

Rollinsford School Board

FAQ: Marshwood Tuition

**1. How is Marshwood tuition calculated?**

Rollinsford contracts with Maine School Administrative District (MSAD) 35 for the education of our students from grades 7-8 and 9-12 at Marshwood Middle School and Marshwood High School, respectively. As per our contract, MSAD 35 uses the formula described below to calculate tuition for each student in the district.

MSAD #35 starts with their prior year's operating budget and removes the following items:

- Student transportation
- Special education costs
- Vocational education costs
- Tuition for out-of-district (non-Rollinsford) Marshwood students
- Debt service paid by the State of Maine

The remaining amount is then divided by the previous year's enrollment of all students on April 1 (includes MSAD and Rollinsford enrollment numbers). This gives MSAD 35 the per-student tuition cost for the following year. We then multiply the per-student cost by the projected Rollinsford enrollment for the following year to determine the budget amount.

Of course, Rollinsford is billed for our actual enrollment numbers, and these may fluctuate up or down during the year. Tuition is now billed on a monthly basis, saving time and allowing for more efficient billing.

Marshwood budget information can be found at [RSU35.org](http://RSU35.org) under Board and Budget Info.

**2. What about student transportation, which isn't included?**

Rollinsford has a contract with First Student, which provides bus transportation for middle and high school students, as well as for Rollinsford Grade School students.

**3. How are special education costs and services billed?**

Special education services are charged to Rollinsford separately on a fee-per-service basis.

In the past, these were calculated twice per year. We have recently switched to a monthly billing schedule for both tuition and special education, which makes it easier to review and accurately encumber the money in the Middle and High School budget lines throughout the year.

**4. What is the current tuition rate?**

For the current school year (2017/18), the per-student tuition for Rollinsford students attending Marshwood is \$10,168.50.

For the previous year (2016/17), tuition was \$9,821.96

The budgeted amount for the upcoming school year (2018/2019) is \$10,168.81.

As noted above, this rate does not include vocational and special education costs.

**5. How can I get more information?**

If you have questions about Marshwood tuition and other fees, please attend a School Board meeting, where we'll be happy to address them. You may also email the School Board: <https://tinyurl.com/rollinsfordschoolboard>