



# St. Jude School Financial Assistance Program



School Year - 2021-2022

Any Families that wish to receive financial assistance for the 2021-2022 school year **must** apply for two scholarship opportunities:

1. Illinois State Tax Credit Scholarship – <https://empowerillinois.org>
2. Catholic Education Foundation Scholarship - <https://factsmgt.com>



If a family still needs financial assistance after applying for these two scholarships they may contact the principal. The principal will give their information to the Finance Committee, a sub-committee of the St. Jude School Board, and they will determine if St. Jude can give further financial assistance to the family.

## Illinois State Tax Credit Scholarship (Empower)

### Funding and Donations

The State of Illinois passed the Invest in Kids Act that allows individuals or corporations to receive a 75% tax credit when they donate to scholarship granting organizations. There will be up to \$100 million available for private school scholarships in the state of Illinois for the 2021-2022 school year.

### Do I Qualify?

K-12 students are eligible to receive a Tax Credit Scholarship based on the size of their family and income level. Student need is determined by the household income compared to the 2020 Federal Poverty Level (FPL).

Household size	185% FPL	250% FPL	300% FPL
1	\$23,606	\$31,900	\$38,280
2	\$31,894	\$43,100	\$51,720
3	\$40,182	\$54,300	\$65,160
4	\$48,470	\$65,500	\$78,600
5	\$56,758	\$76,700	\$92,040
6	\$65,046	\$87,900	\$105,480
7	\$73,334	\$99,100	\$118,920
8	\$81,622	\$110,300	\$132,360

### How much is the scholarship?

Families who make 185% or less of the FPL are eligible for 100% scholarship of tuition.

Families who make 185%-250% of the FPL are eligible for 75% scholarship of tuition.

Families who make 250%-300% of the FPL are eligible for 50% scholarship of tuition.

### When and how do I apply?

Families will be able to reserve their spot by completing a brief online form on **January 13<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 p.m.** This process should only take about 5 minutes, can even be done with the web browser on your phone, and it will time stamp your application for the first-come, first-served scholarships. Therefore, it is important to attempt to complete this process as close to 6:30 p.m. on January 13<sup>th</sup> as possible. ***If you received a Tax Credit scholarship for the 2020-2021 school year, you still need to apply again for the 2021-2022 school year!***

After reserving your spot, you will receive an email link to apply for the scholarship at a later date.

The application process will take about 15 minutes.

Families will need the following items to apply:

- ✓ A copy of your family's 2020 federal tax return.
- ✓ Proof of Illinois residency, such as:
  - Current utility bill
  - Current drivers license
- ✓ Documentation of student's age, such as:
  - A copy of student's birth certificate
  - Federal or State ID
  - A passport



The Invest in Kids Act requires that scholarship decisions be made with the most recent tax year's information available. Effects from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, however, may have changed the employment and/or income status of families for the 2021-2022 school year, and, Empower Illinois understands that final 2020 tax information may be delayed. This delay will not stop a family from moving forward in the scholarship process.

### Catholic Education Foundation Scholarship (FACTS)

The FACTS application can be completed at <https://factsmgt.com> and is **due by March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021**. There is a \$35 fee to apply for this opportunity and the following items are needed:

- ✓ W-2 forms (both parents if applicable)
- ✓ Recent 1040 Federal Tax Returns (2019 AND 2020 Returns acceptable)
- ✓ Any Documentation for other income (Child Support; Welfare, Workers Compensation, TANF, or Social Security income)

### Questions?

Contact Lucas Stangler with any questions by email, [lstangler@stjudejoliet.net](mailto:lstangler@stjudejoliet.net) or by phone, 815-729-0288.