

JCS Financial Aid FAQ

Who is qualified to apply for Financial Aid?

Families seeking Financial Aid must first be fully enrolled in the 25/26 school year with enrollment fee paid in full. For those utilizing Continuous Enrollment, your January tuition and fees need to be paid in full by 1/29/2025. Additionally, all prospective Financial Aid students grade K-12 need to be awarded with a Step-Up for Students Scholarship or a VPK scholarship for PK4.

All families must re-apply for Financial Aid every year. Financial assistance is need-based and will be re-evaluated annually.

How do I apply for Step-Up?

Step-Up will notify all re-enrolling families when it is time to re-enroll. Re-enrollment will open 2/1/2025. Please re-enroll through your [EMA portal](#) as soon as re-enrollment opens. Failure to do so may result in the loss of Financial Aid. You may begin applying for Financial Aid as you wait for Step-Up to open.

For new families to Step-Up, please go to their main [website](#) to find out how you can apply for the 25-26 school year. New students to Step-Up, your Financial Aid application will not be able to be reviewed by our Financial Aid Committee until your student is awarded.

For more information on Step-Up for Students, please refer to our Step-Up [FAQ](#) sheet.

My student has been awarded with Step-Up, what do I do next?

Step-Up will **not** notify JCS when your student is awarded. Once awarded please email our Student Billing Department, studentbilling@jupiterchristian.org, the following information:

1. Student name and grade for 25/26 school year
2. 25/26 Step-Up Award #
3. Step-Up Student ID#
4. County awarded in (County where you reside)
5. Award amount
6. Type of award (FES-EO, FES-UA, or FTC)

**Please note FES-EO and FTC are different awards. Please check carefully.*

My student is fully enrolled in JCS for the 25/26 school year and has Step-Up, what do I do next?

Now you may apply for Financial Aid through [Blackbaud Financial Aid Management](#). Returning families may start enrollment on 1/15/2025. School code 14912.

What is Blackbaud Financial Aid Management?

Blackbaud Financial Aid Management (BBFAM) provides Jupiter Christian a need-based analysis service which ensures that our process for establishing financial need adheres to nationally established standards of best practice. All information provided to Financial Aid Management is kept confidential. Blackbaud manages your application process until you are verified in their system. If you have any issues or questions during the application process, please reach out to Blackbaud directly at #800-360-8027 or financialaidsupport@blackbaud.school. They will be able to walk you through the application process and best answer your questions. We also recommend that you keep an eye out for emails directly from BBFAM

that may request more information from you to move your application forward. It is the family's responsibility to fully complete the application process through BBFAM before the deadline. Once verified, your application is submitted to our Financial Aid Committee for review.

When is the deadline to complete applications?

Our Financial Aid Committee will be closing Financial Aid on 4/17/2025. All applications need to be completed and verified by that time. If your application has not been received by that date, you will be placed on a waitlist, which may, unfortunately, result in our inability to offer financial aid.

When can I expect to hear an answer?

The Financial Aid Committee cannot review your application until it has been verified through BBFAM. We recommend checking your application weekly through your portal to make sure that it is moving forward.

Once your application has been verified it will be submitted to our Financial Aid Committee. Our committee will meet 2-3 times per month between 2/15/2024 and 5/15/2024 to review and award applications. Once your application has been reviewed, you will receive an email from BBFAM for you to respond to.

What happens if parents are divorced or separated?

If parents are divorced or separated, each is required to complete their own financial aid application. Our Financial Aid Committee will review both applications and consider both household incomes and ability to contribute towards tuition. Each application is case-by-case, and families may submit additional documentation, such as court orders, at the committee's discretion.

Can my student receive an athletic or academic scholarship through JCS?

No student is awarded financial aid for academic or athletic ability. JCS does not provide merit scholarships of any kind.

What is the average Financial Aid Scholarship amount?

JCS has a need-based financial assistance program. BBFAM provides financial information and needs assessment for our committee to review. Qualifying families may receive 5%-40% of the tuition amount in financial assistance according to need. Families are responsible for payment of tuition above the award amount. Financial assistance is meant for tuition only. It cannot be applied to additional fees.

What is the process to appeal the committee's decision?

Please email our Student Billing Coordinator, Melissa Schindler, mschindler@jupiterchristian.org, a formal letter of appeal for our Financial Aid Committee to review. Please include any financial, medical, etc. hardships that your family may be walking through that would necessitate further aid. Attach any supporting documents that you may have to the email.

I have more questions, what do I do?

If your question concerns the application, please reach out to Blackbaud directly, #800-360-8027 or financialaidsupport@blackbaud.school. You can also visit their FAQ sheet [here](#).

If your question is concerning JCS Financial Aid and/or billing, please email Melissa Schindler, mschindler@jupiterchristian.org. All Financial Aid communication needs to go through email. Thank you.