



# ARCHDIOCESE OF INDIANAPOLIS Catholic Schools

Open Doors



Open Arms



Open Hearts

## What Makes a Catholic School Special

### CATHOLIC SCHOOLS ARE ...

- Centered in the person of Jesus Christ
- Contributing to the evangelizing mission of the Church
- Distinguished by excellence
- Committed to educate the whole child
- Steeped in a Catholic world view
- Sustained by Gospel witness
- Shaped by communion and community
- Accessible to all students
- Established by the expressed authority of the bishop

*(“Defining Characteristics of Catholic Schools”; National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools)*

### RESEARCH SAYS ...

- Catholic schools tend to operate as communities rather than bureaucracies, which links to higher levels of teacher commitment, student engagement and student achievement (Marks, 2009).
- In Catholic schools, the student achievement gap is smaller than in public schools (Jeynes, 2007; Marks & Lee, 1989).
- Latino and African American students in Catholic schools are more likely to graduate from high school and college (Grogger & Neal, 2000).
- Graduates of Catholic high schools are more likely to earn higher wages (Neal, 1997).
- Catholic schools tend to produce graduates who are more civically engaged, more tolerant of diverse views, and more committed to service as adults (Campbell, 2001; Wolf, Greene, Kleitz, & Thalhammer, 2001).
- When a Catholic school closes, neighborhood disorder increases (Brinig & Garnett, 2009).

*(University of Notre Dame. For more information, log onto [ace.nd.edu/resources/catholic-school-research/researched-case-for-catholic-schools](http://ace.nd.edu/resources/catholic-school-research/researched-case-for-catholic-schools))*



During National Catholic Schools Week, we proudly celebrate the 68 schools and more than 23,000 students served through the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

We thank you for partnering with us to support the mission of Catholic education. Your prayers and generous support ensure that we can continue offering excellent, Christ-centered education for all of our students, today and tomorrow.

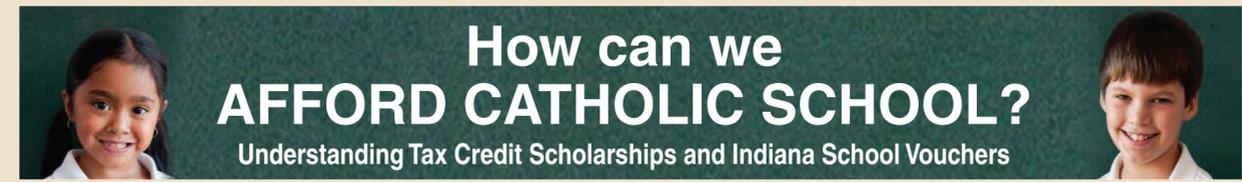
We ask for your prayers, as we keep you in ours.



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INSTITUTE FOR QUALITY EDUCATION ARCHDIOCESE OF INDIANAPOLIS



## How can we AFFORD CATHOLIC SCHOOL? Understanding Tax Credit Scholarships and Indiana School Vouchers

My child is enrolled at a Catholic school.

I'm moving my child in grades K-12 to a Catholic school from a public school.

I meet these eligibility requirements:

- Indiana resident
- My family is between 100% and 200% of the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Income Level (see chart).

I meet these eligibility requirements:

- Indiana resident
- Apply before September 1, 2019
- My child attended public school the previous year (two semesters) OR received a Tax Credit Scholarship or Voucher the previous school year.

## TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIP

CHOICE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM INCOME LIMITS BY HOUSEHOLD SIZE  
2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR

Persons in Household	69% of Reduced Lunch Eligibility	100% of Reduced Lunch Eligibility	200% of Reduced Lunch Eligibility
	Annual household income limit for a 90% Indiana Voucher	Annual household income limit for a 90% Indiana Voucher	Annual household income limit for a Tax Credit Scholarship (or 50% Indiana Voucher)*
1	\$15,418	\$22,459	\$44,918
2	\$20,904	\$30,451	\$60,902
3	\$26,391	\$38,443	\$76,886
4	\$31,877	\$46,435	\$92,870
5	\$37,363	\$54,427	\$108,854
6	\$42,850	\$62,419	\$124,838
7	\$48,336	\$70,411	\$140,822
8	\$53,823	\$78,403	\$156,806

Number Included All Adults in Household

Note: Income levels are determined in accordance with the *Income Verification Rules* Document available at [www.doe.in.gov/choice](http://www.doe.in.gov/choice).

\* For a household size of eleven (11) or more add \$5,486 to the annual limit for each additional member for a "90%" scholarship.  
\*\* Add \$11,988 to the annual limit for each additional member for a "50%" scholarship.  
\*\*\* Add \$15,984 to the annual limit for each additional member for a "50%" scholarship.

### What are Tax Credit Scholarships?

The Indiana Tax Credit Scholarship Program provides scholarship support to families who want to enroll their children in the Catholic school of their choice. Qualifying students in grades K-12 can receive a minimum of a \$500 Tax Credit Scholarship.

### Who qualifies for a Tax Credit Scholarship?

- A student whose family meets the income eligibility guidelines for the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program (see chart), AND
- A student who is coming to a Catholic school after attending at least one year (two semesters) in an Indiana public school, AND/OR
- A student who is enrolled in an eligible Catholic school.

### Why should I apply now?

If your family qualifies for assistance, but you do not apply when your child first enters school, you may lose the opportunity for a Voucher or Tax Credit Scholarship for the next 12-13 years. Current Catholic school students CAN receive a Tax Credit Scholarship, making them eligible for a Voucher the following year.

### How do I apply?

1. To see how much tuition assistance you are eligible for, first register at your Catholic school of choice.
2. To apply for funding, visit [www.i4qed.org/sgo](http://www.i4qed.org/sgo).

Additional local scholarships may also be available. Contact your local Catholic school.

### AND one of the following:

My family is at or below 200% of the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Income Level (see chart).

My family is at or below 150% of the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Income Level (see chart).

My family is at or below 200% of the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Income Level and my child qualifies for an IEP.

## K-12 SCHOOL VOUCHERS

### What is an Indiana School Voucher?

A Voucher is a state-funded scholarship that helps cover the cost of tuition at a private school. Qualifying students in grades K-12 can receive up to 90% of the local per-student state funding amount.

### Who qualifies for a Voucher?

- A student whose family meets the income eligibility guidelines for Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program (see chart), AND
- A student in grades K-12 who is coming to a Catholic school after attending at least one year (two semesters) in an Indiana public school, AND/OR
- A sibling received a Tax Credit Scholarship or Voucher, AND/OR
- A sibling living in an "F" school area, AND/OR
- A current Catholic school student in grades K-12 who has received a Tax Credit Scholarship in a prior year, AND/OR
- A student who qualified for an Individualized Education Program (IEP).

### Why should I apply now?

If your family qualifies for assistance, but you do not apply when your child first enters school, you may lose the opportunity for a Voucher or Tax Credit Scholarship for the next 12-13 years. Students enrolled in a Catholic school CAN receive a Tax Credit Scholarship, making them eligible for a Voucher the following year.

### How do I apply for an Indiana school Voucher?

1. To see how much tuition assistance you are eligible for, first register at your Catholic school of choice.
2. To apply for funding, visit [www.doe.in.gov/choice](http://www.doe.in.gov/choice).

Pre-K vouchers are available in Marion, Jackson, Bartholomew, Monroe, Madison, Harrison and Vigo counties. For more information, log onto [www.in.gov/fssa/carefinder/4932.htm](http://www.in.gov/fssa/carefinder/4932.htm).