



DIOCESE OF  
SAN JOSE

# Guardian Angel Program Scholarships

Guardian Angel Program Scholarships are privately funded partial-tuition scholarships to families enrolling in a Catholic elementary school within the Diocese of San José helping them afford the cost of tuition. This program is intended as a helping hand for families enrolling their children at a Diocese of San José elementary school for the first time.

Our model of providing partial tuition scholarships to families 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 thousands of empty seats in our Catholic elementary schools – schools which lead to 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 by helping them afford the cost of tuition at any Catholic elementary school of their choice 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 (TK-5<sup>th</sup>) grade, and whose families fall 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 2021-2022 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 2019 1040 and 2020 W-2 and/or 1099. Deadline to submit the application for consideration of a GAP Scholarship is February 15, 2021.

### 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 up-to-date in their

payments 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, 2021.

### 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.