



Dear Saint Margaret Mary School Families,

We are reaching out to share some exciting news for our families. As you may have heard, the State of Illinois has created a new way to fund scholarships for children who choose to attend Catholic schools through the "Invest in Kids Act." Scholarships offered through this program have the potential to cover **up to 100 percent of tuition and eligible charges for next school year.**

There will be some changes in how and when you apply for and receive scholarships to Saint Margaret Mary Catholic School. If your family is currently receiving financial aid funds from SMMS and/or you anticipate needing scholarship funds for the 2018-2019 school year, please follow the below steps:

- 1) Apply **FIRST** to the organization that will be managing the Invest in Kids scholarship process, as opposed to last year through FACTS. The details of that process are still being finalized, but rest assured we will guide you through filing an application when the details are clear.
- 2) The organization managing the Invest in Kids Act scholarship fund may begin accepting applications **as early as December. Scholarships will be awarded on a first come, first serve basis, so it is very important to apply early.**
- 3) Once you have heard back from Invest in Kids scholarship fund, if funds are still needed, apply through FACTS for SMMS financial aid funds. Please note: FACTS will be accepting applications for financial aid January 29, 2018 through February 23, 2018.

What does this mean for my family?

Through this new state program, you may be eligible for a scholarship worth 50%, 75%, or 100% of tuition and fees.

Household size	If your household income is less than the amount listed you would be eligible for a scholarship in 2018-2019.		
	100% Tuition & Fees	75% Tuition and Fees	50% Tuition and Fees
2	\$30,044	\$40,600	\$48,720
3	\$37,777	\$51,050	\$61,260
4	\$45,510	\$61,500	\$73,800
5	\$53,243	\$71,950	\$86,340
6	\$60,976	\$82,400	\$98,880
7	\$68,709	\$92,850	\$111,420
8	\$76,442	\$103,300	\$123,960
9	\$84,175	\$113,750	\$136,500
10	\$91,908	\$124,200	\$149,040
11	\$99,641	\$134,650	\$161,580
12	\$107,374	\$145,100	\$174,120

How do I apply?

Since this is a new program, application details are being finalized, and we will share them as soon as they are available. We do know that the application process will differ from that in previous years, and we will help you through it by answering your questions and providing resources to assist you in completing the application.

Where can I get more information?

The Catholic Education Office will continue to update its website, www.ceorockford.org, with the latest information about the application process and deadlines. Saint Margaret Mary School will also share information as it becomes available to us.

If you have questions, you may also contact Elizabeth Heitkamp, Assistant Superintendent at 815-399-4300, or at ehaitkamp@rockforddiocese.org. We look forward to sharing more about the new scholarship program in the coming weeks.