

TUTION ASSISTANCE

2009-2010

Overview and Instructions

The purpose of Tuition Assistance at True Cross Catholic School is to help families meet their financial obligations to the school. As a parish school, True Cross Catholic School wants to ensure that all children have the opportunity for a Catholic education regardless of their financial circumstances. **THIS PROGRAM IS BASED ON FINANCIAL NEED.**

While the school does receive a subsidy from the parish, these funds are not used toward tuition assistance. The school does receive some funds from the H.O.S.T. program, but these are limited and are based on contributions from various donors. There is no specific amount of funds available for tuition assistance. Priority for Tuition Assistance will be given in the following order:

1. The children of active True Cross Church parishioners,
2. Current True Cross student(s) returning for the next year.
3. The children of Catholics active at other local parishes, especially those without a school, and
4. The children of non-Catholics.

The Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston does have some funds available for tuition assistance. Every family at True Cross Catholic School is encouraged to apply for these funds. In order to apply for tuition assistance from the Archdiocese, a completed Student Aid Form and a copy of the completed Federal Income Tax return with all schedules must be submitted to **Private School Aid Services (PSAS)** by **March 31, 2009**. *However, families whose financial circumstances change during the school year are encouraged to apply for assistance at any time rather than withdrawing their child from school.* Student Aid Forms for the next school year are included in the registration packet and are available in the Front Office.

PROCEDURE

PSAS requires all applicants to submit the Student Aid Form, any supplemental information or correspondence, and a photocopy of the completed current Federal Income Tax Return in its entirety, including all schedules, should be returned directly to PSAS on or before March 31st in their return envelop (provided) with the Processing Fee. **More complete instructions are included in the Student Aid Form packet. Please complete only one form per household; there is space to list all children of school age.**

Note – Families wishing to apply for additional financial assistance from the school must submit a completed Application to PSAS by March 31st. This will aid the administration in determining awarded funds.

All information obtained from applicants will remain strictly confidential. All awards of funds are confidential, except to the Business Office and the Administrator.

In order to be eligible to receive Tuition Assistance throughout the school year, the following guidelines must be adhered to:

1. The parents/families of students receiving Tuition Assistance are expected to complete and submit the PSAS application for Financial Assistance from the Archdiocese.
2. The parents/families of students receiving Tuition Assistance are expected to contribute their time and talent to the Shrine of the True Cross Parish and School community by actively participating in volunteer activities.

A parent/family that is not fulfilling their volunteer commitment as stated above will be required to develop a specific plan detailing the nature of activities and the scope of involvement. The volunteer commitment is consistent with, and reflective of, Shrine of the True Cross Parish philosophy of each member of the community providing Time, Talent, and Treasure as feasible.

TRUE CROSS CATHOLIC SCHOOL CANNOT AND DOES NOT GUARANTEE THAT ANY TUITION ASSISTANCE FUNDS WILL REMAIN AVAILABLE TO THOSE FAMILIES WHO MISS THE DEADLINE DESCRIBE ABOVE FOR THE PSAS APPLICATION, OR WHO FILE EXTENSIONS ON THEIR CURRENT YEAR FEDERAL INCOME TAX RETURN.

*Notification of the PSAS award from the Archdiocese will be available to me by May 2, 2009
. Families will be notified of their award after this date.*

THE REGISTRATION FEES ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE TUITION ASSISTANCE AND MUST BE PAID FOR EACH STUDENT.