

Diocese of Rockville Centre
Tuition Policy

This policy is being proposed to respect the integrity of parish boundaries and membership, and to encourage both enrollment in our elementary schools and active participation in parish life.

We recognize that parents choose to send their children to Catholic Schools which may not be in their parish, particularly in areas where Catholic schools have closed over the last several years. Additionally, recognizing that all parishes in the Diocese support Catholic education through assessment even if the parish is not associated with a parish school or regional school, the following is proposed:

1. Catholic families are expected to be active, contributing parishioners in their parish.
2. Families should not change their parish when registering in a Catholic school.
3. For families to qualify for Rate 1 – Contributing or Supporting Catholic Tuition, they must be active and need to show evidence that they:
 - Regularly attend Mass.
 - Contribute regularly to the parish.
 - and
 - Pastors or Regional Boards may not require additional contributions to the host parish in order for the family to receive Rate 1 – Contributing or Supporting Catholic Tuition.
4. When the criteria in number 3 are met the family is eligible for Rate 1 – Contributing or Supporting Catholic Tuition, but they must receive approval from the family’s pastor.
5. Catholic elementary schools depend very heavily upon significant financial subsidies from the parish and the Diocese. Accordingly, parents, and guardians are required to support their parish through the 31st of the calendar year. The family’s pastor should approve those families entitled to Rate 1 – Contributions or Supporting Catholic Tuition based upon both financial support and active participation in the parish. It is the obligation of the family to provide this information to the school. If this obligation is not met, the parish or regional school reserves the right to adjust the tuition rate to Rate 2 – Non-Contributing or Non-Supporting catholic status.
6. If a school requires service/volunteer hours, that requirement may be fulfilled in the family’s parish or at the school the child attends. The family may be obliged to complete some portion of the service hours at the school. Having fulfilled school required hours of service at the school, the family may fulfill the additional hours of service at their parish. It is the obligation of the family to obtain verification of the number of hours served from the pastor and to provide this information to the school.
7. Tuition rates for Catholics residing Out-of-diocese and Non-Catholics shall be established by the local Parish or the Regional School Board.