

# *What You Need to Know About the “Invest in Kids” Tax Credit Scholarships*

**●●●Applications Open Monday, January 22, 2018 and  
Wednesday, January 31, 2018●●●**

## **Apply to BOTH Scholarship Organizations for the best opportunity to earn a Tax Credit Scholarship**

Through the “Invest in Kids Act,” Illinois children from low-income households who want to attend Pope John Paul II Catholic School will have access to new scholarships. The scholarships offered through this program could **cover up to 100 percent of tuition and eligible fees for next school year**. Below is more information about how to apply and details on eligibility requirements. If you do not qualify for a tax credit scholarship based on your household income, the school will work with you on other potential scholarship opportunities.

*\*Scholarships may NOT exceed \$12,973, the 2018/19 statewide average public school cost for K-12 students.*

### **TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIPS**

Students from low-income households in grades K-12 have the opportunity to receive tax credit scholarships for the 2018/19 school year. These scholarships are funded by donors who receive a credit on their Illinois state income tax as a result of their donation. Scholarships are distributed on a *first come, first served basis so it is important to apply on time*.

### **SCHOLARSHIP GRANTING ORGANIZATIONS (SGOs)**

To apply for a tax credit scholarship, you will need to apply to a Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO), a separate organization that is responsible for receiving and processing scholarship applications, and distributing the scholarships to eligible students. There will likely be several SGOs in Illinois.

### **APPLICATION PROCESS**

Since this is a new program, application details are being finalized, and the Archdiocese will share them as soon as they are available. Currently, the Archdiocese is working with the following SGOs:

#### **Empower Illinois**

**Website:** [www.empowerillinois.org/students](http://www.empowerillinois.org/students)

**Application Deadline:** January 31, 2018 **Website Application opens at 12 noon**

**Application Requirements:** 2016 Tax Return, Proof of Illinois Residency, Birth Certificate or Passport for Student(s). Visit the website for complete information.

#### **Big Shoulders Fund**

**Website:** [www.bigshouldersfundsgo.org](http://www.bigshouldersfundsgo.org)

**Application Deadline:** January 22, 2018 **Website Application opens at 8:00 a.m.**

**Application Requirements:** 2016 Tax Return, Proof of Illinois Residency, Birth Certificate or Passport for Student(s). Visit the website for complete information

Remember, scholarships will be awarded on a first come, first serve basis, so it is very important to apply early.

### **HELP APPLYING**

PJP II will be hosting scholarship application events on both Monday, January 22 and Wednesday, January 31 in our

computer labs. Staff will be available to help upload documents and navigate the applications. We are asking families who would like to participate to **arrive 1 hour before the application opens.**

**HOW TO QUALIFY**

Eligibility to receive a scholarship is based on your family’s household income. Your family could receive a scholarship that covers up to 100 percent of tuition and eligible fees for next school year. See the charts below that shows how much you could receive to cover tuition based on your income. (**Note:** If more than eight people live in your home, add \$4,160 to the total household income per year for each additional person.)

**Chart 1:** You could receive 100 percent of tuition and eligible fees if you fit the following:

Number of People Living in your Household	Total Household Income per Year
2	\$16,240 - \$30,044
3	\$20,420 - \$37,777
4	\$24,600 - \$45,510
5	\$28,780 - \$53,243
6	\$32,960 - \$60,976
7	\$37,140 - \$68,709
8	\$41,320 - \$76,442

**Chart 2:** You could receive 75 percent of tuition and eligible fees if you fit the following:

Number of People Living in your Household	Total Household Income per Year
2	\$30,206 - \$40,600
3	\$37,981 - \$51,050
4	\$45,756 - \$61,500
5	\$53,531 - \$71,950
6	\$61,309 - \$82,400
7	\$69,080 - \$92,850
8	\$76,855 - \$103,300

**Chart 3:** You could receive 50 percent of tuition and eligible fees if you fit the following:

Number of People Living in your Household	Total Household Income per Year
2	\$40,762 - \$48,720
3	\$51,254 - \$61,260
4	\$61,746 - \$73,800
5	\$72,238 - \$86,340
6	\$82,730 - \$98,880
7	\$93,221 - \$111,420
8	\$103,713 - \$123,960

To learn more, please visit [archchicago.org/tcs](http://archchicago.org/tcs) or [www.pjpiischool.org](http://www.pjpiischool.org)

Contact: POPE JOHN PAUL II CATHOLIC SCHOOL at 773.523.6161 or [enrollment@pjpiischool.org](mailto:enrollment@pjpiischool.org) for additional information.