



Traditional Learning Society of BC

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Tuition Assistance at TLA

Full school tuition covers only part of the cost of the education provided at Traditional Learning Academy. A grant from the Ministry of Education, fund-raising efforts on the part of parents and the school, charitable donations, and teachers and administrators who are compensated at a level beneath their colleagues in other settings, all contribute significantly to the running of the school.

As the students are the primary beneficiaries of this education, their own parents bear the main responsibility to finance it. It is understood that families explore every means to cover the costs of tuition themselves before they submit a request for tuition assistance from the school. There are times, however, when economic hardship becomes an issue, initiating a request for tuition assistance. In these cases, the family's financial obligation may be met through the following four components: the maximum financial contribution which they are able to pay, work in lieu of tuition (over and above the required Parent Participation Program hours), deferred tuition payments, and non-repayable bursaries. In the majority of instances, tuition assistance will include all four of these components, and the amount of each portion will be determined by a school board sub-committee.

In assessing the amount of a family's actual financial contribution to tuition, after a careful examination of their annual budget, applicants for assistance might also consider redirecting a portion of their regular charitable donations toward this end; for education is an apostolic work, one ordered toward the spiritual benefit of those who receive it, and of the Church at large. It is important to consider that whatever portion a family cannot afford to pay, must be paid by the charitable contributions of others. When parents are willing to make this maximum effort, then the school will provide tuition assistance on the basis of their demonstrated financial need. The board of directors reserves full discretion in determining what constitutes a "maximum effort" and "demonstrated financial need" in any particular case.

Should tuition assistance be granted, the family will be subject to the following conditions:

1. Payments over and above what is stipulated in the tuition assistance agreement will begin as soon as the family's financial circumstances improve.
2. The family will inform TLA of any substantial positive change in its financial status and may be asked to meet with the members of the financial committee to review their tuition assistance. The family also recognizes the right of the Board to require an interview if change that would affect the status of tuition assistance has been observed and no notification of such change has been received by the school.
3. Arrangements for deferred payments will be made in a formal signed agreement.

Families requesting tuition assistance from Traditional Learning Academy must complete the necessary forms, submit a letter outlining the family's financial circumstances, and may be required to attend an interview with members of the Society's Finance Committee. Once these are completed, an assessment shall then be made by the interviewers and a recommendation presented to the Board of Directors. The Board shall review this recommendation in order to determine the amount and nature of the financial assistance awarded. The family will then be informed of the decision.

The board of directors, teachers, and staff at Traditional Learning Academy unite with parents in making a whole-hearted commitment to the school, in order to provide a sound, traditional, Catholic education to all who genuinely desire it.

Tuition assistance application forms must be returned in a sealed envelope to the office to be submitted to the Bursary Committee of the Board of Directors.