



**St. Mary
Catholic Schools**
— Grades P3-12 —

2019-2020

Tuition Information Sheet

St. Mary Catholic Schools (SMCS) is proud to offer best-in-class facilities and technology while providing academic excellence to our students of all-faiths and families of all income levels. Please know that tuition assistance is available to allow every family that wants their children to be a part of the SMCS community the ability to fit tuition into their budget.

Student Registration

All SMCS student registrations are done online via our secure website: smcatholicsschools.org. **Priority Registration is open through January 31.** Register by 1/31/19 for reduced registration fees \$50 per student (family max \$150 and guaranteed student placement. Registrations will be accepted after this date if there is room available in the grade/class being applied for. After January 31, the fee increases to \$100 for each new and returning student (family max \$300). Registration fees are non-refundable and are not deducted from tuition fees. This fee is to be paid online following completion of the online student registration. If the fee is not paid online, it will be added to your tuition bill at the \$100/student rate. If you have questions on registration, please email Kelly at kbweiss@smcatholicsschools.org or (920) 722-7796.

Transition Grants

Students entering kindergarten, 6th grade and 9th grade that register **by January 31** will receive a Transition grant on their 2019-20 tuition bill.

Kindergarten	\$160 grant
6th grade	\$210 grant
9th grade	\$320 grant

Ray & Marie Miller Tuition Grants

SMCS was blessed to receive a significant bequest on behalf of the Millers. In honoring their wishes, SMCS has created a tuition grant to offset both middle school and high school tuition. When registering online, families can "opt in" to receive this grant for each eligible student.

6th-8th grades	\$200
9th-12th grade	\$500

This Ray & Marie Miller Grant is also offered to students who qualify for the Aquinas Program with an offset of \$1125. Families will be offered this grant once they are notified of their student's acceptance into the Aquinas Program.

NEW! Affordable High School Tuition Grant for Freshmen

SMCS is thrilled to announce our new Affordable High School Tuition Grant of \$1500 for students entering 9th grade! To be eligible for this grant, the family will be asked to "opt in" during registration and submit a short response outlining why they wish to attend SMCHS and why full tuition is a challenge to the family's budget. Combined with the Tuition Grant, incoming freshmen can receive up to \$2000 off tuition without completing the assistance application or providing financial information. Even better, is this grant will be renewable each year for the duration of the student's high school career!

Wisconsin Parent Choice Program

SMCS participates in the state of Wisconsin voucher program. The state application period runs **February 1 through April 20**. Please review eligibility requirements to see if your family qualifies at dpi.wi.gov/choice or contact Shelley Wautlet in the Business Office for more information.

Tuition Assistance/Grant Applications

SMCS and its supporting parishes and donors are committed to providing a quality, faith-filled education to all students regardless of their financial situation. The SMCS Tuition Assistance/Grant Applications are available on our website. To apply, a family must complete the application and return it with a copy of their most recent W-2s and tax forms. Applications received by **February 15, 2019** will be given priority consideration.

Volunteer Commitment

Parent volunteering is essential to long-term viability of our schools. Your volunteer efforts can help you stay engaged in your child's school life and help support our Catholic community. Your volunteer time also helps us keep costs down. Now, more than ever, we ask that ALL parents find areas where they can donate their time and talents at their schools and parishes.

The cost of the quality faith-filled education SMCS provides is shared among parents, parishes and third source funding. Currently, SMCS schools are funded 25% by parish subsidies, 55% by tuition and 20% through third-source funding.

Tuition Information Sheet (continued)

SMCS Grade or Program	2019-20 Tuition
Preschool & PreK (3 Half days)	\$1575
Preschool & PreK (3 Full days)	\$2500
PreK & Kindergarten (5 Half days)	\$2000
PreK & Kindergarten (5 Full days)	\$3175
Grades 1-5	\$3175
Aquinas Program Grades 3-5	\$4600*
Grades 6-8	\$4300**
Grades 9-12	\$6900***
Out-of-Parish Assessment per student, family max \$3000	\$1200
Additional Fees	As stated

Average cost of education per student K-12: \$9346

* Ray & Marie Miller grant of \$1125 is available to offset the Aquinas Program tuition to \$3475 per student.

** Ray & Marie Miller grant of \$200 is available to offset the middle school tuition to \$4100 per student.

*** Ray & Marie Miller grant of \$500 is available to offset the high school tuition to \$6400 per student. In addition, the Affordable High School Tuition Grant of \$1500 is available to further discount freshmen tuition to \$4900.

Tuition and Class Fees

Tuition fees are assessed in July prior to the school year. Tuition is due in full by June 30 (tuition for SMCHS seniors must be paid in full by their graduation date). **Band fees** for grades 4 and 5, and **band and choir fees** for grades 6, 7, and 8 are assessed in the fall. High school **fine arts fees** are assessed each semester.

Please see the high school course selection guide for additional class fees. *For billing and refund purposes, the school year is divided into 10 months (August to May).*

Out-of-Parish Assessment

SMCS parishes require that families who are billed at the in-parish tuition rates must be active, registered parishioners (as determined by the parish). Active membership involves worship, service and financial support of the parish. The out-of-parish rate is an additional \$1200 per full-day student (family max \$3000). Families select their parish affiliation when registering on our website. All parishes listed in the scroll are considered "in-parish" and will not be charged the additional rate. Families who do not qualify for the in-parish rate are encouraged to apply for assistance if this fee is outside of their budget.

Parent Involvement Fees

Every family with a student in grades 6-8 will be assessed a \$200 middle school parent involvement fee. This obligation can be reduced or fulfilled by volunteering for various events, activities, etc. and completing the parent involvement credit form. Contact the middle school office for more details. Every family with one or more students in K-12 will be assessed a \$100 family fundraising fee.

Laptop Fees

Students in grades 7-12 must sign an agreement for the one-to-one laptop program and make payment arrangements before a laptop will be issued. Students in grades 7 and 8 are expected to pay a \$100 rental and insurance fee; those in grades 9-12 must set up a payment plan to lease with an option to purchase. Laptop fees are non-refundable.

Sports Registration Fees

Sport registrations for grades 6-8 are to be done online. Go to the Co-Curricular page on our website, then Athletics to register. Fees must be paid prior to the first practice. High school sports fees will be billed on the tuition bill. Sport fees are not prorated or refunded.

Tuition Payments

Each family is responsible for making arrangements to either pay in full upfront or to enroll in the monthly payment plan.

1. **Pay in Full Upfront—Prepay Discount**

To pay in full up front, the tuition balance is due in full by the first Friday in August. Families who choose this plan will receive a tuition statement in the mail in July and may subtract \$100.00 from the total as a discount for paying all tuition fees in full by the first Friday in August. The prepay discount is not available on preschool tuition or half-day tuition. Middle school families may exclude the \$200 parent involvement fee from payment if they plan to acquire the volunteer hours.

2. **Monthly Payment Plan**

Families who choose to pay monthly must set up ACH withdrawals from a checking or savings account by completing an ACH payment agreement form, which can be found on our website at smcatholicsschools.org/forms.

Please direct all tuition-related questions to:
 Shelley Wautlet
 (920) 967-0021 ext. 851
swautlet@smcatholicsschools.org
 More information can be found on our website: smcatholicsschools.org

Continued ➡

Tuition Information Sheet (continued)

Tuition Refunds

If a student withdraws or is asked to leave an SMCS school, the following guidelines will be used:

1. If paying on a monthly basis, there will be no refund of the initial (first month) payment, regardless of the number of days a student is in class.
2. For those who have prepaid, tuition will be prorated through the end of the month of withdrawal. For example, if a student withdraws on October 2nd, tuition would be prorated for three months (August-October) and the refund would be for seven months (November-May).
NOTE: Assistance, scholarships, and discounts will also be prorated using this formula.
3. Fees for laptops, fine arts, sports, band, choir, etc. are not prorated nor refunded. Fundraising credits are not paid out.
4. Final decisions will be made by the SMCS President.

Scrip, Fundraising, Benefits Everyone!

SMCS has designated fundraisers which families can participate in to earn credit towards their tuition or to a specific club, group or event. Fundraising income is important to both SMCS and our families who rely on the credits to assist with their tuition fees.

The **Scrip program** is a fantastic way to reduce your tuition bill. Last year families earned over \$125,000 in tuition credits!

How it works: Families purchase gift cards through the Scrip program to use in place of cash, check, or credit at thousands of retailers. The retailers provide a bonus to SMCS, 80% of which goes back to our families as tuition credits, 5% to our participating parishes and 15% to tuition assistance funds.

New families can begin using Scrip as soon as they register their first SMCS child. Go to shopwithscrip.com to set up an account and get started. On average, families are earning over \$500 per year in Scrip tuition credit!

Fundraising credits are calculated on a quarterly basis and applied as follows:

Fall quarter = Sep, Oct, Nov (applied in Dec)
Winter quarter = Dec, Jan, Feb (applied in Mar)
Spring quarter = Mar, Apr, May (applied in Jun)
Summer quarter = Jun, July, Aug (applied in Sep)

Once a family has paid their tuition fees for the year in full, fundraising credits will be forwarded to next year's tuition or they can be designated to another family, donated to the SMCS Tuition Assistance Fund or designated to an SMCS club, group or event.