form. If either parent has remarried, the school also considers the financial circumstance of the stepparents, always bearing in mind the obligation of that stepparent to his or her natural children, if any.

IS VARIABLE TUITION AUTOMATICALLY RENEWED EACH YEAR?

Variable Tuition is determined on an annual basis. Because a family's financial circumstance and need may change from year to year, Variable Tuition must be examined annually. However, Saint Joseph School makes every effort possible to continue financial support to our families.

ARE SOME FAMILIES AWARDED FULL TUITION ASSISTANCE?

We believe it is important that all families make a financial investment in their child's education. By offering Variable Tuition, we are sharing in that investment with you. It would require extraordinary circumstances for a family to receive Variable Tuition lower than the published ranges.

More information about Variable Tuition can be found at www.stjoevanschool.org

If you have questions, contact Eileen Sherrill, Admission Coordinator, at eileens@stjoevanschool.org or call (360) 823-2849.



ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL
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