

# 2025-2026 TUITION POLICY

At the time of enrollment, all families agree to pay student tuition and fees when due, as stated in the Dunwoody Christian School ("DCS") Parent/School Covenant. DCS relies primarily on tuition to meet its operating expenses, the largest part of which is faculty salaries. DCS retains faculty for the school year and allocates its overall budget based on enrollment. Therefore, in consideration of DCS holding a place for a student at the time a family pays the tuition deposit, and in consideration of DCS preparing for a student's attendance by retaining faculty and setting its budget for the school year, each family is required to fulfill their tuition responsibility for the full school year, as described below.

## **TUITION RATES**

For the 2025-2026 school year, annual tuition rates are:

\$10,000 for Pre-K4/Young 5's ("Young Cubs") \$12,500 for Kindergarten \$14,500 for 1st - 5th grade \$15,750 for 6th - 8th grade\*

If eligible, a student's tuition may be reduced by the Pay it Forward scholarship program (described below), other state-funded scholarship programs, sibling discounts, and/or other offsets provided by DCS.

Annual tuition rates cover the expense of a student's education, school supplies, one local field trip (a fee may be assessed for ticketed entry, etc.), one yearbook per student, and annual classroom contributions. Additional expenses not covered by tuition include, but may not be limited to, the cost of school uniforms, class pictures, Lions' Den program fees, clubs, athletics, school lunches, musical instruments, field trips that require further travel or additional fees, etc.

\*Middle School (6th-8th grade) tuition includes the cost of the overnight fall retreat and a local team-building field trip.

### SIBLING DISCOUNT

DCS is excited to support families with multiple children by offering a Sibling Discount. Under this program, the oldest student pays full tuition for the 2025-2026 school year, and each younger sibling receives a \$1,000 discount off annual tuition for the 2025-2026 school year. In order to receive the sibling discount, families must also comply with the following criteria:

#### Scenario 1: All siblings are Returning Student(s)

» All returning student(s) must re-enroll for the 2025-2026 school year (including paid deposit) by January 31, 2025.

» Financial aid application(s) for the 2025-2026 school year, if any, must be submitted by January 31, 2025 (alternative deposit date may apply to families requesting financial aid).

» Family remains in good financial standing with DCS, including being current (not delinquent or overdue) on all tuition payments, Lions' Den balances, and other fees due to DCS.

# Scenario 2: Returning Student(s) with New Sibling(s) Applying for Admission

» All returning student(s) must re-enroll for the 2025-2026 school year (including paid deposit) by January 31, 2025.

» Financial aid application(s) for the 2025-2026 school year, if any, must be submitted by January 31, 2025 (alternative deposit date may apply to families requesting financial aid).



- » Family remains in good financial standing with DCS, including being current (not delinquent or overdue) on all tuition payments, Lions' Den balances, and other fees due to DCS.
- » New sibling(s) must apply for admission to the 2025-2026 school year by January 31, 2025. If accepted for enrollment, siblings must accept enrollment (including paid deposit) by the required date as communicated by DCS.

Scenario 3: New Family Applying Multiple Students for Admission

- » Application(s) for admission to DCS for the 2025-2026 school year must be submitted by January 31, 2025.
- » Financial aid application(s) for the 2025-2026 school year, if any, must be submitted by January 31, 2025.
- » If accepted for enrollment to the 2025-2026 school year, the family must accept enrollment (including paid deposit) by the required date as communicated by DCS.

To qualify for the 2025-2026 Sibling Discount, families must comply with all required admission and tuition deadlines, including, but not limited to, deadlines related to enrollment, paying tuition deposit(s), Pay it Forward funds, selecting a Tuition Payment Plan, and making tuition payments on time.

If earned, the Sibling Discount is applied to the student's tuition balance owed in July 2025, which is after deposit, scholarships, and other discounts and/or offsets. The Sibling Discount cannot be used toward a student's tuition deposit, afterschool or club fees, field trips, or any other cost outside of tuition. Provision of the Sibling Discount may not result in a negative tuition balance (i.e., a tuition credit) for a student. In other words, DCS reserves the right to reduce the Sibling Discount as needed in the unlikely event that scholarships, financial assistance, and other discounts and/or offsets fully cover a student's tuition balance due after the student's deposit is paid.

## EARLY RE-ENROLLMENT DISCOUNT

DCS students enrolled in the 2024-2025 school year are eligible for a \$500 discount on 2025-2026 tuition if re-enrolled (with deposit paid) by January 31, 2025. Families must also comply with the following criteria:

- » Student is enrolled at DCS in the 2024-2025 school year as of January 31, 2025.
- » Family remains in good financial standing with DCS, including being current (not delinquent or overdue) on all tuition payments, Lions' Den balances, and other fees due to DCS.
- » Student must be re-enrolled for the 2025-2026 school year (including paid deposit) by January 31, 2025.
- » Financial aid application(s) for the 2025-2026 school year, if any, must be submitted by January 31, 2025 (alternative deposit date may apply to families requesting financial aid).

To qualify for the 2025-2026 Early Re-enrollment Discount, families must comply with all required re-enrollment and tuition deadlines, including, but not limited to, deadlines related to submitting re-enrollment forms, paying tuition deposit(s), Pay it Forward funds, selecting a Tuition Payment Plan, and making tuition payments on time.

If earned, the Early Re-enrollment Discount is applied to the student's tuition balance owed in July 2025, which is after deposit, scholarships and other discounts and/or offsets. The Early Re-enrollment Discount cannot be used toward a student's tuition deposit, afterschool or club fees, field trips, or any other cost outside of tuition. Provision of the Early Re-enrollment Discount may not result in a negative tuition balance (i.e. a tuition credit) for a student. In other words, DCS reserves the right to reduce the Early Re-enrollment



Discount as needed in the unlikely event that scholarships, financial assistance, and other discounts and/or offsets fully cover a student's tuition balance due after the student's deposit is paid.

Students new to DCS in the 2025-2026 school year, including newly enrolled siblings of returning students, are not eligible for the 2025-2026 Early Reenrollment Discount.

### TUITION DEPOSIT

A non-refundable and non-transferable Tuition Deposit is required at the time of enrollment to secure a student's placement at DCS for the upcoming school year. The paid tuition deposit is deducted from a family's total tuition responsibility. For enrollment in the 2025-2026 school year, a \$1,750 per student tuition deposit is due at the time of enrollment.

### TUITION PAYMENT PLANS

A family's total tuition responsibility, minus the paid tuition deposit, must be paid beginning July 15, 2025, under one of two Tuition Payment Plans:

- 1. FULL PAYMENT: Pay in full by July 15, 2025, and enjoy a 2% discount.
- 2. MONTHLY PAYMENTS: Pay over 6 months (1% finance charge applies).

### Due dates are:

- a. 1/6 is due on Jul 15, 2025
- b. 1/6 is due on Aug 15, 2025
- c. 1/6 is due on Sep 15, 2025
- d. 1/6 is due on Oct 15, 2025
- e. 1/6 is due on Nov 15, 2025
- f. 1/6 is due on Dec 15, 2025

No later than May 8, 2025, each enrolled DCS family must select a tuition payment plan using an online form provided by DCS. Failure to submit the tuition payment plan form by May 8, 2025 may result in loss of eligibility for discounts provided by DCS, including the sibling and early re-enrollment discount.

The following table describes what action you must take, depending on the payment plan you choose:



Tuition Payment Plan	How You May Pay Tuition*	What information You will Provide on the Tuition Payment Plan Form in ClassReach	What To Do After Submitting the Tuition Payment Plan Form in ClassReach
Full Payment	Bank Withdrawal	Select "FULL PAYMENT"	Check your email. DCS will send you an invoice (by email) with a due date of July 15, 2025. You may pay this invoice online via bank withdrawal using the link embedded in the invoice.
	Paper Check	Select "FULL PAYMENT"	Check your email. DCS will send you an invoice (by email) with a due date of July 15, 2025. Instead of paying this invoice online, you may send a check made out to "Dunwoody Christian School" for the amount listed on the invoice and mail it USPS (or bring it in person) to  Dunwoody Christian School 4400 N Peachtree Road Atlanta, GA 30338 Important: Check must arrive by July 15, 2025 or it will be subject to late fees. Please mail in time for it to arrive at DCS by the deadline.
	Automatic Billpay through your Bank	Select "FULL PAYMENT"	Check your email. DCS will send you an invoice (by email) with a due date of July 15, 2025. Instead of paying this invoice online, you may submit payment through your bank's bill pay to "Dunwoody Christian School" for the amount listed on the invoice, sent to:  Dunwoody Christian School 4400 N Peachtree Road Atlanta, GA 30338 Important: Payment must arrive by July 15, 2025 or it will be subject to late fees. Please mail in time for it to arrive at DCS by the deadline.
Monthly Payments	Automatic Bank Withdrawal (ACH)	Select "MONTHLY PAYMENTS" and submit your banking details (including routing # and account #)	Check your email. DCS will send you a statement (by email) detailing your tuition responsibility.  Confirm your bank account is funded prior to the 15th of each month. The proper tuition payment amount will be automatically withdrawn from your designated bank account on the due dates described (or the following business day if the 15th falls on a holiday or weekend).  Note: Check and billpay options are not available for the monthly tuition payment plan.

Note: Dunwoody Christian School does not accept tuition payments by credit card.

In addition to late fees described below, a \$30.00 "non-sufficient funds fee" will be assessed on your student's account for any returned checks or failed automatic bank withdrawals.

### LATE TUITION PAYMENTS

If a tuition payment is received more than five (5) calendar days after the due date, it is considered late and the following will occur:

- » A late fee of \$10/day will be assessed to the account, calculated from the due date for each day the tuition payment is not received after the due date.
- » Report cards and/or progress reports will be withheld until the student's account becomes current.

In addition to the penalties described previously, DCS families with an account balance 30 or more days in arrears may also be subject to the following restrictions until the account balance becomes current:

- » The student(s) may be prohibited and/or unenrolled from any extracurricular activities, including clubs, athletics, Lions' Den, and/or any other before-school or after-school programs.
- » The student(s) may be prohibited from attending school field trips, retreats, and/or any other off-campus school outings.



- » The student(s) may be suspended or unenrolled from the school.
- » Student transcripts may be withheld.
- » The family may lose eligibility for current and future tuition discounts and/or other offsets (e.g., sibling discounts, etc.).

Families who have a delinquent balance will not be allowed to re-enroll current students or enroll new siblings for admission until the family's account balance is satisfied.

# FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

DCS is committed to offering affordable tuition rates, while maintaining our high curriculum standards and hands-on educational experience you expect from a private school. Like many other private schools, DCS tuition is intentionally set below the full cost needed to operate the school. This helps keep DCS more affordable to a wider range of families. The DCS Annual Fund then allows our school community (parents, friends, extended family, local businesses, and other DCS partners) to make up the deficit through tax-deductible donations.

If you are in need of financial assistance to help make DCS tuition even more affordable, funds may be available to you through the methods below. You may apply for multiple methods listed. If you have any questions about our financial assistance programs below, please contact jlittle@dunwoodychristianschool.org.

# FINANCIAL AID THROUGH DCS

Each fiscal year, DCS sets aside 10% of every non-designated donated dollar to be used for financial aid. DCS utilizes "FACTS Grant and Aid Management" to provide a financial aid assessment. When your confidential FACTS application is completed, FACTS assesses the financial needs of the applicant, and provides a recommendation to DCS on the level of financial assistance. DCS will weigh very heavily the FACTS scoring and recommendations of each application, but reserves the right to allocate funds based on factors outside of the FACTS process.

#### **Financial Aid Process**

The steps outlined below apply to all students, including current, returning, and new prospective students:

#### How to apply:

- 1. Submit a Pay it Forward scholarship application by Dec. 31, 2024. This is a free scholarship program (there is no income requirement) provided by the state of Georgia. This scholarship will supplement any additional financial assistance you may receive from DCS. Failure to apply for the Pay it Forward scholarship may impact the amount of financial aid granted to your family, if any.
- 2. Forward your email from Pay it Forward confirming your child(ren)'s scholarship application(s) to jlittle@dunwoodychristianschool.org.
- 3. Submit the <u>FACTS application</u> for DCS financial aid prior to Feb. 1, 2025. Note: FACTS charges a small non-refundable fee which is payable directly to FACTS in their application process.
- 4. Submit the <u>DCS application for admission</u> prior to February 1, 2025. Note: There is a non-refundable application fee per student.

# What happens after applications are received?

After February 1, 2025, DCS will prayerfully review the requests for financial aid and consider the recommendations from the FACTS grant and aid. DCS will communicate financial aid decisions to new families at the same time as admissions decisions. Returning families will be notified by March 3, 2025.



Applications for financial aid received after February 1, 2025, may be considered if financial aid funds are still available. However, once financial aid funds are distributed to families, additional funds may or may not become available until the following school year. It is best to submit applications early.

# PAY IT FORWARD SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

The majority of DCS students are eligible to receive a free scholarship provided by the State of Georgia through the Pay it Forward scholarship program. The scholarships are based on specific criteria but are not incomebased or needs-based. Pay it Forward scholarships are funded by the Georgia Qualified Education Expense (GA QEE) Tax Credit program. Visit <a href="https://www.payitforwardscholarships.com">www.payitforwardscholarships.com</a> to learn more and submit an application for each eligible child by Dec. 31, 2024.

The amount of the award may vary each year. Historically, eligible DCS students have received between \$2,000-\$3,000 annually, which is applied toward tuition:

- » May 2022 Scholarship: \$2,300 per eligible child (for 2022-2023 school year tuition)
- » May 2023 Scholarship: \$2,900 per eligible child (for 2023-2024 school year tuition)
- » May 2024 Scholarship: \$2,500 per eligible child (for 2024-2025 school year tuition)
- » May 2025 Scholarship: \$TBD per eligible child (for 2025-2026 school year tuition)

If awarded to a student and paid to DCS, Pay it Forward scholarships may be used to reduce a student's tuition for the upcoming school year (i.e., Pay it Forward scholarship funds awarded by April 2025 may be applied toward the 2025-2026 school year). Instructions for transferring funds to DCS are communicated to families by April 30, 2025. All Pay it Forward scholarship funds must be transferred to DCS no later than May 1, 2025 (or other deadlines as communicated by DCS). Failure to do so by the deadline may impact a family's eligibility to receive other tuition offsets from DCS (e.g., financial aid, sibling discounts, etc).

Once DCS receives your student's Pay it Forward scholarship funds, DCS will credit your DCS account, re-calculate your family's total tuition responsibility, and adjust your balance due. All scheduled tuition payments are payable when due, regardless of the pendency of receipt of Pay it Forward scholarship funds.

Pay it Forward Scholarship funds may not be used to pay Tuition Deposits.

### GEORGIA SB10 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

DCS is a Georgia Department of Education Special Needs Scholarship Participating School. This means the GA DOE allows IEP and Section 504 eligible students to receive scholarship funding to attend DCS. Visit the Georgia DOE website to learn more about what this can mean for your child and if you are eligible.

If awarded to a student and paid to DCS, Georgia SB10 Scholarships may be used to reduce a family's total Tuition Responsibility at DCS. Once DCS receives confirmation of your student's Georgia SB10 Scholarship funds, DCS will credit your DCS account, re-calculate your family's total tuition responsibility, and adjust your balance due. The family is responsible for coordinating with the DCS Business Manager during the school year to endorse check(s) paid to DCS on behalf of the scholarship recipient.

Georgia SB10 Scholarship funds may not be used to pay Tuition Deposits.



# OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID

Please contact the Headmaster if you would like to discuss other scholarships or possible financial assistance. Eligible families are required to apply for Pay it Forward before applying for DCS Financial Aid. Applicants to Pay it Forward will be asked to forward the PIF confirmation email to DCS at jlittle@dunwoodychristianschool.org.

### ROLLING ADMISSIONS

Rolling admissions may occur as space allows during the school year. For students who enroll after the tuition deadlines described above, the Headmaster will communicate an adjusted schedule for the family to fulfill their tuition responsibility.

DCS reserves the right to modify this document. If you are experiencing a hardship or special situation regarding tuition payment, please contact the Headmaster.

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- 1. A non-refundable and non-transferable tuition deposit and student fee is required at enrollment to secure a student's placement at Dunwoody Christian School ("DCS") for the upcoming school year. The paid tuition deposit is deducted from a family's total tuition responsibility. The tuition deposit is 100% earned by DCS when received.
- 2. DCS relies primarily on tuition to meet its operating expenses, the largest part of which is faculty salaries. Because DCS retains faculty for the school year and allocates its overall budget based on enrollment and projected tuition payments, it is essential that the income from tuition be assured for the entire year. Therefore, in consideration of DCS's holding a place for my child in the class and preparing for his or her attendance by retaining faculty and setting its budget for the school year, I agree that I will pay tuition for the full school year under the Tuition Payment Plan I select, notwithstanding delays or failures of entrance, delays or failures of receiving scholarship funds, absence, withdrawal, suspension, or dismissal by DCS despite the reason, or by any action of my student(s) or his or her parent or guardian. If my child separates from DCS for any reason, I will pay all unpaid tuition immediately upon his or her separation, and no unused tuition will be refunded by DCS.
- 3. I have read and understand the DCS Tuition Policy. I understand full payment of scheduled tuition is a condition of enrollment. A student will not be enrolled, nor will curriculum materials be issued until the agreed payment(s) have been received as scheduled. A fee, as described in the DCS Tuition Policy, for non-sufficient funds will be assessed on my student's account for any returned checks or failed automatic bank withdrawals. Additionally, a late fee will be assessed on any overdue balances of tuition and other outstanding fees on my student account at a rate described in the DCS Tuition Policy.
- 4. I understand that in order to qualify for tuition offsets and/or discounts as provided by DCS, I must comply with all required admission and tuition deadlines, including, but not limited to, deadlines related to enrollment, re-enrollment, paying tuition deposit(s), apply for and releasing Pay it Forward funds, selecting a Tuition Payment Plan, and making tuition payments on time. I understand that in order to qualify for tuition offsets and/or discounts as provided by DCS, I must remain in good financial standing with DCS, including being current (not delinquent or overdue) on all tuition payments, Lions' Den balances, and other fees due to DCS. If earned, I understand that all tuition offsets and/or discounts provided by DCS are applied to my family's tuition balance due in July 2025, after deposit, scholarships, and other tuition offsets and/or discounts provided outside of DCS. I understand that any tuition offsets and/or discounts



cannot be used toward my child(ren)'s tuition deposit, afterschool or club fees, field trips, or any other cost outside of tuition. I understand that the provision of any tuition offsets and/or discounts may not result in a negative tuition balance (i.e. a tuition credit) for my child(ren), and that DCS reserves the right to reduce tuition offsets and/or discounts as needed in the unlikely event that scholarships, financial assistance, and other discounts and/or offsets fully cover my child(ren)'s tuition balance due after the tuition deposit is paid.

5. I understand that I may apply my child(ren), if eligible, for Pay it Forward scholarship funds and that I must do so directly through the Pay it Forward organization by their published deadline. I understand that I must indicate "Dunwoody Christian School" on the Pay it Forward application in order for Pay it Forward scholarship funds to be awarded to my child(ren), if eligible. I understand that, if awarded, it is my responsibility to follow instructions provided by the Pay it Forward organization to release my child(ren)'s Pay it Forward scholarship funds to DCS in a timely manner, and that any awarded Pay it Forward scholarship funds will only be credited to my DCS tuition account for the upcoming school year when received by DCS. I understand that I am responsible for paying all scheduled DCS tuition payments when due, regardless of the pendency of receipt of Pay it Forward scholarship funds.

6. I understand DCS has the right to refuse admittance to class, terminate enrollment, withhold report cards, refuse graduation, deny participation in and/or un-enroll from extracurricular activities, and/or deny transfer of credits or records for any student whose financial account is delinquent, or who violates any of the school regulations.

Enrollment may be canceled in writing by the parent or guardian without penalty (except forfeit of the paid deposit and any other advance payments) on or before May 15, 2025. If cancellation of enrollment is received after this date, parents or guardians are obligated to pay the full tuition charges regardless of whether or not the child attends the school.

The parent or guardian signing this agreement acknowledges reading the terms and conditions of this agreement and hereby agrees to them. When accepted by DCS, this agreement is a contract binding upon DCS and the undersigned parent or guardian as provided herein. The parent or guardian agrees that any dispute with the school will be resolved via the conflict resolution guidelines set forth in the DCS Parent/Student Handbook. If a dispute is not resolved in that manner and a claim is required to enforce rights under this agreement, DCS shall be entitled to recover its costs and expenses, including but not limited to reasonable attorney's fees incurred.