

TRI-STATE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION

Dear Parents,

2017/2018

TSCS will be using the online service of Financial Aid for School Tuition (FAST) to process financial aid applications again this year. FAST is the standard submission format for all applications. When you apply for financial aid, FAST recommends the discount each family should receive based on criteria set by the school. This recommendation is then taken to the School Board, by the Finance Committee, for final approval. All financial information is kept confidential, and names will be kept anonymous while being reviewed to ensure unbiased decisions.

Please understand that the school does not receive any money from FAST, and we do not have a source that covers the cost of discounted tuition, so the school operates without that income. We strongly encourage all recipients of financial aid to be actively involved in the Parent Association to help raise funds for our school in different areas. Recognizing the loss the school takes on financial aid each year, please consider filing only if tuition is a true hardship for your family.

As a reminder, you must reapply each year. To start the process, please do the following:

- Log onto the School's website at www.tscs.org. Click on the "Admission" tab. Click on the "Financial Aid" tab. Click on the "FAST" button.
- The application process is self-guided. You may navigate in and out of the program allowing you to partially complete an application and go back to it at another time. Online e-mail and a 24/7 helpline is provided. Please do not call the school with questions.
- The charge for the application is \$43 and needs to be paid by credit card at the end of the web session.
- Have your taxes completed early, because after completing the online application, you will be required to mail your 2016 tax returns for both state and federal taxes with all schedules and W-2s to:
FAST Processing
ISM
1316 North Union Street
Wilmington DE 19806-2594
- Include our school's name (Tri-State Christian School) on the outside of the envelope to ensure faster processing of your application.

For current families, we encourage you to apply for financial aid by May 31, 2017 (unless unusual circumstances arise). As families complete the application process for aid, the finance committee will make financial aid decisions as quickly as possible. If you do not have your application and verification done through the FAST system by May 31st, you may receive reduced aid for the year if available funds are exhausted. Families enrolling at Tri-State for the first time who may need financial aid should plan to apply for it as soon as their children's enrollment applications have been approved.

Sincerely,

Michelle Murdock
Treasurer