



GENERAL FAQ

What is Variable Tuition?

Variable tuition is a need-based tuition assistance program similar to those used by many private schools, colleges, and universities. This program allows families to apply for reduced tuition that is right for their families' financial situation. The goal of the variable tuition program is to make Miriam School and Miriam Academy affordable to qualified students who could not otherwise benefit from the school's services.

How Does Variable Tuition Work?

Any family (current or new) may apply for variable tuition if they believe they may qualify for the program. Many factors are considered when determining the tuition amount a family is able to pay, including income, assets, debts, unusual expenses, and family size. The resources available for the family must also be considered in light of the variable tuition funding available for that year. No family pays the full cost of education each year, and with variable tuition, families will pay somewhere between 30% and 80% of the total cost of education.

Families may apply for variable tuition when the two day student visit has been set or when application for the upcoming school year opens. Admissions decisions are made independently of application for variable tuition and indicating a need for variable tuition does not affect student's admission into the program.

The amount of tuition a family will pay is based on their unique financial situation, which is assessed using an online application. Applications are submitted directly to FACTS, an independent third-party agency. FACTS evaluates the application based on their own matrix and makes a recommendation to the school's Variable Tuition committee. Families are notified of the tuition level for which they qualify as soon as the committee has completed their review.

Unfortunately, the school is not able to provide Variable Tuition to every deserving student. We work within our available resources to make the school accessible to as many students and families as possible. All families pay between 30% and 80% of the full cost of education.

Do I need to apply to Miriam School or Miriam Academy to receive confirmation of my variable tuition rate?

Yes.

Upon completion of my variable tuition application, when will I receive confirmation of my tuition rate?

Typically families can expect to hear their tuition rate within 3 weeks of a completed application.



FAMILY FAQ

Do I need to apply for admission separately from applying for variable tuition?

Yes. For new students, application to Miriam School and Miriam Academy and application for variable tuition are two separate processes. However, new families may complete both application processes simultaneously once a student visit has been scheduled.

Will applying for variable tuition hurt my student's chance of being admitted to the school?

No. Admission applications and variable tuition applications are evaluated separately, and an application for variable tuition has no bearing on the admission process. Miriam practices need-blind admissions.

Do I need to apply for variable tuition every year?

Yes. A new application must be submitted every year as a family's financial situation can change from year to year.

If I do not qualify for the program this year, can I apply again next year?

Yes. A family that does not qualify is welcome to reapply the following year.

What kind of economic situation is typical of a family who qualifies for Variable Tuition?

A wide range of families with a variety of circumstances qualify for the program. Many factors are evaluated, including income, assets, debts, unusual expenses, and family size.

How is a family's tuition rate determined? What is the range of tuition?

Every family is required to make a financial investment in their child's education. Our commitment to providing the variable tuition program reflects our philosophy that a strong parent and school partnership is essential for student success. We are committed to sharing in this financial investment with parents, and all families pay between 30% and 80% of the full cost of education while Miriam offsets the remaining cost with fundraising and special events.

Will variable tuition lead to larger classes?

No. Miriam School's multi-grade classrooms are designed to accommodate no more than 12 students. Within those limits, we will continue to accept qualified, mission-appropriate students.

I'm currently receiving tuition assistance. How will the variable tuition impact this program?

Miriam's variable tuition program will replace the tuition assistance program. The process for current families will be similar to what has been done in previous years.