

**City of Alexandria, Virginia
 FY 2024 Proposed Operating Budget & CIP
 Budget Questions & Answers**

April 5, 2023

Question: What fee increase would be required for full fee Out of School Time Program (OSTP) participants to cover the \$200,000 funding request for part-time positions?

Response:

Using 2022-2023 school year participants as an estimate, there are 508 participants who paid the full \$575. If there are the same number next year, the full price would need to be increased by \$394 (70%) for a total of \$969 for the school year. It is unknown if the price increase would impact the current enrollment numbers, or requests for financial assistance. Refer to Attachment 1 for RPCA’s current Financial Assistance policy.

The currently proposed increase for FY 2024 is from \$575 to \$595 and would be an additional \$10,000 of revenue for OSTP based on the current enrollment. **Should City Council include the 3% fee increase shown in the proposed FY 2024 budget, this fee would increase an additional \$20 for a total of \$989 for the school year.**

RPCA reviewed Fairfax and Arlington County’s equivalent 2022-2023 after school programs, as well as Campagna (licensed); they all use a larger sliding scale to determine fees and charge participants monthly. To compare programs, the information below is based on mid-range household incomes in the fee categories just above Free or Reduce Lunch qualifications (from \$63,001-\$88,240).

Program/Location	Monthly Fee	Annual (40 Week Program)
RPCA Power On/Alexandria	\$57.50	\$575
Campagna/Alexandria	\$234	\$2,340
SAAC/Fairfax County	\$88	\$880
Extended Day/Arlington County	\$317-\$425 (based on school location)	\$3,170-\$4,250 (based on school location)

For example, Fairfax County’s SACC program (licensed) is \$88/month/participant for the \$66,250-\$79,499 income range and would be \$880 for the school year. The monthly fee is as high as \$438 and as low as \$17.

Arlington County’s (exempt from licensure like RPCA) Extended Day program fee is based on the school location and is \$317-\$425/month/participant for the \$65,001-\$88,240 income range and would be \$3,170-\$4,250 for the school year. The monthly fee is as high as \$438 and as low as \$8.

Campagna’s after school program is \$234/month/participant for the \$63,001-\$94,500 income range and would be \$2,340 for the school year. The monthly fee is as high as \$450 and as low as \$30.

RPCA's Power-On OSTP Program is an annual fee only, but for comparison would be \$57.50/month/participant for all household incomes over the cut-off for free and reduced lunch (under 185% of the poverty level). For families qualifying for Free and Reduced, the fee is \$29.50/month/participant; for families qualifying for SNAP the fee is \$24.50/month/participant; and for families qualifying for TANF the fee is \$14.50/month/participant.

References

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/office-for-children/sacc/fees>

<https://www.apsva.us/extended-day/2022-2023-proposed-school-year-fees/#8am>

<https://www.campagnacenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/CK-2022-2023-Afterschool-Fee-Monthly-Scedhule.pdf>

Attachment 1 of 1: RPCA Financial Assistance Policy