

Tuition Assistance Information



Kindergarten – Eighth Grade • 2017-2018

Tuition Assistance

Because not every family can afford to pay the full cost of a Catholic school education, Saint Pius X provides tuition support to its parishioners on the basis of relative need. While some parishes provide tuition support on an across-the-board basis, we feel that such a policy would not represent the wisest use of the parish's resources. Our tuition support will be directed to those for whom it may be a greater burden to educate their child in a Catholic school. By allocating tuition support in this way, we believe more parishioners will be able to enroll their children in a Catholic school, regardless of their income levels.

The parish has been generous with its tuition support in the past and will continue to do so. We believe more families will qualify for tuition support than might expect and urge every family to apply.

To Apply for Tuition Assistance

Any parish family wishing to apply for tuition support should fill out a FACTS Grant and Aid Application which can be found online at online.factsmgt.com. (NOTE: 2016 Tax Return information will be required to complete this application). FACTS Grant and Aid Assessment, an independent third party with experience in such matters and a long presence in this diocese, has been hired to assist the parish. FACTS will process the applications and prepare an objective report. However, final determinations of the amount of aid to be granted will be made by the parish. All financial information will be kept in the strictest confidence.

If you will have children enrolled at more than one Catholic school (including high school), you will only need to fill out one FACTS application for the 2017-2018 school year. Please be sure to include all children and indicate the school each child will attend.

Should a tuition assistance package not be awarded or does not meet the financial needs of your family, a refund of the registration fee will be given.

All tuition support applications must be completed and submitted online with 2016 tax return information by April 15, 2017 (or preferably sooner). Applications received after this date will be considered to the extent that funds remain available.

Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO)

A Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO) is a state approved organization that may receive private donations from individuals or corporations for the purpose of giving scholarships to individual students who meet income requirements. These scholarships are referred to as "SGOs". If a child's family income meets the income eligibility requirements as outlined in column 4 of the Income Eligibility Guidelines listed on the next page, they can receive a minimum grant of \$500 from the SGO. If they continue to meet income requirements, they will qualify for a Choice Scholarship the following year. In short, a SGO can qualify a child for Choice Scholarships from first grade through the remainder of their high school career, with significant financial savings on tuition.

Choice Scholarship

If a family meets income requirements as outlined in column 2 and 3 of the Income Eligibility Guidelines, the parents may designate that the state public funding assigned to their child will follow their child to an accredited non-public school (Saint Pius X Catholic School). Depending on income levels, there are both full and partial Choice Scholarships.

Eligibility for a Choice Scholarship

Your child may be eligible for a Choice Scholarship if you have legal settlement in Indiana and meet any one of the following criteria:

- **Two Semesters in Public School Pathway** - your child will be a new incoming student at Saint Pius X Catholic School and your child spent the previous two semesters in an Indiana public K-8 school, and your family meets the income guidelines equal to or below 150% of the federal free and reduced guidelines.



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Eligibility for Choice Scholarship - continued

- **Sibling Pathway** - your child is currently a student at Saint Pius X Catholic School and has a sibling who received either a Choice Scholarship or an SGO award in a preceding school year, and your family meets the income qualification guidelines equal to or below 150% of the federal free and reduced guidelines.

For example: If a student received a Choice Scholarship in 2016-2017 and has an older sibling in the school or a younger sibling entering kindergarten, the sibling would be eligible for a Choice Scholarship in 2017-2018.

- **Previous Choice Scholarship Student Pathway** - your child received a Choice Scholarship in a school year that does not immediately precede the school year for which the student is applying for and meets the household annual income equal to or below 150% of the federal free and reduced guidelines.
- **Previous Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO) Award Pathway** – your child received an SGO Scholarship in a year that does not immediately precede the school year for which the student is applying for a Choice Scholarship and meets the household annual income equal to or below 150% of the federal free and reduced guidelines.
- **“F” Public School Pathway** - your child attends or would attend a public school with an "F" ranking from the Indiana Department of Education, and your family meets the income qualification guidelines equal to or below 150% of the federal free and reduced guidelines.
- **Special Education Pathway** - If your child has an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) and meets the household annual income equal to or below 200% of the federal free and reduced guidelines listed. An IEP is only developed for students who have designated learning disabilities.

- **Continuing Choice Scholarship Student Pathway** - your child received a Choice Scholarship in the prior year and your family continues to meet the income guidelines with an annual income equal to or below 200% of the federal free and reduced guidelines.

To Apply

To apply for an SGO or Choice Scholarship from Saint Pius X Catholic Church/School, a family must:

1. Complete and submit an Enrollment Packet with the non-refundable registration fee.
2. Complete the FACTS Grant and Aid Application online at online.factsmgt.com.
 - Application must include copies of your 2016 IRS Federal Income Tax Return, any supporting tax schedules and copies of all 2016 W-2 and tax statements.
 - Select Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO) of Northeast Indiana as a school choice along with Saint Pius X Catholic School if qualifying for an SGO.

Updated 2017-18 Eligibility Guidelines will be published in February Choice Scholarship(CS) Program Income Limits by Household Size

	100% of Reduced Lunch	150% of Reduced Lunch	200% of Reduced Lunch
Household Size	AGI for 90% Choice Scholarship*	AGI for 50% Choice Scholarship *	SGO, IEP, CS 1 Yr Prior AGI for 50% Choice Scholarship
1	\$21,978	\$32,967	\$43,956
2	\$29,637	\$44,456	\$59,274
3	\$37,296	\$55,944	\$74,592
4	\$44,955	\$67,433	\$89,910
5	\$52,614	\$78,921	\$105,228
6	\$60,273	\$90,410	\$120,456
7	\$67,951	\$101,926	\$135,901
8	\$75,647	\$113,470	\$151,293
Each add'l	\$7,696	\$11,544	\$15,392

Questions regarding tuition assistance, SGOs and Choice Scholarship can be directed to Maureen Newsom in the parish business office at 574-272-8462.



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