



**Q** – Who decides our family’s tuition rate?

**A** – The pastor assigns a tuition rate based on information provided by parents and information recorded in the parish office.

**Q** – Who qualifies for the lowest tuition rate, Catholic Qualified?

**A** – Registered parish families with **returning students** who meet all the requirements outlined in our school handbook qualify. These include:

1. Child has received sacraments appropriate to his/her level of maturity, i.e. has been baptized and, if he/she has completed the second grade, has been prepared for and has received First Reconciliation and First Communion.
2. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) attend the celebration of the Eucharist regularly at St. Vincent de Paul Parish/any other parish without a Catholic school residing in the Northwestern deanery.
3. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) support St. Vincent de Paul Parish/any other parish without a Catholic school residing in the Northwestern deanery through regular, identifiable (stewardship envelope or check) contributions to the offertory collection and building fund appropriate to the family’s income.

**Q** – Why are registered parish families who are entering the school for the first time assigned the higher rate, Catholic Non-Qualified/Catholic New, even though they are already active in the parish?

**A** – Throughout the country there is a well-established practice of expecting families new to a parish school to make a substantial donation to the parish or school budget as a sort of membership or commitment fee. In this parish we have decided to spread that donation over the ten/twelve months of the school year instead of asking for it as a lump sum.

**Q** – If I am a member of St. Vincent de Paul Parish/any other parish without a Catholic school residing in the Northwestern deanery and have been assigned the Catholic Non-Qualified/Catholic New tuition rate what must I do to be assigned the Catholic Qualified rate?

**A** – Whether you are a returning family or a family new to the school you must fulfill the requirements listed above. It is especially important that you establish a full year of regular attendance at Sunday Mass and financial support of the parish.

**Q** – If we are a family new to the school and our child attends Pre-K at St. Vincent de Paul School, can we qualify for the lower tuition rate beginning in Kindergarten?

**A** – Yes, any family completing a year at St. Vincent de Paul School becomes eligible for the Catholic Qualified tuition if they meet the other criteria of receiving sacraments appropriate to maturity, regularly attending the celebration of the Eucharist, and qualified parish contributions.

**Q** – How does the pastor know whether my family attends Mass regularly?

**A** – Each family’s record of giving will be reviewed to determine if identifiable contributions are received regularly. The contribution serves as a record of both attendance and financial support of the parish.

**Q** – What does it mean to make contributions to the offertory collection and/or building fund “appropriate” to the family’s income?

**A** – Good stewardship is about God’s abundant generosity and our trust in that abundance. Our trust enables us to give back to God a measure of what God gives to us. We show our trust in God when our gift is planned and specific, a budget item that is at the top of our list. Our gift is not limited by what is left over after all other budget items are taken care of. We show our trust when our gift means that we must make a sacrifice, when we give in a way that costs us something.

**Q** – Is there a specific amount that we should contribute to the parish?

**A** – For the Catholic Qualified tuition rate, the amount required is \$1,500 annually, approximately \$30 per week.