First Baptist ACADEMY

FAST APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

RETURNING STUDENTS | BRIDGE KINDER-EIGHTH GRADE

The FAST system has been updated for the 2026-2027 financial aid applications. Please note the following updates:

- A seamless and automated system allows you to securely consent to having your taxes pulled directly from the IRS.
- Your application can be managed by a single account year-over-year. Submit one application regardless of the number of applicants. You are able to submit one application to other FAST schools with multiple children.
- The updated system is mobile forward and can easily be completed using your mobile device.
- When reapplying next year, you will simply log into the same account, confirm pre-filled data or update changes.

We hope the updates will make the application process easier and faster for families. If you need more detailed instructions than the below, please read through the **FAST Family Application Guide** or watch a **video tutorial**.

1. Go to the First Baptist Academy website at **www.fbahouston.org**.
2. Navigate to the *Financial Assistance* section under the *Admissions* menu.
3. Click on the "FAST" link button under Application Process. The application process is self-guided. You may navigate in and out of the program allowing you to partially complete an application and go back to it at another time. Email familysupport@ismfast.com for help. Please be sure and save your username and password somewhere safe as it will not be saved during the online registration process.
4. The application fee is $60.00 and will be collected before submitting your application.
5. Financial Aid applications must be completed by **February 1, 2026**. After this deadline, you may contact Katrina Lee to determine if funds remain available.
6. FBA is planning to accept funds from Texas Education Freedom Accounts, or TEFA, beginning in the 2026-2027 school year. As the program is being developed and FBA becomes officially enrolled, we will provide more information. In the meantime, please visit educationfreedom.texas.gov for more information and learn how your family may qualify. We are told applications for families will be available from February 4 to March 17. FBA will require all families applying for financial assistance to also apply for TEFA funds. Any TEFA amount awarded will reduce the amount of financial assistance given by FBA. However, at this time, if you want to be considered for FBA's financial assistance, you must apply with FBA by February 1.

The Financial Aid Committee of First Baptist Academy reviews each request for financial aid. Financial Aid grants are reviewed on a need basis and are not guaranteed from year to year.