

VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION

FINANCIAL AID PROCESS

2020-2021

Tuition aid application/award process will be through FACTS Management accessed through the diocesan website (see item #6 below). Some basic information about the 2020-21 process includes the following:

1. The family application fee has been frozen at \$25.
2. For 2020-21, paper applications **WILL NOT** be available. The FACTS support team will provide any assistance needed to families using the online application process for the first time. You can call our office at [412-456-3108](tel:412-456-3108) if you have any questions in this regard.
3. The application deadline is **March 16, 2020**. If individual families have extenuating circumstances in meeting this deadline, we will be as flexible as possible in accommodating them.
4. Below are some friendly reminders for 2020-21.
 - a. The pastor signature form required for a Bishop's Education Fund grant. You will need to secure your pastor's signature on this form, please present the form to the principal. **A copy of this form is attached**. If you have children at different Catholic schools, you must provide a copy of the signed form to each school. The principal will then log into FACTS and check that the form was received by the school.
 - b. The diocese will still collect K-12 tuition rate information in the spring and provide these rates to FACTS in a standard format.
 - c. Families will again be notified by email to log into their account to view their aid awards.
5. As in past years, the following aid funds will be available to families depending upon their eligibility:

Bishop's Education Fund - For Catholic families with students in grades K-12

Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program (EITC) - Open to any student in grades PS to 12 from families meeting maximum income levels. (Families from certain private schools who have established their own funds are not eligible.)

Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit Program (OSTC) - Open to any student in grades K-12 who meets the EITC income guidelines and would be attending a low achieving public school as defined by the Commonwealth.

6. Diocesan Website Link- All information needed to apply for aid, including the link to the FACTS online application, is on the diocesan website under the "Schools" section and "How Can I Afford Catholic Education?" sub-section. The direct link is: <https://diopitt.org/affordable>