

# Riverview SDA Church Student Tuition Assistance Policy

## I. NAME:

The name shall be **Student Tuition Assistance (STA)**

## II. BASIC CONCEPT:

- A. It is the desire of the members of the Riverview SDA Church that each student who wishes to attend eligible Seventh-day Adventist operated schools is able to do so. It is realized that family crises and other circumstances can cause temporary financial hardships. STA is intended to make Christian education available to all Adventist children of the Riverview SDA Church family.
- B. STA is intended to supplement other contributions towards tuition at Tri-City Adventist School, Upper Columbia Academy (UCA), and Walla Walla Valley Academy.
- C. STA is provided on the basis of demonstrated financial need and is subject to revision, since circumstances do change.
- D. STA is for tuition and entrance fees, and will not cover optional fees, fines, or penalties.
- E. The STA committee, as authorized by the church board, will administer all STA funds. The STA committee will recommend the funding level to the board for approval prior to the beginning of the new fiscal year. It will be the intent of the STA committee to develop a STA reserve fund equal to three months' disbursements.
- F. Parents who receive educational benefits from the SDA Church are not eligible for Riverview Student Tuition Assistance.
- G. Parents/guardians and/or students must be CURRENT donors of record (Treasurer's records), continuing while receiving aid.
- H. Parents/guardians should be attending members of the Riverview SDA Church for at least four months unless they have only recently moved into the Tri-City area just prior to application.

## III. DIRECTOR:

The Riverview SDA Church Finance Committee Chairman is to serve as the director of STA.

## IV. STA COMMITTEE:

- A. The Riverview SDA Church Finance Committee will constitute the STA committee.
- B. The Committee, or at least two thirds, shall make all financial decisions towards STA.
- C. The Committee may obtain information about scholastic and citizenship levels of students receiving STA.
- D. The Committee is to review each STA Application.
- E. The Committee may obtain a listing of applicant accounts in arrears from the school finance committee following the closing of the school fiscal year.
- F. The Committee is responsible for determining the financial need of an applicant and to inform the school, parent/guardian of its decision in a timely manner.
- G. Funds will be awarded, as they are available. If funds are depleted, an appeal may be made to the Church family or other sources.
- H. Payments will not be made on accounts for which the committee has not received an application. Payments will not be made for months prior to the receipt of application. Application for the school year must be made by July 31 to be considered for registration. For application following registration, the application is to be received by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month in order to be considered for that month.
- I. Applications will be considered individually on a first come basis. If a need arises during the school year, applications will be considered, as funds are available.

**V. STUDENT:**

- A. The student(s) or family of the same shall be members in faithful attendance at the Riverview SDA Church.
- B. The student shall demonstrate a desire to obtain Christian education and maintain good citizenship.

**VI. PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S):**

- A. There needs to be a commitment towards Christian education for the child(ren).
- B. Financial participation is to be realistic.
- C. Co-payments to the school are to be prompt. Church payment may not be made unless and until the school has received the previous month's co-payment. If the school receives less than the full co-payment, the church, at its discretion, may make payment proportionate to the amount of the co-payment.

- D. Over-due payments will jeopardize continuance of STA.
- E. If assistance has been awarded in the past, the applicant must complete the Financial Peace University course either in person or online (<https://www.ramseysolutions.com/ramseyplus/financial-peace?snid=products.pay-off-debt-and-build-wealth.financial-peace-university>) prior to approval for additional financial assistance.

**VII. CONFIDENTIALITY AND SECURITY:**

The Committee’s discussions and decisions are to be handled in the strictest confidence. Sensitive documents will be kept in a secure location.

**VIII. FAMILY INCOME QUALIFICATIONS:**

Student aid may be provided to those whose income is below that necessary to maintain a basic standard of living and to pay expenses incurred when sending children under their care to qualifying schools. Income qualifications shall be based on the Basic Family Budget, individualized for the Tri-City area and for makeup of family (e.g., one parent/one child, two parent/two children), and further adjusted for individual church contributions. (A basic family budget calculator may be found on the web at <http://www.epi.org/resources/budget/>. This 2020 amount is further adjusted for the current year by using the Cost-of-Living calculator on the web at <https://www.aier.org/cost-of-living-calculator/>)

Families whose adjusted gross income is greater than their adjusted Basic Family Budget level plus the annual school tuition for their child(ren) are not eligible for STA. Families with incomes less than their adjusted Basic Family Budget plus tuition and entrance fees may be eligible for STA up to 95% of tuition and entrance fees for TCAS, or matching funds at the senior academies (see Pre-Qualification Self-Check). The STA amount can vary within these guidelines depending on actual income and complete financial picture.

<u>Number of Parents</u>	<u>Number of Children</u>	<u>2022 Income</u>
One	One	\$62,975
	Two	\$78,021
	Three	\$95,771
	Four	\$101,349
Two	One	\$76,411
	Two	\$89,639
	Three	\$105,402
	Four	\$111,119