



DIOCESE OF  
SAN JOSE

# Guardian Angel Program Scholarships

Guardian Angel Program Scholarships are privately funded partial-tuition scholarships in support of children enrolling in a Catholic elementary school within the Diocese of San José. This program supports families enrolling their children at a Diocese of San José elementary school for the first time.

Our model of providing partial tuition scholarships is one of the simplest, most immediate, and effective ways to educate children and empower families in their choice for a Catholic education. In the Diocese of San José, there are hundreds of empty seats in our Catholic elementary schools – schools which prepare students for the rigor of high school and lead to high school graduation rates of more than 99%. We can fill those seats.

Our mission is to welcome, serve and fully form *all children* who desire a Catholic education and to broaden the educational opportunities for families in and around Santa Clara County. We aim to achieve this by providing scholarships that offset the cost of tuition through a partnership with families and their choice of Catholic school within the Diocese of San José.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Who qualifies for the Scholarships?

Scholarships are awarded to children who are entering a Catholic elementary school within the Diocese of San José for the first time in grades Transitional Kindergarten through fifth grade (TK-5<sup>th</sup>), and whose family falls within the financial guidelines of the program. New GAP Scholarships are awarded as long as funding remains available.

### Can students apply to any Catholic elementary school?

Yes, as long as the Catholic elementary school is within the Diocese of San José, the school serves TK – 8<sup>th</sup> grades, and the child meets all admissions requirements of the school to which s/he applies.

### Which schools qualify?

All Catholic elementary schools of the Diocese of San José, serving TK – 5<sup>th</sup> grade children in Santa Clara and its surrounding counties, qualify to enroll children participating in the GAP Scholarship program.

### How much do the scholarships cover?

Scholarships cover \$2,500 annually per child enrolled in a Catholic elementary school in the Diocese of San José.

### What are the family's responsibilities?

Participating families shall work with the school principal, or his/her delegate, to determine the actual tuition rate for the 2022-2023 school year. Participating families are required to contribute a minimum of \$1,500 per child towards their child's education and are responsible for all costs not covered by the scholarship. Additionally, parents must agree to participate in their child's education through involvement with the school as set out by the school and by providing an encouraging and supportive environment.

### How do I apply, what are the document requirements, and what is the deadline?

Applications must be submitted through FACTS Grant & Aid, which includes uploading all relevant financial documents, such as 2020 1040 and 2021 W-2 and/or 1099. Deadline to submit the application for consideration of a GAP Scholarship is February 15, 2022.

### Are GAP Scholarships renewable and what are the requirements for renewal?

GAP Scholarships are renewable for as long as the child is continuously enrolled in a Catholic school within the Diocese of San José. Families must remain financially eligible according to the GAP's financial guidelines. Families must also be current in their

financial obligations to the school in order to be able to renew their scholarship for the next school year.

### How do I renew a student's scholarship?

Families must complete a tuition assistance application through FACTS Grant & Aid, including the upload of all relevant financial documents, each year to be considered for renewal of their GAP Scholarship. Deadline to submit the application for consideration of a GAP Scholarship is February 15, 2022.

### Can a GAP Scholarship be combined with one granted by The BASIC Fund?

Because of our deep belief in serving all children and in an effort to support as many children choosing a Catholic education as possible, GAP Scholarships may not be combined with scholarships awarded by The BASIC Fund. Should a child be awarded a scholarship from both The BASIC Fund and the GAP, the awarding institutions will collaborate to determine which institution will provide on-going support to the child.