



## **IMPORTANT 2026-2027 SCHOLARSHIP & FINANCIAL AID FAQ'S (K-8)**

Our goal is to keep a quality Catholic education affordable for every family. To do so, **we are relying on each family to apply or renew their state scholarship application for the upcoming school year for their K-8 student(s)!** Last year, over 65% of K-8 students qualified for the maximum EdChoice scholarship award. We also encourage ALL families to also apply for Diocesan and parish financial aid to fulfill any remaining need. Over \$200,000 was awarded last year in additional scholarships for those that applied!

### **WHAT SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE?**

K-8 families with financial need, multiple children, high tuition balances, or special circumstances could be eligible for one or more of the following scholarships:

#### ⇒ **EdChoice State Scholarship**

Every Ohio resident living outside the city of Cleveland. Submit a completed renewal or request form to Julie Bowling [jb bowling@ihmcfo.org](mailto:jb bowling@ihmcfo.org) along with a copy of a recent utility bill (less than 90 days old) which shows **BOTH the mailing and service address**. Please submit to Julie ASAP!

- [Renewal Form](#) (current students only)
- [New Request](#) (new students only)

#### ⇒ **Jon Peterson Special Needs State Scholarship**

Please contact our JPSN rep (Lisa Massello) [lmassello@ihmgradeschool.org](mailto:lmassello@ihmgradeschool.org) for more information.

#### ⇒ **Diocesan Tuition Assistance (DTA) & IHM Parish Scholarships**

Complete one FACTS Grant application **per family by March 15th**. Note: tax documentation will be required to verify.

- [Apply for DTA here!](#) Also, [See DTA Website](#) for more information.

#### ⇒ **Angel Scholarship Fund (ASF)**

Complete one application **per student by March 15th**. **NOW ONLINE ONLY THROUGH A CENTRALIZED DIOCESAN APPLICATION**. Please include your **2025 taxable income on this survey** (line 11 of 2025 tax return). If you have not filed 2025 taxes yet, please include an estimate of your 2025 gross income based on your recent W2s or paystubs.

- [Apply for Angel Scholarship here!](#)

#### ⇒ **Fund-A-Dream Scholarship (FAD)**

To be eligible the student must have a remaining tuition balance of \$2500 or more.

- [Complete this form](#) and submit to your school office if you are interested in applying.

#### ⇒ **Kaltenbach Family School Employee Fund (SEF)**

The David & Linda Kaltenbach Family Fund also known as the School Employee Fund is a tuition assistance opportunity available to full-time, tuition-paying school employees whose children are K-12 students at a school within the Diocese. Full-time: 30+ hrs/week & eligible for health benefits.

- [Apply for School Employee Fund here!](#)

## **Other Special K-8 Scholarships**

If you meet the criteria below, please contact the school office at 330-923-1220 for an application.

- ⇒ **Bishops' Scholarship for Excellence:** Ten \$3,500 scholarships for high school students & twenty \$1,200 scholarships for 6th-8th grade students in DTA participating schools within the Diocese.
- ⇒ **M. Thomas Moore Elementary Scholarship:** Four \$500 scholarships each academic year to four elementary students in the Diocese of Cleveland.

## **HOW DO I APPLY FOR ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL AID?**

You must apply online via **FACTS Grant & Aid:** [factsmtg.com/aid](http://factsmtg.com/aid). *Income documentation & \$35 fee required.*

## **WHEN IS THE DEADLINE FOR FINANCIAL AID APPLICATIONS?**

All financial aid applications are due by **March 15th**. There are no longer 2 rounds of applications.

We **strongly** recommend you apply as soon as possible so IHM can better forecast your tuition and offer you the most affordable scholarship package possible based on your family's eligibility and need. Parents are welcome to apply past the March 15th deadline; however, there is no guarantee their application will be reviewed for an award past that date.

## **WHO SHOULD APPLY FOR ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL AID?**

Every family with children in grades K-8 is welcome to apply! Including those receiving EdChoice or Jon Peterson Scholarships. With almost every school in our Diocese accepting state scholarships, many more families will be eligible for additional Diocesan scholarships or IHM tuition assistance.

## **CAN I RECEIVE A STATE SCHOLARSHIP AND FINANCIAL AID?**

YES! We encourage all families to FIRST make sure you have submitted your EdChoice OR Jon Peterson application (or renewal). Then ALSO submit an online application via FACTS Grant & Aid and Angel Scholarship. Whether you are awarded the maximum EdChoice scholarship (currently \$6,166) or minimum scholarship (currently \$616) you can still receive additional funds through DTA, Angel Scholarship, IHM Fr. McIntyre, IHM Parish Scholarships. To help reduce the gap between your state scholarship and your remaining tuition balance. Families applying for multiple scholarships, including EdChoice or Jon Peterson, must accept or deny the state award(s) before we can determine eligibility for additional scholarship funding.

## **CAN I RECEIVE MORE THAN ONE STATE SCHOLARSHIP?**

No. A student can only be eligible for ONE State Scholarship. Either EdChoice or Jon Peterson. Not both.

## **HOW MUCH AID CAN I RECEIVE?**

That is hard to predict. All of these scholarships are based on individual circumstances, financial need, and EdChoice award amounts, so it could vary from family to family. However, we have seen DTA and Angel scholarship awards range from \$200 to \$1000+ per child. Fund A Dream offers \$2,500 per child. Keep in mind if you receive a maximum EdChoice scholarship of \$6,166 you may not be eligible for a \$2,500 Fund A Dream scholarship, as the remaining parent tuition commitment balance would be too low.

## **WHAT IF I RECEIVED THE MAX EDCHOICE SCHOLARSHIP ALREADY?**

There is an \$1,234 gap between the max EdChoice award and IHM's 26-27 tuition rate of \$7,400. It is up to you if you would like to also apply for additional aid to see if your remaining parent tuition commitment could be reduced even further.

## **WHAT IS THE CURRENT TUITION RATE? AND WHY ARE THERE NO DISCOUNTS?**

The K-8 tuition rate is **\$7,400** / child. IHM and Holy Family share similar tuition rates. Considering the new scholarship opportunities available to our school families, ALL tuition discounts have been discontinued. This was announced in August of 2023 (see [ihmgradeschool.org/edchoice](http://ihmgradeschool.org/edchoice) for more info). Many components are considered when setting tuition, including advice from our Finance Council, carefully reviewing operating costs and capital expenses, past tuition rates, tuition at other Catholic schools and assessing all our needs to successfully operate IHM school in order to achieve our goals. If families apply for the available scholarship programs, no family will pay the posted tuition rate. During the 25-26 school year, 100% of families who applied for EdChoice, Angel Fund and/or Diocesan Tuition Assistance ended up paying significantly less tuition. Having kept our promise to reinvest in IHM school and to fairly compensation our dedicated teachers, IHM's per pupil cost far exceeds the current tuition rate. The remaining parent tuition commitment does not cover the actual price of educating your child. The balance is covered by other state income, fundraising and our generous parishioners. We will continue to do everything we can to keep tuition as low as possible while holding IHM to the highest standards possible.

## **CAN PRE-K STUDENTS RECEIVE A SCHOLARSHIP?**

Unfortunately, there are no state or Diocesan scholarships available for Pre-K students. However, families with extreme circumstances or financial hardship may contact [fatherjim@ihmcfo.org](mailto:fatherjim@ihmcfo.org) directly for him to review possible financial assistance on a case-by-case basis.

## **WHEN WILL I BE BILLED? WHEN WILL YOU CREDIT MY FACTS ACCOUNT?**

Regardless of the payment plan you selected, all tuition bills begin to withdraw in August. In order to have your FACTS payment plan adjusted prior to your first scheduled August payment, you must submit your EdChoice or JP renewal (or new request) **by June 1<sup>st</sup>**. Otherwise, automatic tuition withdrawals will begin as scheduled from your designated financial account. It is possible that scholarship awards will still be pending after the first August payment date. We will issue credits as quickly as possible and refunds (if applicable) on any overpayments once all scholarships are finalized and posted to your FACTS account. Login to the **FACTS FAMILY PORTAL**. There you can gain access to your tuition and incidental bills. Balances for the current school year may not be loaded until scholarship packages are finalized.

***Please remember, you must sign the Ohio Dept of Education acceptance form for your EdChoice State Scholarship each year and submit that to IHM in order for your child's scholarship dollars to be released monthly by ODEW.***

***Should you decline a state scholarship and refuse to apply for financial aid, you will be responsible to pay up to the full posted tuition rate.***

**FOR MORE SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT: [www.ihmgradeschool.org/aid](http://www.ihmgradeschool.org/aid)**

For questions or assistance with EdChoice please email [jbowling@ihmcfo.org](mailto:jbowling@ihmcfo.org)

For questions or assistance with Jon Peterson please email [lmassello@ihmgradeschool.org](mailto:lmassello@ihmgradeschool.org)

For questions regarding all other scholarships please email [jandrea@ihmcfo.org](mailto:jandrea@ihmcfo.org)

For questions regarding admissions or the status of your enrollment please email [jfrego@ihmgradeschool.org](mailto:jfrego@ihmgradeschool.org)