



Archdiocese of Washington
Tuition Policy Roll Out

September 22, 2021
Agenda

- I. Opening Prayer
- II. Background for Adoption of New Policy Language
- III. Communication Strategy - Recommendation
- IV. Timeline for Implementation
- V. Tuition Policy Statement
- VI. Best Practices Examples
- VII. Q&A



Archdiocese of Washington
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Opening Prayer

Embracing Father,
You grace each of us with equal measure in your love.
Let us learn to love our neighbors more deeply,
so that we can create
peaceful and just communities.
Inspire us to use our creative energies
to build the structures we need
to overcome the obstacles
of intolerance and indifference.
May Jesus provide us the example needed
and send the Spirit to warm our hearts for the journey.
Amen



Archdiocese of Washington Tuition Policy Roll Out - Introduction

Reason for Review

May 2015

Catholic Schools Office received letters of concern from pastors of archdiocesan elementary schools regarding schools' lack of compliance with policy regarding publishing tuition rates.

August 2015

CSO staff conducted an audit of schools' published tuition rates.

Audit finding: overwhelming majority of schools not compliant

September 2015

Moderator of the Curia granted permission to review policies related to setting tuition rates in Policies for Catholic Schools - section 4000.



Archdiocese of Washington Tuition Policy Roll Out – Review Process

February 2016 – April 2018	Committee meetings commence, to include: consultation with pastors, principals and research.
April 2018	Committee submits recommendation to superintendent
May 2018	Superintendent presents recommendation to Pastors and Board of Education for input
August 2018	Superintendent presents to ESPA for input
September 2019	Superintendent presents to Administrative Board
November 2019	Superintendent presents to Priest's Council
November 2019	New Policy Language Approved



Policy 4230: Multiple Child Families

Original Policy

Parish tuition assistance shall be made available to families with demonstrated need for the second and subsequent children enrolled in the school.

NEW Revised Tuition Policy:

Parish tuition assistance shall be made available to families with demonstrated financial need for circumstances determined by the pastor, including material changes in a family's financial circumstances; families with multiple children enrolled in tuition-based educational programs; or, at the pastor's discretion.

Rationale for Recommended Policy Change:

Provide clarifying language related to parish tuition assistance and expand pastor discretion to utilize parish tuition assistance for multiple child families and other purposes.



Policy 4300: Setting Archdiocesan School Tuition Rates

Original Policy

All Archdiocesan schools shall set and publish tuition rates in accord with procedures set forth by the Archdiocese.

NEW Revised Tuition Policy:

All Archdiocesan schools shall publish a single tuition rate for each program in accordance with procedures set forth by the Archdiocese.

Rationale for Recommended Policy Change:

The policy needs to be changed in recognition that schools may offer more than one program for which one tuition rate must be set.



Policy 4310: Cost of Educating an Archdiocesan Student

Original Policy

The pastor, canonical administrator or board of limited jurisdiction shall establish tuition rates that take into consideration the full cost of educating a student.

NEW Revised Tuition Policy:

The pastor, canonical administrator or board of limited jurisdiction shall establish a tuition rate for each program that takes into consideration the full cost of educating a student in that program.

Rationale for Recommended Policy Change:

The policy needs to be changed in recognition that schools may offer more than one program for which tuition rate must be set.



Policy 4330: Archdiocesan Tuition Policy Statement

Original Policy

All Archdiocesan Catholic schools shall distribute a written tuition policy statement no later than February for the coming school year.

NEW Revised Tuition Policy:

All Archdiocesan Catholic schools shall publish a written tuition policy statement that details the total cost, tuition rates, payment schedules, methods of payments and consequences of nonpayment of tuition.

The written tuition statement shall be published no later than **February 1** for the coming school year.

Rationale for Recommended Policy Change:

The policy change is for the purpose of providing the deadline for schools to provide the annual tuition statement.



Policy 4331: Contents of the Archdiocesan School Tuition Policy Statement

Original Policy

The published Archdiocesan school tuition policy statement shall detail the total cost, tuition rates, payment schedules, methods of payments and consequences of non-payment of tuition.

Rationale for Recommended Policy Change:

Policy #4331 was deleted and consolidated into Policy #4330.



Policy 4340: Rates for Catholic Parishioners in the Archdiocese of Washington

Original Policy

Each Archdiocesan Catholic school shall establish only one tuition rate for Catholic parishioners in the Archdiocese of Washington, whether in-parish or out-of-parish, not to exceed the full cost per student.

NEW Revised Tuition Policy:

Once each Archdiocesan Catholic School has established one tuition rate for each program, it may establish and publish a grant or other program to subsidize tuition for active parishioners in the Archdiocese of Washington.

Rationale for Recommended Policy Change:

Pastors have requested clarifying language regarding criteria for a student to be eligible for the Catholic rate. The former policy provided being "Catholic" as the criteria. Further, the former policy provided the benefit of a subsidized rate for those student who may not need a subsidized rate. The recommended language offers the option of providing grants to "active parishioners," in lieu of a Catholic rate, at the pastors' discretion. The recommended policy language emphasizes the role the parish plays in supporting Catholic education and eliminates the "discount" approach.



Communication Strategy

Communication with key stakeholders is a priority:

- Pastor
- Parish Finance Council
- School Advisory Board
- Home and School Association
 - Explain the new tuition policy
 - Collaborate to confirm steps and timeline
 - Communication in person and in writing



Communication Timeline

September 2021	Consultation with Pastor
October 2021	Parish and School Advisory Boards
November 2021	School Community
February 1, 2022	Tuition Policy Statement <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Personal Communication- Written Communication
February 1, 2022	Public Facing Materials



Tuition Policy Statement

Policy #4330: - Archdiocesan Tuition Policy Statement:

All Archdiocesan Catholic Schools shall publish a written tuition policy statement that details the total cost, tuition rates, payment schedules, methods of payments and consequences of non-payment of tuition.

The written tuition statement shall be published no later than February 1 for the coming school year.



Sample Best Practices

1. Tuition/Financial Aid tab easily accessible from website landing page

All-Girls Catholic School · Grades 9-12 · Washington, DC

COMMUNITY ▾ ALUMNAE ▾ CALENDAR & NEWS 🔍

ABOUT | **ADMISSIONS** | ACADEMICS | ATHLETICS | ARTS | STUDENT LIFE | SUPPORT

Admissions Process & Deadlines
Learn more about our admissions process including interview and essay here.

Take a Virtual Campus Tour
Students and alumnae guide you through campus in this virtual tour of our Georgetown location.

Admissions Home | Apply Now
Tuition, Financial Aid & Scholarships | Admissions Account Login
Process, Dates & Forms | Joining the Visitation Community
Request Info | Getting to Visitation

1 A Powerful Education | **2** Little Virtues | **3** Sisters in Spirit | **4** Join the Tradition | **5** A Capital Location | **6** Be Who You Are and Be That Well.
LEARN MORE

<https://www.vsi.org/admissions/tuition-financial-aid-scholarships> English >



Sample Best Practices

2. Tuition, Financial Aid, and Scholarship landing page

ABOUT | ADMISSIONS | ACADEMICS | ATHLETICS | ARTS | STUDENT LIFE | SUPPORT

Admissions Home
Tuition, Financial Aid & Scholarships
 Process, Dates & Forms
 Request Info
 Apply Now
 Admissions Account Login
 Joining the Visitation Community
 Getting to Visitation

Mark Your Calendars

Tuition, Financial Aid & Scholarships

WE BELIEVE COST SHOULD NOT PREVENT DESERVING YOUNG WOMEN FROM RECEIVING AN EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION AT VISITATION. Since our school's inception, the Visitation Sisters have honored this commitment; each year we offer a total of over \$2 million in financial aid to one-third of our students.

In keeping with our school mission and the Sisters' belief in an affordable education, our aid is primarily distributed on the basis of financial need, although

"My daughter is truly happy and filled with joy to be a part of Visitation. The school is an amazing and special place for our girls. I remind myself of 'Be who you are and be that well' on a daily basis. Visitation isn't just a special place for our daughter but for our entire family."

English



Sample Best Practices

3. Single Rate Tuition Published

2020 - 2021 Tuition

\$32,600

Average cost to attend Visitation 2020-2021

We are committed to working with families to make a Visitation education possible for every deserving student. We recognize the financial pressures on families today and strive to keep Visitation's tuition and fees as low as possible while delivering an exceptional Catholic education in a Salesian environment. Here you can find out more about our tuition payment plans, scholarships and awards, partners, and financial aid program.

4. Financial Aid Application Instructions & Link

Financial Aid Application Deadline

Jan. 4, 2021

Need-Based Financial Aid

We encourage any family who thinks that Georgetown Visitation might be beyond their means to apply for financial aid. We use School and Student Services (SSS), a service of the National Association of Independent Schools, to process aid applications. The SSS applies a consistent and objective formula to calculate the amount of money a family has available to contribute to their child's education.

FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Beginning fall 2020, families can apply for aid for the 2021-2022 school year at <http://sssbymais.org/parents>. **All applications must be submitted online by January 4, 2021.** Families must submit a Parents Financial Statement (PFS) and should send their 2020 IRS 1040 electronically to SSS as soon as possible. [Instructions](#) are located here.



Sample Best Practices

5. Scholarships & Awards listed and linked

Scholarships & Awards

Each year, Visitation recognizes applicants that we feel have the potential to make especially significant contributions to our community. All students who submit ninth-grade applications are considered for these awards. Scholarships continue for four years as long as the awardees remain in good standing.



ST. JANE DE CHANTAL AWARD:
\$20,000
(\$5,000 per year for four consecutive years)

Our most prestigious honor for applicants, the St. Jane de Chantal Award recognizes several students who follow the model of its namesake and our religious foundress. Recipients

demonstrate the highest levels of scholarship and leadership and truly embody St. Jane's enduring commitment to service, community, and sisterhood.

Visitation Proudly Partners with the Following Scholarship Programs

- + Archdiocese of Washington
- + The Black Student Fund
- + The Latino Student Fund
- + DC Opportunity Scholarship Program
- + Crimsonbridge Foundation



Sample Best Practices

6. Data on Financial Aid

By the Numbers

[LEARN MORE](#)

