

July 20, 2023

Dear Parents & Guardians:

The annual cost to educate each student at St. Helen's is in excess of \$7500, which exceeds the EdChoice Scholarship amount. To compensate for the deficiency between the tuition received and the cost, our school relies on donations from our parish community. The school administration has made the decision to increase tuition this coming school year. This means that eligible students applying for the Edchoice Scholarship and families paying tuition will be charged \$6165 per kindergarten-eighth grade student. The Edchoice Scholarship has been increased to \$6165 in the recent approved state budget. The increase in tuition will allow us to bring tuition closer to the actual "cost to educate" of students, retain and attract qualified teachers and continue providing your child(ren) with a high quality education.

On June 30, Governor DeWine signed the new State of Ohio budget into law that includes a significant expansion of the EdChoice scholarship program to include all families regardless of your public school district of residence or income **This new legislation includes:**

- **All Ohio families with a household income up to 450% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) are now eligible for an EdChoice Scholarship.**
- **All Ohio families with a household income greater than 450% of the Federal Poverty Level will qualify for a prorated EdChoice Scholarship.**
- **The projected EdChoice Scholarship amount for the 2023-2024 school year is \$6165 for elementary students**

You can complete an application and return it to the school office with supporting documentation. Please see the second page with the table displaying income guideline requirements and award amounts. If you have questions about the EdChoice Scholarship Program you can contact our edchoice coordinator, Sandy Goble, at sgoble@sainthelenschool.org or by phone at 937-343-5777

There are two types of EdChoice Scholarships:

The Traditional EdChoice Scholarship provides State of Ohio funded scholarships to Ohio residents who would otherwise attend underperforming schools. This program is based on the student's residence.

The EdChoice Expansion Scholarship is based on a student's family income. This income-based program provides full scholarships to students whose family income is at or below 450% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines and a prorated scholarship for those who are 451% and above.

If you have any questions about your tuition amount please contact me.

Sincerely,
Christine D Walters



EDCHOICE EXPANSION INCOME ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR 2023-2024

Federal Poverty Levels with Gross Annual Amounts								
Number in Family/ Household	200%	450%	500%	550%	600%	650%	700%	750%
1	\$29,160	\$65,610	\$72,900	\$80,190	\$87,480	\$94,770	\$102,060	\$109,350
2	\$39,440	\$88,740	\$98,600	\$108,460	\$118,320	\$128,180	\$138,040	\$147,900
3	\$49,720	\$111,870	\$124,300	\$136,730	\$149,160	\$161,590	\$174,020	\$186,450
4	\$60,000	\$135,000	\$150,000	\$165,000	\$180,000	\$195,000	\$210,000	\$225,000
5	\$70,820	\$158,130	\$175,700	\$193,270	\$210,840	\$228,410	\$245,980	\$263,550
6	\$80,560	\$181,260	\$201,400	\$221,540	\$241,680	\$261,820	\$281,960	\$302,100
7	\$90,840	\$249,809	\$227,100	\$249,810	\$272,520	\$295,230	\$317,940	\$340,650
8	\$101,120	\$278,079	\$252,800	\$278,080	\$303,360	\$328,640	\$353,920	\$379,200
For each additional person add:	\$10,280	\$23,130	\$25,700	\$28,270	\$30,840	\$33,410	\$35,980	\$38,550

Source: Office of the Asst. Secretary for Planning & Eval/US Dept of HHS

All first-time EdChoice Expansion applicants must have their income verified by the Office of Nonpublic Educational Options. Scholarships for EdChoice Expansion are awarded based on the Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) of a family's household. If a family's household income is at or below 450 percent of the Federal Poverty Level, they will be awarded the maximum scholarship amount. If a family's household income is at or above 451 percent of the Federal Poverty Level, the student's scholarship award will be prorated based on the chart below.

Federal Poverty Level	Award Amount for Grades K-8	Award Amount for Grades 9-12
0 – 450%	\$6,165	\$8,407
451 - 500%	\$5,200	\$7,050
501 - 550%	\$3,650	\$5,000
551 - 600%	\$2,600	\$3,550
601 - 650%	\$1,850	\$2,500
651 - 700%	\$1,300	\$1,750
701 - 750%	\$900	\$1,250
751% or higher	\$650	\$950

NOTE: Any application submitted after October 14th, 2023, will be awarded at a prorated amount based on how much of the school year remains after the date of the student's enrollment in the private school.

The scholarship can only be used to pay tuition. Parents and/or guardians may have to pay registration fees, material fees and other similar types of fees. Families who qualify for low-income status (at or below 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines) do not have to pay any tuition beyond the amount of the scholarship. If the private school's tuition is higher than the EdChoice Expansion Scholarship amount and the family does not qualify for low-income status, the family may have to pay the difference.