

Saint Margaret Parish Tuition Assistance Information

Saint Margaret Parish provides tuition assistance to eligible families for children attending our parish schools in Pre-School through Grade 8. Families **registered and active** in Saint Margaret Parish are eligible to apply for tuition grants. The parish defines “active families” as those that are part of this worshipping community by regularly attending Mass at Saint Margaret Parish (this is NOT Electronic giving).

ELIGIBILITY

Saint Margaret Parish provides tuition assistance to eligible families for children attending our parish schools in Pre-School through Grade 8. Families **registered and active** in Saint Margaret Parish may apply for tuition assistance. We do not provide tuition assistance to families registered and/or active in another parish, or for students attending other schools.

A **registered family** is one which has provided updated information for the Saint Margaret Parish parishioner database. The registration form for updates is available at our parish office and on the parish website home page at www.stmargaret.org.

An **active family** is one which is part of this worshipping community by regularly attending Mass at Saint Margaret or at Saint Mary Magdalen. Records of this are kept via envelope usage **NOT amount in the envelope**.

We check eligibility as part of reviewing applications for tuition assistance, and we monitor active status during the year by reviewing the number of envelopes returned through the Offertory collection (NOT EFT giving).

- ✓ One total donation is entered and one attendance is recorded when multiple envelopes are received during a week.
- ✓ Families which contribute to Offertory using Electronic Funds Transfer should mark the “I am giving electronically” box and place the Offertory envelope in the collection basket each time they attend Mass.
- ✓ Families who forget the envelope for a particular week should use the WELCOME envelope found at each door of our churches, and mark the “I forgot my envelope” box.
- ✓ Envelopes with nothing in them are welcome!

An additional requirement for eligibility is satisfaction of all school debts and obligations.

The parish Tuition Assistance Committee evaluates applications on a case-by-case basis in strict confidence. Assistance is granted based on demonstrated need and Mass attendance. The amount of assistance granted to a particular family may change from one year to another because the group of applicants changes. Receiving a grant in one year does not automatically mean that a family will receive a grant in future years.

We use School and Student Services for Financial Aid (SSS) to process the Parents’ Financial Statement. Refer to the parish website at www.stmargaret.org for policies, required documents, and deadlines. Then select the “About Us” and then “School” tabs.

For the sake of fairness to all and to ensure an orderly process, families not meeting the established deadlines will not be considered for assistance. Understand that computer issues may arise, however, there are always computers available in the library. Hard copies will not be accepted. Please contact Mary Ann Hultquist at 410-838-6969 x 115 if unexpected family circumstances arise and compromise the ability to meet deadlines.

Complete the application at School and Student Services at sss.nais.org, using **school code 2573** for Saint Margaret School. Please provide all explanations requested on the SSS application, and use the final comments area to describe any extraordinary circumstances your family has experienced in the last year. When all documents are in place and SSS has completed its calculation, your application will be reviewed by the Tuition Assistance committee. You will receive notification of its decision by mail. Please understand that any tuition assistance awards from the parish will be re-evaluated if assistance is granted from another source.

Other resources:

- Families may apply to the Archdiocese for tuition assistance. They use a different service (FACTS), and their process may be complete for this school year. Call them at 410-547-5515 to inquire.
- Contact Saint Margaret Parish Outreach at 410-838-6969 if there is hardship from unemployment, health issues, etc.

IMPORTANT DATE!!!

- All applications and documents MUST be complete & submitted or uploaded online at sss.nais.org, **no later than Friday, January 5, 2024.**