

# LiFT

LEARNING INDEPENDENCE  
FOR TOMORROW

## **Our Mission**

To inspire and empower people with neurodiversity to learn, thrive and succeed.

## **Our Vision**

A world where independence is possible for the neurodiverse.

## **Our Values**

We believe that each and every learner at LiFT come to value and view their individual uniqueness and diversity as a gift to be celebrated. Equally important is for each learner to respect the differences found in one another.

# Important Dates 2026-2027

**August 4**

Back to School Open House

**August 6**

First Day of Classes

**August 25**

Enrichment Fair

**Sept. 18, Nov. 13**

Fall Family Days

**Nov. 23 – Nov. 27**

Thanksgiving Break

**Dec. 18 – Jan. 4**

Christmas Break

**January 5**

Spring Semester Begins

The logo for LIFT (Learning Independence For Tomorrow) features the word "LIFT" in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The letter "i" is lowercase and has a white dot above it. The letters "L", "F", and "T" are uppercase. The background is a dark blue gradient.

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# Growth and Change in 2025-2026: Accreditation

- As of February 4, 2026, LiFT is officially an accredited member of the Florida Council of Independent Schools
- Of the 3,500+ private schools in Florida, only 146 carry the prestigious FCIS Member designation we have earned
- We now may apply to start a National Honor Society, National Junior Honor Society, and other highly respected national membership programs for the 2026-2027 school year



# Growth and Change in 2025-2026: Team



- **All staff are ASD certified**
- **All new instructional hires are ESE certified**
- **Extended professional development period before school year, growing expertise**
- **Added senior leader with district-level experience with MTSS implementation**
- **Job development, coaching enhancement for additional community employment opportunities**
- **Catering, merchandise sales, and special event hosting opportunities for adult learners**

# Growth and Change in 2025-2026: Academic Enrichment

- Invested in dedicated reading intervention teachers at Elementary, Middle, and High School levels, math intervention for algebra
- Small-group, personalized instruction embedded into the school day
- Additional opportunities for certification and credentialing across multiple career tracks
- Tutoring available in ELA, Math, Art, Music
- Summer tutoring, credit recovery and transition to high school



# Growth and Change in 2025-2026: Academic Expansion



- **New virtual course catalog added to 8-12 grades including gaming, coding, animation, studio art, and more**
- **8-12 grades implemented a 7-period day to support credit acceleration, credit recovery, and personalized learning pathways**
- **Campus Connections with the U**
- **Life Skills class for grades 8–12 include critical thinking, money management, wellness, manners, careers**
- **Embedded life skills instruction at all levels**

# Growth and Change in 2025-2026: Enrichment

- Launched 15+ new enrichment programs (STEM, arts, athletics, leadership)
- 70%+ student participation
- LiFT U Basketball Returns with a 4 game schedule
- Increased partnership and communication with therapy partners, regular meetings at the therapist and leadership levels
- Incorporating school-wide service-learning
- Reinforcing our commitment to developing the whole child



# Growth and Change in 2025-2026: Community



- Expanded to quarterly Family Days with support from U and microbusinesses
- Families attend classes alongside their students followed by community celebrations
- Family events include a 60-car Trunk-or-Treat, Special Olympics Field Day, and Grandparents Day
- Founder's Day (LiFT Birthday Party)
- Increased opportunities through PTO
- New Lunch Pals Mentoring Program
- Spirit Week March 2-6, 2026

# Financial Aid Snapshot

**30% of LiFT Families Seek LiFT Financial Aid**

**Academy Requests = 27% of Families**

**University Requests = 44% of Families**

**Adult Requests = 10% of Families**

**Total Funds Awarded 25-26= \$89,675**

**\*\*\$110,000 in financial aid pool expected in 26-27**

# Tuition and Budget Impact 2025-2026

- **Tuition accounts for ~60% of annual LiFT revenue**
- **State-funded family empowerment scholarships comprise 70% of tuition revenue for the Academy and 60% for the University**
- **Family out-of-pocket tuition payments comprise less than 25% of annual LiFT revenue**
- **Florida Council of Independent Schools Accreditation team strongly recommended tuition increase to sustain quality improvements and exceptional programming**



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## Tuition realignment and modest increase for 25-26 saw out of pocket costs drop for most families

Cost to families & percent change	2024-2025		2025-2026		% change
	Tuition	Average out of pocket	Tuition	Average out of pocket	
Academy, Elementary & MS	\$12,575, \$13,100	\$3,043.51	\$13,000	\$2,539.75	<b>-16.55%</b>
Academy, High School	\$14,675.00	\$4,948.10	\$15,250	\$5,222.51	<b>5.55%</b>
University, with scholarship	\$18,000.00	\$8,507.36	\$15,250	\$5,350.17	<b>-37.11%</b>
University, without scholarship	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$15,250	\$15,250.00	<b>-15.28%</b>
ATP (no scholarships)	\$8,100.00	\$8,100.00	\$8,100	\$8,100.00	<b>0.00%</b>



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**At \$15,750 including fees, LiFT tuition is 25% below local ESE schools and 40% below local private high schools**

<b>Comparison School</b>	<b>25-26 Tuition</b>	<b>Fees</b>	<b>Total</b>
ESE 1	\$24,000	\$300	\$24,300
ESE 2	\$16,780	\$1,320	\$18,100
ESE 3	\$23,750	\$1,800	\$25,550
ESE 4	\$15,690	\$350	\$16,040
<b>ESE School Average</b>	<b>\$20,055</b>	<b>\$943</b>	<b>\$20,998</b>
Private HS 1	\$20,000	\$2,100	\$22,100
Private HS 2	\$37,040	“extra”	\$37,040
Private HS 3	\$18,500	\$2,025	\$20,525
Private HS 4	\$22,785	\$1,700	\$24,485
<b>Private High School Average</b>	<b>\$24,581</b>	<b>\$1,942</b>	<b>\$26,523</b>



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**A majority of our families pay less than \$300/month out of pocket on  
10-month payment plans**

<b>Average Actual Cost to families</b>	<b>Tuition</b>	<b>Average out of pocket</b>
Academy, Elementary & MS	\$13,000.00	\$2,539.75
Academy, High School	\$15,250.00	\$5,222.51
University, with scholarship	\$15,250.00	\$5,350.17
University, without scholarship	\$15,250.00	\$15,250.00
ATP (no scholarships)	\$8,100.00	\$8,100.00

# Tuition levels for the 2026-2027 school year

- Expected 7% increase out-of-pocket to families, depending on state scholarship increase
- Largest LiFT Scholarship pool ever
- Average out-of-pocket cost to families below 40% of tuition and approximately 25% of cost of education

**Full cost of education in 25-26 = \$19,587**

<b>Level</b>	<b>Tuition</b>
<b>K-8</b>	<b>\$14,500</b>
<b>9-12, University</b>	<b>\$17,000</b>
<b>Adult Training Program</b>	<b>\$9,000</b>

# LIFT

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## Questions?

## THANK YOU!

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