



2010-2011 Tuition FAQ

What is the application procedure?

All new applicants must complete and submit with the application a \$100.00 non-refundable application fee within the registration window (March 1 – April 2, 2010) and return it to the tuition assistant. All completed applications will be accepted for consideration by CSD. A student who is currently a courtesy or paying tuition student must complete and submit an application form for each school year.

Is preference given to certain students when applying for tuition status?

Generally students who attended as CSD tuition students during a prior school year are given first priority to be accepted for the next school year. Once these students have been contacted, consideration is given to new applicants. However, no Tuition student, courtesy or paying, has a guaranteed spot each year.

Do I have to submit an application every year?

Tuition status is in effect for one school year only. Students must reapply each year. There is no guarantee of continued enrollment.

What is courtesy tuition?

Georgia law provides that a school system must enroll the child of a full-time teacher, professional and other employee in the school where his/her parent is employed. We refer to this arrangement as “courtesy tuition.” The school board exceeds the requirements of the state law by allowing any school-age child of an employee who receives benefits to submit an application. This is not an entitlement but a courtesy to those that are employed within the City Schools of Decatur. Courtesy tuition students are subject to the same guidelines as all tuition students. Courtesy students are considered each year but are not guaranteed enrollments.

Our child is a student with a disability who receives services through special education. We would like to enroll him in City Schools of Decatur under the Georgia Special Needs Scholarship. How is this application process different for us?

The tuition application process is exactly the same for any non-resident (click on www.csdecatur.net/ click on Quick Links, click on Tuition), whether a student is identified as disabled and has an IEP, or not. The registration window is also the same for all non-resident students. Likewise, acceptance or denial of an application is based on the tuition policy. The Georgia Special Needs Scholarship equals the state allotment provided to your home school district to educate your child. The amount of federal and state funds it would take to educate your child is transferred to the receiving district. However, like most school districts in Georgia, City Schools of Decatur spends more than the federal and state allotments to educate students. This additional amount is owed by non-resident families.

What are the hours for each specified school?

Please contact the school or check our website at www.csdecatur.net for specific hours.

What guidelines/rules does my child have to follow? What happens if these are not followed?

Once a student is accepted and is attending a school within the City Schools of Decatur, the student must comply with the school’s rules as reflected in the student handbook and discipline plan. Failure to comply with the school’s rules will be considered a breach of the tuition agreement and cause for withdrawal.

False or misleading information submitted on the application will be considered a breach of the tuition agreement and cause for withdrawal.

The school principal shall determine whether or not withdrawal occurs after an informal hearing with the student, parent/guardian, and any other appropriate person(s). The principal shall inform the student and parent of the alleged conduct considered to be a violation of rules. The student and parent will be given the opportunity to respond.

Do you offer financial assistance?

We do not offer financial assistance to attend the City Schools of Decatur.

Do you offer a discount for siblings?

We currently do not offer discounts for siblings applying for tuition status.

Do you require that students wear uniforms?

Students are not required to wear uniforms but must follow dress code guidelines set in the student handbook.

How can I find out more about after school care?

Decatur Youth and Family Services offers after school care in each CSD school for children in grades Kindergarten through eighth grade. Please contact (404) 377-0494 for details. For pre-kindergarten after school care, please contact College Heights Early Childhood Learning Center at (404) 370-4480.

Can tuition students use City Schools of Decatur transportation?

Tuition students, both courtesy and paying, may not use City Schools of Decatur transportation. If such a situation exists, tuition status can be revoked. Arrangements must be made to have your student(s) dropped off and picked up in a timely manner. It is important for all CSD employees to remember that they must arrange transportation for their own children. Employees are expected to be at their work site on time and should not have the responsibility of caring for their own children at any time during their work day.

Is there room for tuition students at all of the schools?

Using current enrollment, the district has established each school's student enrollment, projected growth and available space. Some schools do not have extra seats for tuition students because of high resident enrollment and growth projections. Placement will be decided upon available space at each school, and changes every year.

What is the notification process?

Letters indicating students' tuition status (accepted/denied) will be sent by April 16, 2010 to all applicants who submitted completed application forms within the registration window. Please contact the tuition assistant (404) 370-4400 ext. 0 with any questions or concerns.

Why was my child not accepted as a tuition student?

Acceptance/continuation of tuition students is based on Board policy:

- (1) Said student is in good standing with the school previously attended, having demonstrated consistently good attendance, satisfactory discipline, and the readiness/qualifications for the grade/program in which he/she is seeking enrollment. A student who has withdrawn from previously attended school to avoid any form of disciplinary action may not enroll in the City Schools of Decatur. A student withdrawing for poor attendance or unsatisfactory academic performance may not enroll in City Schools of Decatur.
- (2) The board of education reserves the right to establish enrollment limits in all grades, classes, and/or programs.
- (3) The admission of the said student will not require the City Schools of Decatur to hire additional staff or contract for any additional services.

The Superintendent reserves the right to continue, terminate, or change the placement of tuition students within a school or between schools in the school system at any time. Any tuition student is accepted at the discretion of the Superintendent. Final placement of tuition students cannot be determined until registration of resident students is completed.