



REPORT TO

CORPORATE SERVICES, STRATEGIC PLANNING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

NON-RESIDENT VISA STUDENT FEES FOR SEPTEMBER 2020

*“There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female;
For you are all one in Christ Jesus”*

Galatians 3:28

Created, Draft	First Tabling	Review
September 10, 2019	October 10, 2019	Click here to enter a date.
D. de Souza, Co-ordinator of Revenue, Grants & Ministry Reporting A. Mazzucco Co-ordinator of International & Continuing Education P. Aguiar, Superintendent of Safe Schools, Alternative Ed. & SSI P. De Cock, Comptroller of Business Services & Finance		
RECOMMENDATION REPORT		

Vision:

At Toronto Catholic we transform the world through witness, faith, innovation and action.

Mission:

The Toronto Catholic District School Board is an inclusive learning community uniting home, parish and school and rooted in the love of Christ.

We educate students to grow in grace and knowledge to lead lives of faith, hope and charity.



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Director of Education

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Development, and
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A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report recommends that the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) increase the fees for Non-Resident VISA students. TCDSB does not receive any provincial grants for Non-Resident VISA students and the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) has increased its fees for elementary by \$3,000 to \$16,000 and for secondary by \$1,500 to \$16,000 for the 2020-21 school year.

To maintain parity with TDSB and cover the International student recovery amount which reduced TCDSB revenues by \$1,300 per student in 2019-20, Business Services and International Education staff are recommending increasing TCDSB's fees of \$13,000 to \$16,000 for elementary and \$14,500 to \$16,000 for secondary, for September 2020. The application fee will also increase from \$250 to \$350, and the \$40 wire transfer fee will remain unchanged. The \$40 wire transfer will only be charged if applicants do not use the board recommended on line payment process. It is anticipated that the TCDSB will continue to remain competitive and attractive to Non-Resident VISA students for September 2020.

The cumulative staff time required to prepare this report was 4 hours

B. PURPOSE

1. To set the TCDSB Non-Resident VISA student fees for the 2020-21 school year, enhance recruitment efforts and remain competitive with the co-terminus school board, the TDSB.

C. BACKGROUND

1. *This is an annual report provided to the Board for its consideration.* In 2002, the Board approved a motion requesting staff to prepare an annual report on the setting of Non-Resident VISA student fees and updates on any changes that have occurred with surrounding boards.
2. *The Ministry sets a minimum, but no maximum for non-resident fees.* In March 2000, the Ministry of Education announced the Regulation made

under the Education Act, "Calculation of fees for non-residents" for the 2000-01 school year. The regulation pertaining to the charging of tuition fees to VISA students does not set a maximum ceiling on how high the fees should be set, only a required minimum fee since the board does not receive any grants for Visa students.

- 3. The Ministry has added an International Student recovery beginning in the 2019-20 fiscal year.*** In the preparation of the 2019-20 budget the TCDSB was faced with what amounted to a loss of revenue as the Province implemented a plan to recover \$1,300 per International Student beginning in the 2019-20 fiscal year. While the Board originally intended on increasing the tuition for the 2019-20 year to offset this revenue loss, staff advised that 95% of the tuition fees had already been collected for the following year and increasing fees could be seen as a breach of contract. As such, the Board passed the budget with a deficit, partially as a result of providing a one-year phase-in for these tuition fees with the intention of increasing fees in September 2020.

D. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS

- 1. TCDSB remained comparable for both the Elementary and Secondary Visa Student fees in the 2019-20 School year.*** Most boards will not set their fees for the following school year 2020-21 until March or April of 2020 so there is very little comparative data. At this time the only board to set its fees for September 2020-21 is the TDSB. Staff expect that other boards will follow this example to cover the International student recovery amount which effectively reduced revenues by \$1,300 per student in 2019-20.
- 2. International Student Fee amounts was a topic during budget discussions.*** On June 11, 2019 at a Special Board meeting the Board of Trustees approved the following motion “That the TCDSB International Visa Student tuition fees be increased by \$2,000 (elementary and secondary)”. The chart below shows the 2019-20 approved fees as per the approved board motion to increase the fees by \$2,000 and it also shows what the market will bear based on TDSB setting their fees at \$16,000.

Panel	Sept, 1 2018 Board Approved Rate (2018-19 School Year)	March 26, 2019 SAWB (Student Achievement & Well Being) Approved Rate Increase for Sept. 1 2019	Sept. 1 2019 Approved Rate for 2019-20 Communicated to Agents world wide	June 11, 2019 Board Motion	Sept. 1 2020 Fee as per June 11 2019 Board Motion	Staff Suggested adjustment to market rates	Sept 1, 2020 Market Rate Suggested by Staff (TDSB posted rate)
Elementary	\$ 12,500	\$ 500	\$ 13,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 16,000
Secondary	\$ 14,000	\$ 500	\$ 14,500	\$ 2,000	\$ 16,500	\$ (500)	\$ 16,000

Business Services and International Education staff recommend that the tuition for elementary increase by \$3,000 to \$16,000 and secondary increase by \$1,500 to \$16,000, the application fee will increase by \$100 from \$250 to \$350, and the administration fee of \$40 for those paying by wire transfer as the TCDSB incurs additional costs and tracking and reconciling wire transfers. The administration fee may also encourage parents to make their child's payment using CIBC's on-line banking services, which would not incur the \$40 additional fee.

3. ***All Boards exceed the minimum fee level set by the Ministry.*** For context, the Ministry of Education's Grants for Student Needs (GSNs) requires a minimum VISA tuition fee charge of \$10,844 for elementary and \$11,505 for secondary.
4. ***The TCDSB implemented Director's Caps in 2018-19.*** In collaboration with the International Students department, Planning Services and Director's Council, caps for International VISA students have been developed for all secondary schools, with a particular focus on oversubscribed schools. These CAPS were approved at the February 2, 2018 meeting of the Student Achievement and Well-Being Committee and are applicable as a total for all grade level International students per school.
5. ***TCDSB will continue to monitor the market.*** In the event TDSB or surrounding boards increase or decrease their fees for the 2020-21 school year, TCDSB staff will reevaluate and recommend adjustments to the tuition fee as appropriate.

E. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

1. That the fees for Non-Resident VISA students for September 2020 for Toronto Catholic District School board increase from \$13,000 to \$16,000 for elementary and from \$14,500 to \$16,000 for secondary, inclusive of the \$500 mandatory cost of Health Insurance.
2. That the administrative fee increases from \$250 to \$350.

<u>Panel</u>	<u>Yearly Fee</u>	<u>Pro-Rated Fee</u>
Elementary	\$16,000	or \$1,600 per month
Secondary (under 21)	\$16,000	or \$1,600 per month
Secondary (over 21-Fraser)	\$16,000	or \$2,000 per additional course