

Colorado Springs Christian Schools (CSCS) strives to have tuition that is affordable and accessible to all families desiring Christian education for their children. The Board of Directors upheld this determination and placed it into official CSCS policy that tuition and fees cannot be charged so as to fully cover the operating cost of the school, and that fundraising must be a part of the financial plan each year. Therefore, tuition and fees are set each year so as to maintain the affordability of the world class education offered at CSCS. For families needing assistance, they must apply to *Financial Aid for School Tuition (FAST)* to have their need verified. FAST is a third-party organization, not affiliated with CSCS. **FAST does NOT supply any funding for families. FAST provides financial need analysis only, and CSCS and private foundations supply the actual funds through donations, grants, and fund-raising efforts.**

### CSCS 2018/2019 Tuition Assistance Program Highlights and Deadlines

Point of Contact: **Kathy Turner, Admissions and Tuition Assistance Coordinator**  
(719) 268-2188 or [Kathy.Turner@cscslions.org](mailto:Kathy.Turner@cscslions.org)

#### RETURNING Families

**Deadline: March 16, 2018 \***

**Documents Required:**

- **2018/2019** Re-Enrollment Application – Submit this FIRST to CSCS.
- Submit the following documents to FAST **by March 16<sup>th</sup> \***:
  - Financial Aid for School Tuition (FAST) Application
  - **2017 Tax Returns** using one of the following two methods:
    1. **Scan directly into the FAST system** after running the Quick Processing Wizard, **OR**
    2. **Mail** (must include the **Quick Processing Wizard barcode**)

#### NEW Families

**Deadline: March 16, 2018 \***

**Documents Required:**

- **2018/2019** New Student Application – Submit this FIRST to CSCS.
- Submit the following documents to FAST **by March 16<sup>th</sup> \* or within four weeks of the New Student Application submission, whichever comes first:**
  - Financial Aid for School Tuition (FAST) Application
  - **2017 Tax Returns** using one of the following two methods:
    1. **Scan directly into the FAST system** after running the Quick Processing Wizard, **OR**
    2. **Mail** (must include the **Quick Processing Wizard barcode**)

\* Submissions after March 16<sup>th</sup> may be considered in a second round of funding, if funding is still available. If submitting an application **after April 1<sup>st</sup>**, we highly recommend submitting the FAST application and tax returns **as soon as possible** since fewer funds may be available in late spring and summer.

**PLEASE NOTE: Tuition assistance will only be awarded after a student has been accepted through either the Re-Enrollment or New Student admissions process and the re-enrollment/acceptance fee has been paid.**

## Detailed Instructions

### A. RETURNING Families:

1. Complete the **2018/2019** CSCS Re-Enrollment Application. Indicate your interest for tuition assistance on the application. Pay the appropriate fees for the application to be considered complete.
2. Submit the FAST Application, **2017 Tax Returns**, and Quick Processing Wizard barcode to FAST by **March 16, 2018**.
3. If the family has any new students to be enrolled in **2018/2019**, a New Student Application with appropriate non-refundable fee must be filed for each new student at the same time returning students are re-enrolled.
4. Returning families who submit their FAST applications after Friday, March 16<sup>th</sup> will be considered for any funds remaining at that time. Fewer funds are typically available after March 16<sup>th</sup>.

### B. NEW Families:

1. Submit the **2018/2019** New Student Application along with the appropriate non-refundable fee per student. On the application, indicate both your interest for tuition assistance and which tuition payment plan you prefer.
2. Submit the FAST application, **2017 Tax Returns**, and Quick Processing Wizard barcode to FAST **within four weeks** of the New Student application submission. If submitting an application **after April 1<sup>st</sup>**, we highly recommend submitting the FAST application and tax returns **as soon as possible** since fewer funds may be available late spring and summer.

### C. ALL Families:

1. Kathy Turner, Admissions and Tuition Assistance Coordinator, is available to meet with families to discuss specific family circumstances. Please call (719) 268-2188 or email [Kathy.Turner@cscslions.org](mailto:Kathy.Turner@cscslions.org) to request an appointment.
2. For families who meet the deadlines, submitting a FAST application will assure their student place(s) is/are reserved for 2018/2019 during the FAST application process **only if all fees are current**.
3. For those families who meet their respective deadlines, FAST will process their applications and submit its recommendations to CSCS. Tuition Contracts will be prepared by CSCS indicating what the tuition assistance is for the family. The Tuition Contract will need to be completed within (10) business days from the date the contract was prepared or prior to the student starting school, whichever comes first. If a family does not meet the ten (10) day deadline, their student place(s) will be open to students in the waiting pool and the family will be considered as not returning **2018/2019**.
4. Families who do **NOT** meet the deadlines will be sent a Tuition Contract with only the standard discounts that apply. The Tuition Contract will need to be completed within ten (10) business days from the date the contract was prepared or prior to the student starting school, whichever comes first. If the Tuition Contract is not completed within the ten (10) business day period, the family will be considered as not returning in **2018/2019** and the student place(s) will be released to new students in the waiting pool. If FAST application was filed after the deadline but the Tuition Contract was returned in a timely manner, the request for tuition assistance will be considered if there are available funds remaining after the initial awards for tuition assistance are completed. Fewer funds may be available late spring and summer.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### *What is CSCS doing to help families afford Christian education?*

- a) Tuition will be locked in for high school students from the time they enter high school as long as they remain enrolled.
- b) Tuition for grades K-8 increased by a minimal amount.

### *How does a plan like this work? How can CSCS afford to do this?*

This model depends on two things...

- a) EVERY FAMILY needs to participate in fund-raising at some level during the course of the year. That can come in financial donations or gifts of time and energy. All efforts are appreciated as we seek to change the financial revenue model and make the school more accessible for more families!
- b) EVERY FAMILY needs to be out spreading the word and helping us to fill the seats! We offer an incentive of \$500 for new family referrals so it helps the current family as well. (See website for details.)

### *What are some of the standard modifications to tuition and/or fees that families can receive without applying for additional tuition assistance?*

- a) Annual (\$160) or Semi-Annual (\$120) payments – instead of monthly payments \*
- b) Christian Ministries' Discount (10%) – for recognized ministries (see website for approved ministries) \*
- c) Full-time Pastors' Discount (10%) – churches that can sign our doctrinal statement. \*
- d) Additional Child Adjustment – \$500 (2nd child), \$750 (3rd child), \$1000 (4th and beyond)
- e) New Family Referral Incentive – \$500 per family (only one per new family, noted at enrollment, for Traditional and International, off tuition, if new family stays one semester)
- f) CSCS Graduate acceptance fee waived – one time for each child
- g) Handprints' Families acceptance fee waived – one time for each child

\* Limited to one discount per family

### *Who makes the final decision about the tuition?*

The CSCS Tuition Committee takes into account all the discounts that apply to any particular student/family, any financial information they get back from the FAST organization, any grants or foundation money that becomes available, and tuition assistance CSCS is able to provide. A worksheet is completed, and then the committee makes a final award after reading the family's letter. This determination should always be kept confidential because each family's needs and financial situation is different.

### *Is my information kept confidential by the school?*

Absolutely! The Tuition Committee sees the worksheet but even they do not know the information you send into FAST. They only see the determination that FAST sends back to us. Our principals, teachers, and other employees do not even know which families receive tuition assistance. Only those few employees that were part of the committee and a couple of others who process your contract know or have access to that information. As far as our educators are concerned, everybody is the same!

### *Are there deadlines I need to be aware of?*

RETURNING FAMILIES need to re-enroll first and submit their FAST application by **March 16** for the most financial options to be available. NEW FAMILIES should apply and submit their FAST application as soon as they are accepted but no later than four weeks after the application was submitted. **PLEASE NOTE: For tuition assistance to be finalized, students need to be accepted students.**

*Colorado Springs Christian School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship programs, and athletic and other school administered programs.*