



SPRINGFIELD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Making Christian Education
Possible for Your Children

2021-2022

SCS never stops working to make private Christian education as affordable as possible without compromising our commitment to pursuing excellence in academic and spiritual development.

We don't look at tuition as a cost, but an investment in your child that brings returns for years (into eternity). Like seeds sown by a farmer on fertile soil, an SCS education brings our students a harvest. They show academic achievement, a lifestyle of generosity and service, and graduate from college up to 3x more 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 assistance with the application process by emailing Andrea.Hammond@SCS.School.

SCS families have two available scholarship programs: The [SCS Scholarship Assistance Program](#) and [Invest in Kids Program Tax-Credit Scholarships](#). You cannot have a scholarship from both programs. However, it's in your best interest to complete both applications to help you have the best possible tuition support.

How Might the SCS Scholarship Assistance Program Work for Me?

SCS offers scholarship assistance for families with demonstrated financial need. You will send your 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 and based on the information you provided.

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

Visit [SCS.School/Scholarships](#) to begin an application.

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

| 2021 | FEBRUARY 12 | APRIL 15 | APRIL 30 | After APRIL 15 |
|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | SCS Scholarship Assistance Applications open Feb. 12 for the 2021-2022. | Deadline for completed FACTS Applications | Notification of Scholarship Assistance Awards Begin | FACTS Applications submitted after April 15 become part of Rolling Scholarship Assistance. These depend on availability of remaining funds and experience delays as they are not processed without available funding. |

Rolling Scholarship Assistance

(Continued on Back)

What are Invest in Kids Tax-Credit Scholarships?

The IL Legislature created the Invest in Kids program, authorizing up to \$100 million for scholarships through tax-credit funded contributions. This provides a path for qualifying students to attend a school like SCS through funds from a Scholarship Granting Organization, such as the Children's Tuition Fund or Empower Illinois.

Review qualifications and apply by visiting the **Children's Tuition Fund** (<https://childrenstuitionfund.org/states/illinois/>) or **Empower Illinois** (<https://empowerillinois.org/students>). SCS works with both organizations, and while available funding may vary, the family financial qualifications are the same at each.

Note: Compared to the traditional SCS Scholarship Assistance Program, SCS families are more likely to qualify for a scholarship under Invest in Kids guidelines. Plus, an award will be more significant. However, contributions to Invest in Kids organizations ultimately determine what's available.

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. Funds for the Invest in Kids Program come from contributions to organizations like the Children's Tuition Fund. Those who contribute receive a 75% credit on Illinois State Income Taxes.

Do you offer "Full Scholarships" to SCS? The SCS Scholarship Assistance Program resources are limited, and our goal is to assist as many families as possible. We believe an SCS education is valuable, and most families are capable of making a sacrificial financial contribution to attend. If the needs-based assessment supports it, a family may be eligible for up to a 50% tuition reduction. Scholarships from the Invest in Kids Program are set by law. They can be up to 100% of eligible expenses (about 90% of SCS full tuition).

How do we know if we will qualify for scholarship assistance? Awards are determined by a family's ability, not willingness, to pay. Eligibility is determined by income, expenses, assets, liabilities, and household size.

Can I receive scholarship assistance without completing a FACTS application? No. Completing the application through our confidential, third-party system is the only means by which financial assistance will be awarded.

Why must I provide personal and confidential information to SCS through FACTS? To provide SCS with an accurate assessment of need, FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment 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. It is necessary for a limited number of SCS personnel to 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 possible levels of integrity and discretion.

Am I required to request scholarship assistance every year? Yes. Applications must be submitted every year. Since family circumstances and income may change from year to year, 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 and 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 but independently evaluates each year based on your current situation and available scholarship funds.

What about fees and other expenses? Can those be taken from my scholarship award? If awarded, scholarship awards are applied toward tuition only. Families are responsible for all additional expenses.

Must our family repay awarded funds? No. The award is not a loan and doesn't require repayment. However, if your family becomes financially blessed in the future, we ask you to consider giving to SCS to benefit students in need.

We have a split or blended family, must both parents complete a scholarship assistance application? Each parent related to the student needs to submit their information to FACTS. If parents do not reside in the same household, they each must submit separate Grant & Aid applications if each parent desires tuition assistance.

Will SCS help? Our team of committed administrators and financial personnel are available to assist your family in making Christian education at Springfield Christian School a reality for your child. Please contact us at 217.698.1933 or Andrea.Hammond@SCS.School.