



OUR LADY OF THE LAKES  
LAKER CREDITS  
2021-2022

# Policies

# FAMILY INVOLVEMENT CREDITS

## *Background*

Beginning in the 2011-2012 school year, Our Lady of the Lakes instituted a mandatory parent participation program called Laker Credits. The program requires that all families volunteer at fundraising and / or service activities sponsored by the school. Each family is required to complete a preset number of credits.

In addition to helping staff events in order to meet fundraising goals, the requirement of these credits will provide families with social networking opportunities so that new and returning families can be part of the Laker experience. There are a variety of dates, times, and events available so all families can complete their credit obligation, regardless of their schedules. In order to encourage completion of credit requirements each family is required to submit a \$500 check with their registration as collateral until their full credit obligation is met.

## *Required Number of Credits*

Each family with a student(s) in:

- Elementary (K-6), Middle (7-8) or High School (9-12) will be required to complete **15** credits. (this is a temporary reduction from 25 for the 2021-22 year)
- Preschool only parents are not required to participate in the program.

**The Administration reserves the right to modify these requirements each school year.**

## *Invoices through FACTS*

At the time of re-enrollment for each school year or on a date otherwise prescribed, each family will be asked to agree to one of the following:

- I agree to work the required 15 credits
- I prefer to pay \$500 in lieu of working
- Pre-K only family, no credits required

If a family selects “I agree to work the required 15 credits” at the time of re-enrollment/enrollment and does not fulfill their obligation by March 15 of the following calendar year, they will be invoiced \$500 Laker Credit fee on or around that date through the FACTS program.

### *Buy out Option*

We strongly encourage each family to fulfill its obligation by completing the required number of credits. However, families that prefer to be invoiced lieu of donating their time may do so. Please indicate this on the re-enrollment contract.

### *Tracking of Credits*

All required credits must be completed between July 1 and ending March 15 of the following year. Total required credits must be completed (or registered for completion) by March 15th. Credits earned over and above the families required amount may not be carried forward into the next year. Parents can register for credit eligible events on the Laker Credit page under the “current families” tab of the school website, or by visiting [www.ollonline.org/laker-credits](http://www.ollonline.org/laker-credits) directly. Proof of attendance via a sign in sheet or by other means may be required in order to receive credit. Failure to register through the website may result in no credit given for time worked. All credit will be tracked through the Laker Credit program.

Parents are responsible to check their Laker Credits account periodically to ensure accuracy. They should advise the Laker Credits Administrator of any discrepancies or errors in writing via email at [lakercredits@ollonline.org](mailto:lakercredits@ollonline.org). Extra credits will not be carried forwarded to the next school year.

### *Registering for an event*

Volunteer opportunities will be posted on the Laker Credit website, accessible through the Our Lady of the Lakes web site, as they arise. Our Lady of the Lakes school website will have detailed instructions. Some events that occur on a regular basis, like lunch and recess duty, may be posted months in advance. However, events are being continuously added, so it is a good practice to check the site often for new opportunities. Keeping track of credits is your responsibility, feel free to contact [lakercredits@ollonline.org](mailto:lakercredits@ollonline.org) to verify that credits were recorded.

### *Credit assignments*

Credits will be assigned to functions / duties based on their level of responsibility and involvement required, not necessarily the amount of time worked. Assignment of credits will be the responsibility of the Administration. Credits will be given to events that meet one of three criteria:

1. The event directly raises funds
  - a. Silent Auction, concessions, etc.
2. The event is cost avoidance in nature.
  - a. Playground / lunch duty avoids the cost of hiring staff

OR

3. The event is Ad Hoc
  - a. The event does not fall into one of the pre-defined event categories. Volunteer must have prior approval by Administration for event and assignment of credit. Participation in activities not listed may not be awarded credit.

Some activities, even though they have parent involvement, may not earn credits. Credit will not be given for field trips and/or parties as these activities do not meet the eligibility criteria.

Credits will only be earned from the approved list created by Administration.

### *Tuition Reduction Incentive program (TRIP)*

Starting in the 2014/15 school year, families may earn credits by participating in the TRIP. For every \$500 spent in the TRIP, 1 credit will be awarded to the family. Credits will be applied to your account on a quarterly basis.

### *Completion of credits*

Families who successfully register and complete all of the required credits will not be invoiced.

### *Waiver of credits*

Families may request a waiver of Laker Credits through school Administration. Any family requesting a waiver must indicate in writing the nature of their hardship. These cases will be handled on a case-by-case basis and will be decided by Administration. Families should be aware that in order to qualify as a hardship case, there must be a rare and significant event within that school year which impedes your ability to complete your credits. Situations that will not be considered hardship cases: divorced or single parent families, full-time employment of parents, not enough time left in the school year to complete credits.

Families may request Tuition waiver through the Pastor at Parish Administration.

*Definition of family*

In order to be as flexible as possible, the definition of family (who can earn credits under your family name) is extremely broad. Anyone who is willing to work for you may earn credits for your family; grandparent, aunt, uncle, neighbor, etc. These people must be added to your family and registered for events through the Laker Credits website. Please be aware that all workers must be over the age of 18, and at venues where alcohol is served, they must be 21 years of age.

*Failure to report for assignments*

If you or a family member has registered to work at an event, you are expected to be there. If you are scheduled to work at an event and fail to show as scheduled:

- The 1<sup>st</sup> offense will result in no credits earned for that event
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> and / or subsequent offenses may result in any of the following:
  - o A warning
  - o Docking of credits already completed
  - o Invoice for \$500 through the FACTS program