## **TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**



LEXINGTON CHRISTIAN ACADEMY 450 West Reynolds Road, Lexington KY 40503 (859) 422-5700 \* www.lexingtonchristian.org

#### **Overview**

At Lexington Christian Academy (LCA,) we encourage every family to explore the possibility of the LCA experience regardless of financial circumstances. We understand that the cost of attending a private Christian school requires making a significant investment in a child's education and future. Recognizing that every situation is unique, we are committed to working with each family to find ways to make a LCA education a reality.

Lexington Christian Academy offers tuition assistance (TA) to families based on a demonstrated need for aid. Demonstrated need is the difference between the school's tuition and the amount a family can reasonably afford to pay toward tuition. LCA uses the analysis of FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment to analyze families' financial needs. Once the analysis is complete, LCA receives a confidential report outlining the financial situation based on the information obtained in the family's application and supporting tax documents.

## Who can apply for TA?

LCA's TA program serves current and prospective families whose children will be attending the school's Transitional Kindergarten – 12th grade programs during the 2021-2022 school year. *Preschool students are not eligible to receive TA*.

## Who is the third-party organization who determines if a family qualifies for TA?

LCA utilizes the services of FACTS Grant and Aid Assessment, a company that provides confidential needs-based analysis and assessments of TA applications. Use of an outside company helps insure families receive a confident, objective assessment. The TA Committee makes final decisions based on the recommendations provided to them by FACTS Grant and Aid Assessment.

Is there an income requirement (e.g., family's income must be less than \$40,000)? No. All families, regardless of income level, are eligible to apply for consideration.

#### How to apply?

Families can access the online application by visiting the FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment site or logging into LCA's FACTS FAMILY (via the school's website.)

FACTS Grant & Aid: https://factsmgt.com/financial-management/grant-and-aid-assessment/LCA FACTS FAMILY: https://logins2.renweb.com/logins/ParentsWeb-Login.aspx

#### Who has access to families' TA information?

FACTS Grant & Aid confidentially manages families' applications and their supporting documents. LCA's TA Committee receives FACTS Grant & Aid's analysis and then determines the amount of the families' awards. The school's student billing specialist applies the granted awards to the families' tuition accounts.

## Do I need to complete the Continuous Enrollment Agreement prior to applying for TA?

Families must complete the Continuous Enrollment process in order to be eligible for the TA process. If you should have questions, please email **jnewman@lexingtonchristian.org** for TA.

## Is a completed 2020 tax return required for the TA process?

Yes. You may begin the TA application process without a completed return; but it will not be finalized until you have uploaded your tax information along with any other required supporting documentation. Families who file an extension must provide proof of filing (IRS Form 4868) to <a href="mailto:jnewman@lexingtonchristian.org">jnewman@lexingtonchristian.org</a>. TA applications are not considered complete until all required documents have been received and analyzed by FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment.

#### What is the TA Calendar?

February 1 TA application is available online

March 15th Priority Deadline
April 15th Final Deadline

April-June TA committee review

May-July Communication of TA awards

\*\*After April 15th, the TA Committee will review additional TA applications on a case-by-case pending the availability of TA funds. \*\*

## How long does the process take?

The process normally takes 3 to 4 weeks for applications to be processed. However, in order for FACTS Grant and Aid Assessment to complete their analysis of the application, the family must submit all of the required documentation (e.g., tax returns, etc.) Once FACTS Grant and Aid Assessment has completed their analysis, the TA committee will meet and review their recommendations. Based on the current schedule, the committee will review FACTS Grant and Aid Assessment's recommendations in April-June and then communicate the awards in May-July.

#### Who makes the final decision regarding TA awards?

LCA's TA Committee makes the final decision regarding the awards.

## When will families begin to receive information regarding their TA award?

Information pertaining to an award will be dependent on the family's timely submission of the TA application and all of the required supporting documentation. Families who submit their TA application along with all necessary documentation by March 15 can anticipate receiving information regarding their award in May. Families who submit their TA application along with all necessary documentation by April 15 can anticipate receiving information regarding their award in June. Applications received after April 15 will be considered on a case-by-case basis pending the availability of TA funds. Questions regarding the process should be directed to **jnewman@lexingtonchristian.org**.

## Is there an appeal process?

For an appeal to be considered it must be made in writing and include all supporting documentation, must be received by the Director of Finance within seven (7) days of the qualifying event, and at least one of the following five qualifying events must have occurred after the application date. Appeals will be reviewed by the TA Committee and a decision will be made on changes (if any) to the institutional adjustment for such applicant. If an institutional adjustment is made, the adjusted financial information shall be resubmitted through the independent third party for calculation of a new need determination.

The five (5) qualifying events are:

- <u>Death</u> of a parent or guardian who is a member of the student's household, or is providing significant financial support.
- <u>Unemployment</u> that persists for more than sixty (60) days of a parent or guardian who is a member of the student's household, or is providing significant financial support.
- <u>Out-of-pocket expenses</u> for medical care, major home repair (e.g. roof, HVAC, plumbing, major appliances), and automobile repairs that are significant and were unforeseeable on the application date.
- <u>TA</u> award for a returning student that declines significantly when there has been no corresponding improvement in the family's financial position. To qualify, the student must have received TA from LCA and completed the prior school year at the school.
- Factual errors or omissions in the family's application.

## Can I apply for TA after the published deadlines?

After April 15, the TA committee will review additional applications on a case-by-case basis pending the availability of funds.

## What if there is a unique circumstance (e.g. loss of job, return to school, etc.)?

Families are encouraged to communicate any unique circumstances to LCA's Director of Finance for guidance and further assistance.

#### **How does TA work with Continuous Enrollment?**

Families must apply for each year that they need financial assistance. It is important that families apply by the designated TA deadlines.

# What if the TA award changes and/or is not sufficient for a family to continue their children's enrollment at LCA?

First, we would encourage families to contact the finance department and discuss an appeal. If the family should choose to withdraw, they would be released from their contract and their future tuition obligations.

Can the TA award be applied to the student's Annual Commitment Fee or grade level fee? No, every family pays 100% of their student's Annual Commitment Fee and grade level fee.