



PLTW Program Enhancements FAQs

Q: How much is the Participation Fee?

A: The Participation Fee is assessed annually and is \$3000 for Pathway To Engineering, \$750 for Gateway To Technology, and \$2000 for Biomedical Sciences.

Q: If I have purchased a perpetual license with Autodesk, do I get a discount?

A: Yes. PLTW is honoring our commitment to existing (2012-13 or earlier) PLTW schools that purchased the perpetual license by setting the annual Participation Fee for Pathway to Engineering at \$1,750.

Q: What is the fee for post-secondary institutions offering PLTW?

A: Non-profit post-secondary institutions offering PLTW to either secondary or post-secondary students will pay the same Participation Fee as secondary schools. This is a significant decrease over the previous post-secondary pricing model.

Q: Why is PLTW moving to a Participation Fee?

A: The Participation Fee was designed for simplification and to reduce overall costs to our network. It removes barriers to program growth, and helps schools make elective course choices based more on what their students and community need rather than costs. Some barriers to growth under the previous model included additional costs after reaching a software license cap and additional software costs when expanding specialty courses within a program.

Q: What is included in the Participation Fee?

A: As part of PLTW's charitable mission, our curriculum will continue to be provided at no charge to participating schools. The Participation Fee includes access to all the program features for which a school has a trained teacher, including, but not limited to, unlimited required software licenses; assessments; required online, on-demand readiness and ongoing teacher professional development; forums; student recognition and scholarship opportunities; reporting tools; and school and technical support. A complete list of enhancements is available on our website: www.pltw.org/2013-14-enhancements

Q: What is not included in the Participation Fee?

A: The Participation Fee does not cover:

- Teacher Core Training costs and related expenses
- Equipment and supplies, including annual consumables
- Any outside services (certification costs with Affiliates, for example)

- Unlimited print materials
- Fees for Industry Certifications (Certiport)

Q: If a PLTW school has satellite campuses, how will the Participation Fee be invoiced?

A: The Participation Fee is assessed for each school site, and will be invoiced to the entity that signed the PLTW Agreement. If there are several schools or sites from a district that offer PLTW Programs, one consolidated invoice will be sent to the entity that signed the PLTW Agreement.

Q: When will school sites be invoiced for the Participation Fee?

A: New school sites will be invoiced immediately upon signing the PLTW agreement. Either a P.O. number or full payment will need to be made in order for new schools to register for Core Training, access the full equipment lists in the eCatalog, and access curriculum. For existing school sites, invoices will be sent the first week of May, with payments due August 31.

Q: To which software will my school have access?

A: Required software is available for each course where a teacher is trained, and offering the course to students for that school year.

Q: What if my school wants optional software associated with the PLTW programs?

A: Optional software is available for purchase at discounted rates through the eCatalog.

Q: Is the Participation Fee an annual fee?

A: Yes. The Participation Fee covers all courses / units in a program (GTT, PTE, and BMS) from July 1 – June 30.

Q: Under the Participation Fee, can the Autodesk license still be shared between a high school and middle school?

A: No. Both high schools and middle schools will be assessed Participation Fees. However, there are no longer seat restrictions on Autodesk or any other required software for PLTW programs.

Q: How does school certification relate to the Participation Fees?

A: PLTW will not charge for school certification or GTT recognition. However, University Affiliates may assess a certification visit fee to cover travel and processing costs.

Q: How will the Participation Fee support Professional Development?

A: The cost schools pay for teacher Core Training is paid to affiliates and therefore, not included in the Participation Fee. The Participation Fee includes required online on-demand resources for readiness and ongoing professional development as well as access and interactivity with the PLTW learning community through a Learning Management System (LMS) delivery platform.

Q: What if a school is late paying their fee? What if they do not pay their fee?

A: As always, PLTW will work with schools that cannot pay on time due to the timing of grant funds, etc. Schools that do not pay and have not made prior arrangements with PLTW will lose access to PLTW systems.