

ORANGE CITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Frequently Asked Questions

The following are FAQ for the OCCS web site:

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What is your enrollment?

Our present enrollment is 340 students in Preschool through the eighth grade. Most of our classes have two sections in order to keep the student/teacher ratio low.

How much are the tuition costs?

For the 2022-23 school year, the cost of tuition for students in grades Kindergarten - 8th grade for the school year are:

• Kindergarten only	\$6,730
• 1 Student in grades 1-8	\$7,545
• Kindergarten + 1 student in grades 1-8	\$13,810
• 2 students in grades 1-8	\$14,545
• Kindergarten + 2 students in grades 1-8	\$20,350
• 3 students in grades 1-8	\$21,000
• Kindergarten + 3 students in grades 1-8	\$26,340
• 4 students in grades 1-8	\$26,910
• 5 students in grades 1-8	\$32,380

- Churches of families that offer fair share programs are asked to contribute \$ 2,100 per student toward the cost of tuition for 22-23 school year.

Tuition can be paid monthly, quarterly, semiannually or on a yearly basis. Tuition at Orange City Christian is eligible for payment through the Iowa 529 plan.

Do you provide tuition assistance?

Tuition assistance is available to families two ways:

1. Families can apply for the NICSTO (Northwest Iowa Christian School Tuition Organization) Scholarship. An application is available to fill out for those that meet the income guidelines. Scholarships are awarded during the fall and spring semesters.
2. If a family is unsure of its ability to pay the full amount of tuition, a tuition assistance form can be completed requesting assistance for a portion of the tuition obligation.

Do you have a hot lunch program?

Hot lunch is offered daily to the students daily for a charge. Families who meet the income guidelines are encouraged to apply for free and/or reduced lunches.

Do you provide transportation for students?

Transportation is provided to school for students who live more than 2 miles from Orange City Christian School through the bussing service of Unity Christian High-school.

How often do the kindergarteners meet?

Our kindergarten program meets four days a week for the first three quarters and full time for the fourth quarter. Over the years, we have found through standardized testing that our kindergarten students do as well or better academically than students in a year long every day, all day kindergarten class.

Do you have support programs?

We have several ways in which students are supported beyond the regular curriculum. We have a variety of programs called, "Extending Educational Programs to Equip Students with Exceptional Needs." this involves:

- Title I which is a federally funded, supplemental program designed to provide remedial reading instruction for students who qualify on the basis of scores obtained on the Iowa Assessment , the STAR Reading Tests, and teacher recommendations. Program evaluation is ongoing and students may be added or dismissed throughout the school year.
- Resource Room is a program that offers supplemental or alternative help for students having a difficult time learning effectively in the regular classroom. Students can be referred by either parents or teachers.
- Enrichment/TAG (Talented And Gifted) is available to assist students with high performance abilities and is motivated by the biblical principles of service and stewardship, not elitism and self-honor. The goal is that of all Christian education, to enable all students to do their best in serving God and others.

We also offer the following support programs:

- Guidance counseling for all students
- Library time for all students
- Band for students in grades 5-8
- Orchestra for students in grades 4-8
- Sports programs for students in grades 7 and 8 that includes soccer, girls volleyball, basketball, and track
- Intramural program for students in grades 5 - 8 that includes softball, soccer, volleyball, basketball, and flag football

What is your curriculum?

Our curriculum is based on Biblical principles and includes, Bible, mathematics, English/reading/phonics (language arts), social studies, science, health, physical education, music, visual art, and computer literacy.

Do you have a preschool program?

Covenant Kids is our preschool program for four and/or five year old children. We offer two sections, meeting either in the morning or the afternoon. Covenant Kids Preschool believes that an early childhood Christian education is important. We want to assist parents in nurturing their children by having available a well-rounded program of Christian age-appropriate activities of Bible, exploration of God's world, creativity and imagination, music, physical activities and readiness activities. Covenant Kids Preschool is accredited by the Iowa Department of Education and also meets the state guidelines for space and room size, class size and adult/child ratio, as developed by the Department of Human Services.

Do you offer Child Care or after care?

Friday Care is available for children attending Pre-School and/or Kindergarten at OCCS during the current school year. There are options for attending for the full school year, as well as drop in options when class size permits. Friday Care tuition for the 2022-23 school year is \$600 for Preschool students, and \$460 for Kindergarteners.

Cubs Care is an afternoon childcare option for students attending our morning preschool program and will be available Monday – Thursday immediately following the morning preschool session with lunch being offered. This program will run the same calendar schedule as our preschool program.

Please contact the office for more information on either of these programs.

Governance?

Orange City Christian School is a nonprofit corporation of individuals, including all parents of enrolled children, who meet at least annually to elect members to a board of directors and adopt a budget. The board, through its administrative staff, assumes day-to-day operation of the school, including supervision of employees, curricula, finances and facilities. Orange City Christian School is accredited by Christian Schools International and certified through the Iowa State Department of Education. All teachers are licensed by the state of Iowa and many of the teachers have advanced degrees or areas of specialization.

Do you have a Moms - In - Touch program?

Our Moms-In-Prayer meets once a week (time is determined at beginning of school year) when it is convenient for participants.

Is there a parents organization?

OCCS is comprised of several different organizations; a Tigers PAWS group is made up of all families to enable them to be a part of projects and fund raising throughout the year. GLS's (grade level coordinators) are individuals who volunteer to assist with special occasions and needs in the classroom. Many other opportunities to volunteer are presented at numerous times throughout the school year.