



SPRINGFIELD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Making Christian Education Possible for Your Children 2024-2025

SCS never stops working to make private Christian education as accessible as possible without compromising our commitment to pursue excellence in academic and faith development.

We don't look at tuition as a cost but as an investment in your child that brings returns for years (into eternity). Like seeds sown by a farmer on fertile soil, an SCS education helps bring a harvest of blessings in students. They show academic achievement, a lifestyle of generosity and service, and college graduation rates up to 3x greater than average. Most importantly, SCS students are 9x more likely to have a life-long faith in Christ than church-going peers attending public school.

An SCS education is valuable. We want to make it a reality for every family who wants to make that happen. If it's not possible for you to provide the full tuition, please apply for a scholarship. Also, please don't hesitate to ask for help with the application process by contacting the SCS Office at 217.698.1933 or SCS@SCS.School.

How might the SCS Scholarship Assistance Program work for me?

SCS offers scholarship assistance for families with demonstrated financial need. You will send the financial information to our partner, FACTS Grant & Aid. FACTS will then recommend an award amount to SCS as part of a confidential report outlining your financial situation based on the information you provided.

FACTS Grant & Aid offers user-friendly online applications, including a progress status bar and checklist. You may navigate in and out of the program, allowing you to complete part of your application and return to it later.

Begin an application at SCS.School/Scholarships.

FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment utilizes the following process:

Resources (Verified income + Non-Taxable + Contributions from Assets)

- Core Expenses (Reported & Allocated)

= **Income After Core Expenses**

- Tuition Amount

= **FACTS Calculation of Tuition Need**

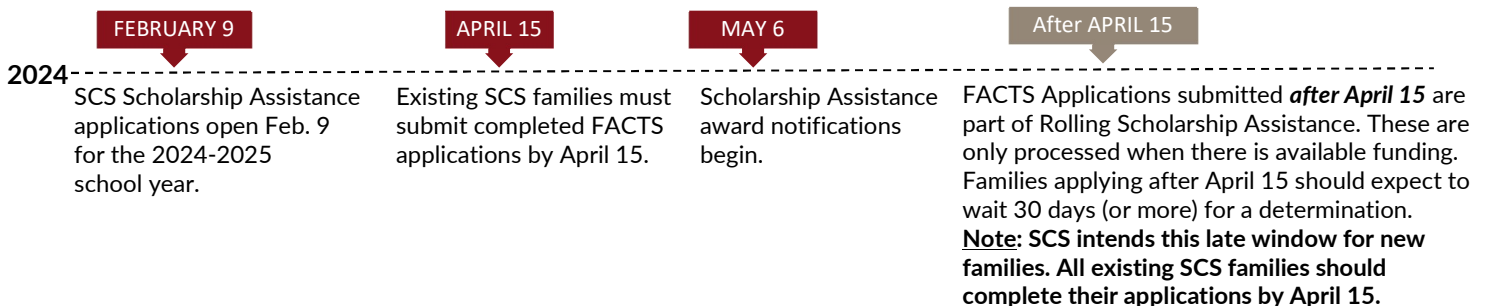
The following circumstances may also impact the amount awarded:

- Funds available for tuition assistance
- Number of applicants relative to available funds
- Number of dependents in your family
- Number of your children enrolled at SCS
- Other extenuating circumstances, as noted on FACTS application

SCS Scholarship Assistance Cap: SCS families can be awarded up to 50% of tuition from our scholarship assistance fund, depending on funding. Awards are issued annually and a new application submitted each year.

SCS Scholarship Assistance Program TIMELINE

Scholarship Assistance



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Invest in Kids Tax-Credit Scholarships

In 2017, Illinois created the Invest in Kids program, authorizing up to \$100 million annually for scholarships through tax-credit-funded contributions. With bipartisan support, the program provided a path for qualifying students to attend a school like SCS through funds from the Children's Tuition Fund or Empower Illinois.

Sadly, the Illinois General Assembly failed to extend the Invest in Kids program past 2023. Their inaction took this opportunity away from tens of thousands of current and future students. SCS will continue to work with others in advocating to empower all parents to choose the school that is the best fit for their children.

We will update the SCS Community if Illinois reinstates the Invest in Kids program (or, God willing, creates another opportunity). Until then, families needing help may apply to the SCS Scholarship Assistance Program.

SCS Scholarship Assistance Q & A

Where do funds for scholarship assistance come from? Funds available for the SCS Scholarship Assistance Program are allocated from the SCS budget, provided by generous donors, and raised through various fundraising efforts.

Do you offer "Full Scholarships" to SCS? SCS Scholarship Assistance Program resources are limited, and it's our goal to assist as many families as possible. We believe an SCS education is valuable, and most families can sacrifice in order to make a financial contribution to attend. If the needs-based assessment supports it, a family may be eligible for an award of up to 50% of SCS tuition.

How do we know if we will qualify for scholarship assistance? Awards are determined by a family's ability to pay - not their willingness to pay. FACTS determines eligibility based on income, expenses, assets, liabilities, and household size.

Can I receive SCS Scholarship Assistance without completing a FACTS application? No. Completing the application through our confidential, third-party system is the only way financial assistance will be awarded.

Why must I provide personal and confidential information to SCS through FACTS? To provide SCS with an accurate need assessment, FACTS Grant & Aid must verify your financial information. Providing FACTS with all required information allows them to assist SCS in making fair and informed decisions about the support needed for each family. A limited number of SCS personnel must maintain access to information submitted through FACTS. SCS restricts access to a small number of highly trusted staff. We will ensure your information is well-protected, limited to the smallest scope of access required, and handled with our highest levels of integrity and discretion.

Am I required to request scholarship assistance each year? Applications must be submitted each school year to apply for and potentially receive assistance. Since family circumstances and income vary yearly, we require parents to apply annually. Federal tax forms must be filed to complete the scholarship assistance application process through FACTS. SCS will consider each family's unique situation to make an annual decision on scholarship assistance.

We received an award in the past. Can we count on the same amount in the future? SCS considers awards from previous years. However, each year, we must re-determine awards based on three factors: (1) your current situation, (2) the needs of other SCS families, and (3) the total amount we have available for scholarship funds.

What about fees and other expenses? Can scholarship awards help with those? If awarded, scholarship funds may only be applied toward tuition. Families are responsible for all additional expenses.

Must our family repay the awarded funds? No. The award is not a loan and doesn't require repayment. However, if your family experiences future financial blessings, we ask that you please consider giving to SCS to help other families.

We have a split or blended family; must both parents complete a scholarship assistance application? Each person with financial responsibility for the student should submit their information to FACTS. Parents residing in different households must submit separate Grant & Aid applications if they desire tuition assistance for their portion of tuition.

Will SCS help? Our team of committed administrators and financial personnel can assist your family in making Christian education at Springfield Christian School a reality for your child. Please get in touch with us at 217.698.1933 or SCS@SCS.School.