

Please Note: The information provided below is to assist you in filling out your financial aid application. Please refer to the back of these directions for step-by-step instructions of how to fill out your financial aid application and also parent frequently asked questions.

Application Deadline:

There is a deadline predetermined for families to submit their applications and documentation by. The deadline for applications to be submitted is **March 16th, 2012**. The chance for financial aid decreases for applications submitted after this date.

Allocation of Funds:

The Diocese of Syracuse will have 90% of their available funds distributed by June 30th.

School ID Code:

When prompted, please use the following school ID - **11522**

Financial Aid Eligibility:

The following grades are eligible to apply for financial aid: **Kindergarten – 6th Grade**.

Special School Codes:

A = Affiliated

NA = Not Affiliated

Application Processing Fees:

- Required application processing fee: **\$20.00**
- Business processing fee (if applicable): **\$19.00**. If you have filed any of the following: 1041, 1065, 1120, or 1120S.
- Optional Parent Report fee: **\$8.00**. This report allows you to review the information that you submitted on your application. Your report can be viewed online once your application has been audited. ***This report does not display the amount of assistance you may receive from your school. ***

Required Supporting Documentation:

All applications submitted require the below documentation in order to be reviewed. Applications received without the requested documentation will not be processed.

- Most recent pay-stubs and W2 statements for all jobs
- Most recently filed federal tax form 1040, 1040A, 1040EZ with all schedules
- Most recently filed business tax return, 1041, 1065, 1120, or 1120S (if applicable).
- Any supplemental income documentation. Ex: 1099 forms, social security, welfare, food stamps, unemployment, child support, workers compensation, veteran benefits, rental income, etc.

Submitting Required Documentation:

E-mail and fax line are for documentation only. Paper applications sent by e-mail or fax will not be accepted.

- **Mail:** Smart Tuition Aid, PO Box 25116, Lehigh Valley PA 18002
- **E-Mail:** documents@smarttuitionaid.com
- **Fax:** (610)-599-8633

NOTICE OF FINANCIAL AID

Once your application is processed, a tuition aid recommendation will be forwarded to **St. Mary's Academy**. All final tuition aid decisions including notification of an award amount (if any) will be made by **St. Mary's Academy**. If you have not received notification about financial aid, contact the Financial Administrator at **St. Mary's Academy**. Please allow a minimum of four weeks after you have submitted your application.



How to apply online: When choosing to submit your application online, please go to our website www.smarttuitionaid.com. For new families, you will need to click "New Parent Registration." From there you will be prompted to enter a valid e-mail address and a password of your choice. It is important your e-mail address is correct, since that is our first means of communication. Once you are confirmed with a username and password, you will be logged into our online site, where you will start the application process. For assistance in filling out the application you can contact us either by phone at 1-800-360-8027 or by e-mail at support@smarttuitionaid.com.

How to obtain a paper application: If you do not have access to a computer or simply wish to submit a paper application, you may do so by obtaining an application from your school. Applications cannot be downloaded from our website, e-mailed or directly mailed to you. Please make sure to contact your school directly for a paper application.

How to apply with multiple students attending different schools: For multiple students attending different schools, the application process differs. When submitting a paper application, only one application and fee is required for all students. When submitting an online application, an application and fee is required for each school (additional fees to be refunded). We suggest when filling out the dependent section of the paper application, to list your children in age order, starting with the oldest. If you choose to submit an application online, all of your information from your first application will pre-fill into the additional applications. The only section you will be required to fill out on each additional online application is the dependent section.

Parent FAQ

Q: Who should complete this Tuition Aid form?

A: Whoever the child resides with should fill this application out, whether it is a parent, grandparent, aunt/uncle, or legal guardian. There is a section within the application where you can enter contributions from non-custodial parents and relatives.

Q: Why do I need to input my spouse's information if I am remarried and they are not legally responsible for my children?

A: Our calculation works off of the total household income, therefore including all income, whether the party is legally responsible for your children or not. Our system however, does take into effect your spouse's expenses as well as their income. It is important to list all expenses that are asked of within the application.

Q: Do I list all of the children in my household, even if they are attending another school?

A: Yes. You will need to list out all children within your household. That includes children attending another private school, children attending a public school, or children not attending school.

Q: What if I have an additional circumstance?

A: We have designed a section for you to select from a list of pre-generated circumstances. If your circumstance is not listed, please feel free to write us a letter explaining your circumstance. Please write "SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES," on the top of your letter, along with your name and application ID.

Q: I do not have the required tax documents. HELP!

A: Include the most recent tax documentation you have available. If you are asked for a specific line from a tax document that you have not yet completed, please estimate the projected amount.

Q: How will I know if I qualify for aid or not?

A: We do not disclose information about the results of your application. All final tuition aid decisions, including notification of an award amount (if any); will be made by your school. For the date award notices will be given, please contact your school directly.

