

## **Variable Tuition Application Instructions**

Every year, Smithtown Christian School provides significant help for families with verifiable need through its Tuition Assistance Program now aptly named Variable Tuition. The mission of the Variable Tuition Program is to provide as many mission-aligned families as possible with the means to acquire a distinctively Christian education for their children. Variable Tuition is available for both current and new families.

Financial need is determined by one of our strategic partners, FACTS Grant and Aid Assessment Service. Using a non-biased third-party service frees the SCS Board from having to wade through the time-consuming and very sensitive task of determining actual financial needs of our families. FACTS does not make decisions about actual determinations; their service merely calculates applicants' level of need/ability to pay, according to information provided by families and industrystandard best practices. The SCS Board designated Variable Tuition Committee makes determinations, as outlined below.

To apply, visit https://online.factsmgt.com/grant-aid/inst/3M01L/landing-page, create a user account, pay the \$40 application fee, and follow the on-screen instructions. (Note that all applications for Variable Tuition must be submitted online.)

Additional details:

- The SCS Variable Tuition Committee begins accepting applications on March 1st annually. Determinations for the upcoming school year are typically given to parents by May 30.\*
  \*Please note: The committee may receive applications after May 30; however, funds are limited.
- Applications generally take 2-3 weeks to process once all information and documentation has been submitted and verified.
- In addition to the information and documentation that must be submitted online to FACTS, applicants must also submit the last three (3) months of official, bank-issued bank statements to FACTS via FAX at 866-315-9264. Applications will not be processed without all required documentation on file with FACTS.
- The Variable Tuition process may include an in-person interview with the Committee to review the application.
- All applicants will be informed of the committee's decision in writing. Along with the notice of the committee's decision will be the terms and conditions of the award, including ongoing GPA requirements, timeliness of payments, etc.
- Applications for Variable Tuition for new families will not be considered by the committee until a complete admissions application is submitted to the school.
- Determinations will not exceed 50% of full tuition.

If you have general questions regarding this process, please call the school office at 631-265-3334. If your questions are technical, regarding the process of actually filling out the Variable Tuition application, please call the FACTS phone number listed on their website.

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