

Marquette Catholic High School Federal and State Tax Incentives



The Invest in Kids Tax Credit Scholarship Program

In 2017 Illinois enacted the *Invest in Kids Scholarship Tax Credit Program* that provides scholarships for students whose families meet certain income requirements to attend qualified non-public schools in Illinois.

Illinois families wishing to apply for scholarships can begin doing so on **January 15 2019**. Applications must be submitted through approved Scholarship Granting Organizations (SGO) approved for Region 5. MCHS students received scholarships from the following approved SGO's in 2018-19:

- ACSI Children Education Fund www.childrenstuitionfund.org
- Empower Illinois www.empowerillinois.org

To be considered for a 2019-20 scholarship, MCHS students must come from a household with income **below 300 percent** of the federal poverty level. Prior to April 1, 2019 priority will be given to students from households **below 185 percent** of the federal poverty level or students who reside in a “focus district”. The following local school districts have been determined to be “focus districts” by the ISBE: Alton CUSD 11; Granite City CUSD 9; and Roxana CUSD 1.

The following information will be need to apply for scholarships:

- Copy of your 2017 federal tax return
- Proof of Illinois residency
- Documentation of the student's age
- If available, a letter of acceptance or enrollment at an eligible, participating, non-public school

Household Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
300% Poverty Level	\$36,420	\$49,380	\$62,340	\$75,300	\$88,240	\$101,220	\$114,180	\$127,140
185% Poverty Level	\$22,459	\$30,451	\$38,443	\$46,435	\$54,427	\$62,419	\$70,411	\$78,403

Additional information can be found at:

- www.tax.illinois.gov/InvestInKids/

Illinois Credit for Qualified Education Expenses

Illinois allows certain families a tax credit of up to \$750 for qualified education expenses, which include tuition and fees, for K-12 students enrolled in a qualified elementary or secondary school. Illinois Schedule ICR can be used to claim the credit. MCHS will provide Illinois families with a “Receipt for Qualified Education Expenses” in late January each year.

Expanded Use of Section 529 Savings Plans

The *2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act* approved by the United States Congress in December 2017 expanded the use of funds held in qualified Sec. 529 Plans. For distributions after December 31, 2017, “qualified higher education expenses” now include payments of tuition at an elementary or secondary school, up to \$10,000 limit per tax year. **Note** – An adjustment on the Illinois tax return *may be* required for distributions from an Illinois 529 Plan.