



# tuition assistance FAQ's for returning & new FPD families.

## What is the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)?

FPD acknowledges that the cost of a Christ-centered, college preparatory education is an expensive undertaking. FPD offers a tuition assistance program (TAP) to help families who share the school's values and academic expectations, and can demonstrate a legitimate financial need, bridge the gap between the cost of an FPD education and the amount the family can pay.

## How is need determined?

While we desire to provide meaningful assistance where genuine financial needs are demonstrated, we are also called to be stewards of the tuition assistance funds. Several factors go into determining a need-based tuition assistance award including the recommendation from FACTS Grant & Aid (FPD's third party application processor), the family's support of the school's mission and academic expectations, and the demonstrated financial priority the family places on their child's Christ centered, college preparatory education.

## Are there other resources available besides school-funded tuition assistance?

Yes! There are several options that can assist with funding FPD tuition and fees.

1. **Host an International Student:** In addition to having the blessing of ministering to a student who is far from his/her home, you and your family can participate in international missions by sharing the love of Christ in your very own home. FPD pays a generous stipend that can reduce your child's tuition by up to 67%. For more information about the benefits of serving as a host family, contact Kristen Kreutner at [kristen.kreutner@fpdmacon.org](mailto:kristen.kreutner@fpdmacon.org).
2. **Georgia GOAL Scholarship:** The [Greater Opportunities for Access in Learning \(GOAL\) Scholarship Program](#) provides financial assistance to qualifying students who are transferring from public school, or who have homeschooled for a minimum of one year. Funding for GOAL Scholarships is generated through gifts earmarked for FPD through the Georgia's Education Expense Credit law (2008), which is designed to provide Georgia families with better educational opportunities for their children. If you are interested in a GOAL scholarship for your child, submit a [FPD tuition assistance application](#), and insert your interest in GOAL in the comments portion of the application.
3. **Learning to Serve Scholarship:** The [Learning to Serve Scholarship \(LTS\)](#) provides financial assistance to qualifying students who are transferring from public school, or who have homeschooled for a minimum of one year. Funding for LTS Scholarships is generated through gifts earmarked for FPD through the Georgia's Education Expense Credit law (2008) that is designed to provide Georgia families with better educational opportunities for their children. The Learning to Serve Scholarship blends financial need with a student's service. In addition to qualifying for FPD need based assistance, LTS recipients are asked to submit an essay detailing their service experience. If you are interested in a LTS scholarship for your child, submit a [FPD tuition assistance application](#), and insert your interest in LTS in the comments portion of the application.
4. **Georgia Promise Scholarship:** Signed into law in 2024 through Senate Bill 233, the [Georgia Promise Scholarship Program](#) is an education choice program aimed at providing eligible students with the opportunity to use public funds for non-public education expenses in grades K-12. Your child's scholarship amount may be as much as \$6,500 for the 2025-26 school year. Families of eligible students must reside in an area that is designated as 'low performing school' and meet certain financial requirements. If you are interested in Georgia Promise Scholarship for your child, apply online through a separate application at [Georgia Promise Scholarship](#).
5. **Christian Ministry Scholarship:** As a way to thank those who serve in full time, vocational ministerial roles in our community, FPD offers an automatic 33% discount for full-time employees for our local churches and Christian service organizations. If you are interested in being considered for a Christian Ministry Scholarship, please contact Terri Newberry at [terri.newberry@fpdmacon.org](mailto:terri.newberry@fpdmacon.org).

## Who may apply for tuition assistance?

A family who has enrolled (or re-enrolled) their children at FPD in grades 1<sup>st</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> may be eligible for tuition assistance. Tuition assistance is not available for children in 3K – Kindergarten.

## Must I apply for TAP every year?

Yes. FPD asks that families who receive tuition assistance submit an annual online application. Starting in 2025, online applications will be submitted using FPD's third-party application processor, *FACTS Grant & Aid*.

### **Is there a deadline to apply for returning families?**

As a returning FPD family, there are target dates for you to pursue. Most of the 2025-26 tuition assistance funds will be awarded during the spring of 2025. The sooner you apply, the greater your chances will be of receiving a meaningful tuition assistance award. Go to [www.fpdmacon.org/tuition-assistance](http://www.fpdmacon.org/tuition-assistance) to get your tuition assistance application started.

#### **2025-26 TAP Target Dates for Returning Families**

February 14, 2025,	Complete the FACTS online application.
February 14, 2025,	Upload your supporting documents to FACTS.
March 28, 2025,	You will be contacted by e-mail, regarding the amount of assistance that is granted for the 2025-26 school year.

Applications received after the February 14<sup>th</sup> target date will be reviewed in the order that they are received.

### **What is the tuition assistance application process for new families?**

Families of students who are enrolling in FPD for the first time and who desire financial assistance are asked to submit an annual application. Applications are reviewed individually and confidentially. Follow these steps to apply for tuition assistance.

1. **Apply for admission.** A student must first apply for admission before being considered for tuition assistance. The admissions process and the tuition assistance process occur separately and simultaneously. Go to [fpdmacon.org/prospective-families/apply/](http://fpdmacon.org/prospective-families/apply/) to apply for admission for your child.
2. **Apply for tuition assistance.** Complete the FACTS Grant & Aid Application. Only one FACTS application is required for both Georgia GOAL and school-funded assistance per family. (There is a \$45 FACTS fee for processing your tuition assistance application.) Go to [FACTS Application](#) to get your tuition assistance application started.
3. **Communication of award:** You will be contacted, via email, regarding the award amount for the upcoming school year.

### **How are award amounts determined?**

While we desire to provide meaningful assistance where genuine financial needs are demonstrated, we are also called to be stewards of the tuition assistance funds. Therefore, several factors go into determining a need-based tuition assistance award including the recommendation from FACTS; the family's support of the school's mission and academic expectations; the demonstrated financial priority the family places on their child's Christ centered, college preparatory education; the availability of tuition assistance funds; and the anticipated demand on those funds.

### **Is there a cost to apply?**

Yes. There is a \$45 fee assessed by FACTS to process your online application. This fee remains fixed whether the application is for one or multiple children and is payable as the last step of your online application.

### **Is my application confidential?**

Absolutely. We understand that a family's financial situation is a very personal matter. TAP application materials are kept in secured files in the Business Office and are only accessible by "need to know" staff in the FPD Financial Aid office.

### **Must I submit tax documents with my tuition assistance application?**

Yes. The FACTS application process includes your submission W2 and 1099 forms, as well as individual and business (if applicable) income tax returns and schedules.

### **May I apply for TAP, even though I have not filed my 2024 federal tax returns?**

Yes. If you have not yet filed your federal income tax return for the 2024 year, you may apply for tuition assistance. If you have not yet filed your 2024 income tax return, please submit 2023 tax information with your FACTS application. We will review your TAP application, understanding that the 2024 federal tax return is forthcoming. Any granted award will be considered as 'conditional,' which means that the award is granted based on the condition that the information on your current tax return is consistent with the information you posted to your application.

### **How do you treat tuition assistance for divorced or separated parents?**

FPD holds to the principle that both parents are responsible for the expense of a FPD education to the extent that they can do so. We require that both custodial and non-custodial parents provide us with the appropriate information and supporting documentation. When natural parents re-marry, we consider the obligations of the parent to his/her new family; the resources of the stepparent; and the obligations the stepparent has to his/her natural children.

**What if the TAP award is too small? Are any of the pre-paid fees refundable?**

The \$45 fee to FACTS is non-refundable. Once you receive your TAP award commitment letter, we ask that you let us know of your intent within ten (10) days. This can be accomplished by accepting or declining your award through FACTS.

**Is there any requirement of me, after receiving a TAP award?**

We do request that TAP recipients pay their monthly tuition and fees through bank draft. If you are not currently enrolled in an automatic bank draft, we ask you to log into your Blackbaud Tuition Management account at <https://parent.blackbaud.school/Default.aspx> and enroll.

**Who do I contact if I have questions?**

Help is only a phone call or email away. If you have questions about your *FACTS* application or your supporting documentation, contact FACTS at 1-866-441-4637. If you have questions about your award amount, or other questions about the FPD Tuition Assistance Program, contact the FPD Financial Aid or Admissions Office.

Terri Newberry, Student Billing Administrator  
Charlie Parrish, Chief Financial Officer  
Kris Vaughn, Director of Admissions

[terri.newberry@fpdmacon.org](mailto:terri.newberry@fpdmacon.org)  
[charlie.parrish@fpdmacon.org](mailto:charlie.parrish@fpdmacon.org)  
[kris.vaughn@fpdmacon.org](mailto:kris.vaughn@fpdmacon.org)

478-477-6505, ext. 124  
478-477-6505, ext. 104  
478-477-4774, ext. 117