



**ST. MARY CATHOLIC SCHOOLS (SMCS)
WISCONSIN PARENTAL CHOICE PROGRAM
Frequently asked Questions**

WPCP Information Drop-In Session – Wednesday, February 28th from 4:30-6:30 p.m.
SMCHS Resource Center, 1050 Zephyr Drive, Neenah

What is the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program?

The Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (WPCP) allows students to attend a participating private school if certain eligibility criteria are met and the students are selected in the random drawing conducted by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI). The private school, on behalf of the student’s parent or guardian, receives a state aid payment (voucher) for each eligible student. WPCP is a separate application process from the St. Mary Catholic Schools (SMCS) tuition assistance application.

How do I know if we are eligible?

Families must meet income and student eligibility requirements.

Income eligibility: The prior year adjusted gross income (AGI) and must be at or below 220% of the federal poverty guideline (see chart). This would include income of parents or legal guardians residing in the same household as the student applicant. Family size includes parents or legal guardians and their children by birth, marriage or adoption that reside in the same household as the student applicant.

Student eligibility: Students *new* to SMCS entering full day kindergarten through grade 12 are eligible. Students who are *returning* to SMCS entering kindergarten, grade 1 and grade 9 are eligible.

Family Size	Single Parent Max Yearly Income	Married Parents Max Yearly Income
1	\$ 26,532	XX
2	\$ 35,728	XX
3	\$ 44,924	\$ 51,924
4	\$ 54,120	\$ 61,120
5	\$ 63,316	\$ 70,316
6	\$ 72,512	\$ 79,512
7	\$ 81,708	\$ 88,708
8	\$ 90,904	\$ 97,904
9	\$ 100,100	\$ 107,100
10	\$ 109,296	\$ 116,296
11	\$ 118,492	\$ 125,492

What expenses are covered by the WPCP vouchers?

The WPCP provides private schools with state-funded vouchers that cover full tuition, registration and laptop leasing fees.

WPCP vouchers do not cover co-curricular activities, equipment, transportation, after-school or summer care, elective school trips, classroom supplies or meals.

How do we apply?

Parents must complete the online Private School Choice Program application during the open application period, February 1-April 20, 2018 available at <https://apps4.dpi.wi.gov/ChoiceParent/>. An email address is required to apply. In addition, parents must provide supporting documentation directly to SMCS within the application period. Applicants are strongly encouraged to call Shelley Wautlet (see below) prior to completing the application.

What supporting documentation is required to complete the application?

Proof of income is required for all students new to WPCP. A signed copy of the federal 1040 is acceptable for verification. If taxes have not been filed, please call Shelley Wautlet (see below) to determine the best option for your family to qualify and provide documentation. *It is strongly recommended that you select the DPI method to verify income. The DOR method is highly sensitive and submissions using this method are final.*

Proof of residency is required for all new and returning applicants. For a complete list of acceptable forms, refer to the DPI website (see below). **All supporting documentation must be submitted to the SMCS business office during the application period.**

How are students chosen to participate in WPCP at SMCS?

The DPI will randomly draw from among eligible, valid applications. Parents are notified by the DPI via email in the summer regarding acceptance or waitlist status.

Do I need to reapply for WPCP every year if my child receives a voucher at SMCS?

Yes, you must reapply each year online via the DPI website and supply residency documentation during the open application period. Students who have received a WPCP voucher and reapply will be awarded a voucher each subsequent year regardless of income and grade.

If you have additional questions about the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program or would like help completing the application, please contact Shelley Wautlet at swautlet@smcatholicsschools.org or 920-967-0021. More information can be found at the Department of Public Instruction website: <http://dpi.wi.gov/sms/choice-programs>.