



Nelson Christian Community School

Tuition Assistance Program

The Need for tuition in an independent Christian School

It is a privilege to have Christian education available for our children. Nelson Christian Community School is an independent school that follows a Christian curriculum. As such, the Government funds a portion of our annual operating costs. Tuition is required to pay for the remaining portion of salaries, operating costs and the maintenance of the physical property.

As a Christian community we gratefully acknowledge that everything has been given to us by God and that it is our responsibility to help carry one another's burdens. At the same time we are called to be good stewards of what God has graciously provided and fulfill our responsibility to manage the school well. It is out of gratitude toward God and compassion for other Christian families that the community of NCCS is helping those who are in need with the payment of tuition.

Tuition Assistance

The purpose of the Tuition Assistance Program is to provide financial assistance towards payment of tuition fees for parents/guardians who are unable to pay the full cost of Christian education. As a general guideline, up to 90% of tuition support may be offered, pending the application review.

At the start of each school year, the NCCS Board will determine the amount of funds available for Tuition Assistance. The process to apply is as follows:

1. In order to determine the financial need we ask each applicant to fill out the attached form in full and return in a sealed envelope to the Accounting Office by the deadline of September 15, 2022.
2. Families who require tuition assistance need to reapply each year, whether their financial situation has changed or not.
3. Each application will be reviewed in confidence by the NCCS Board and they may request to meet with the applicant to review the application, go over the process and acquire financial information.
4. The NCCS Board will summarize and make recommendations and applicants will be contacted and informed of the level of assistance support provided.

Circumstances for which an application may be accepted:

- Low income threshold
- Loss of employment without the ability to replace income
- Terminal or significant health issues
- Marital breakdown without the ability to replace income
- Willingness to pay a portion of the tuition

Circumstances for which an application will likely not be accepted:

- The ability to sell certain nonessential assets or investments
- Chronic requests for tuition assistance where lifestyle suggests that spending is not well controlled
- Lack of effort to support the school community through volunteerism
- Families who have accounts in arrears from previous years tuition/activity fees

Short Term Tuition Relief

The purpose of the tuition relief program is to provide short term coverage of tuition payments to assist families to address any financial crises that may arise during the school year, after the tuition assistance application process has closed.

At the start of each school year, the NCSS Board will determine the amount of funds available for Tuition Relief.

Families who find themselves in a situation where they are unable to make tuition payments need to follow these steps:

1. Inform the accounting office of the situation where they will be asked to provide in writing
 - a. a brief description of their situation
 - b. the amount of tuition relief requested
 - c. the length of time tuition relief will be needed
 - d. a brief description of the steps being taken to get to a better financial position to be able to make tuition payments.
2. Once received, it will be reviewed by the NCSS Board and a meeting may be scheduled.
3. The amount of tuition relief being offered will be presented in writing.
4. Upon acceptance of the tuition relief, the accounting office will be informed for accounting purposes.

Pastoral Discount

The purpose of the Pastoral Discount Program is to provide assistance towards tuition fees for pastors who are currently employed by a church to help with the costs of Christian education. Partnering with local churches and Pastors is an integral part of Nelson Christian Community School.

The 50% ministry discount is applied to families of Pastors, Associate Pastors, and Youth Pastors of established churches and Missionaries serving within the West Kootenay area. The 50% ministry discount is prorated for positions less than full-time. The primary source of income for the immediate family member must be from the ministry position. Families with dual incomes where the spouse has an income that is equal to or exceeds that of the pastor or missionary are not eligible for this discount.