



- Read our Tuition Assistance Policy below**
- Complete the 2023-2024 FAST Tuition Assistance Application**
- Provide FAST your 2022 state and federal tax returns with all schedules, W2s, and 1099s**  
**If assistance is needed, please provide paper or electronic document copies to the tuition assistance coordinator at [tuitionassistance@metroca.com](mailto:tuitionassistance@metroca.com)**

### **TUITION ASSISTANCE**

Metro Christian Academy recognizes a college-preparatory educational experience rooted in biblical principles is a financial investment in your child's future. While Metro believes it is the primary responsibility of the student's family to bear the cost of attendance, providing tuition assistance to families who qualify is just one way the school comes alongside our families to help provide access to an accredited Christian education. As it is almost time for your family's 2023 – 2024 Re-Enrollment to Metro, the school wants to prepare you for a few changes to the Tuition Assistance process and deadline this year.

Admissions decisions are completed before the tuition assistance process and are separate from decisions regarding tuition assistance. Students must be completely enrolled and/or re-enrolled (including their enrollment deposit paid) before considering the tuition assistance application. Only full-time students are eligible for tuition assistance.

Tuition assistance for Metro Christian Academy students is predominantly possible because of donations from the Opportunity Scholarship Fund (OSF) designating Metro as the recipient school, distributions from the MCA Foundation, and donations to the school. Thus, Metro may not be able to meet 100% of the demonstrated need for each applicant, as frequently, the number of qualified applicants far exceeds the tuition assistance resources made available to the school. Therefore, there is no guarantee that every applicant will receive tuition assistance.

Tuition assistance is strictly awarded based on need and pursuant to the availability of monetary funds in a completely confidential process. Metro Christian Academy does not grant any athletic or academic merit scholarships.

Please Note:

1. Late filing of applications may result in no tuition assistance being awarded.
2. Tuition assistance awards are made for one year only and therefore, you must reapply each year.

**The primary criterion for family financial aid consideration is the family Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) from the 2022 federal tax return and the recommendation made by the FAST program.** However, the complete tuition assistance application, including all income sources, determines need-based assistance. Income qualification alone does not guarantee a tuition assistance award. All factors included in the FAST application and tuition assistance guidelines are considered in the award analysis. For split households, consideration of all available resources from both parents/guardians and their spouses is based on the principle that a family's contribution for education is a reflection of the ability to contribute, not the willingness to contribute.

Please submit a detailed explanation of current financial conditions with the Tuition Assistance Application in writing for any families with special circumstances, including recent job loss and changes in income not reflected in the previous years' AGI.

## **TUITION ASSISTANCE APPLICATION PROCESS FOR 2023-2024**

The FAST Application, an independent, third-party source, verifies and recommends families needing tuition assistance based on a thorough financial analysis, in addition to the online OSF portal process. At Metro Christian Academy, Tuition Assistance and OSF Funds may be used interchangeably, but not concurrently. Families are eligible for OSF Funds if they are within the OSF income limits. However, the school can only award OSF funds that are currently available to the school. Please know, Metro does not rely solely on income limits provided by OSF to determine the amount of Tuition Assistance awarded.

1. Complete the 2023-2024 online enrollment process, including paying the enrollment deposit.
2. Complete the FAST application process between January 17, 2023 - April 1, 2023.

### **FAST APPLICATION**

- a. Upload 2022 Federal and State tax returns with ALL schedules
  - b. Upload all W-2's to support wages, salaries, and tips in 2022 return
  - c. Upload all 1099's to support income other than wages, salaries, and tips in 2022 return
  - d. FAST provides both email support and a 24/7 helpline should any questions arise
  - e. The FAST application charge is \$48.00 per family paid directly to FAST via credit card during the application process.
3. Families will be notified if they are a candidate for tuition assistance on April 17, 2023.
  4. If tuition assistance is awarded through OSF, those candidates will need to complete the OSF application on the OSF portal between April 17, 2023 – April 21, 2023.
  5. All tuition assistance awards will be communicated by May 1, 2023.
    - a. OSF tuition assistance awards will be communicated directly from OSF by May 1, 2023.
    - b. All other tuition assistance awards will be communicated from the tuition assistance coordinator.

### **DEADLINE: April 1st**

The FAST application, 2022 federal and state tax returns, supporting schedules, and all W2s must be uploaded and completed by April 1st. **The 2023 IRS Tax Day is April 18th. However, this day will not work with the tuition assistance timeframe, so your documents must be prepared early and uploaded to FAST.** Please work with your tax advisor, so they know the tuition assistance deadline.