

2024-2025 SON OF A SAINT SCHOLARS GUIDE

Son of a Saint Scholars is a School Tuition Organization (STO), selected by the Louisiana Department of Education to help facilitate the state's Tuition Donation Credit (TDC) Program. As an STO, *Son of a Saint Scholars* will be receiving and reviewing applications, selecting recipients, and awarding scholarships. The full list of schools *Son of a Saint Scholars* partners with can be found at www.sonofasaint.org/scholars.

ELIGIBILITY

Who is eligible?

- Rising K-12th grade students (*not* limited to Son of a Saint mentees) who meet the following eligibility criteria:
 - Family household income that does not exceed 250% of the federal poverty guidelines, as established by the Federal Office of Management and Budget
 - Family resides in Louisiana
 - Participated in the TDC Program *or* the Louisiana Scholarship program during 2023-2024 school year *or* attended public school in Louisiana on October 1st and February 1st of 2023-2024 school year

Are past Son of a Saint Scholars recipients given awarding priority during the application process?

- Yes, Son of a Saint Scholars works to support consistency throughout a child's educational journey. Previous award recipients must reapply each year. Past awardees will be prioritized over new applicants during the awarding process.

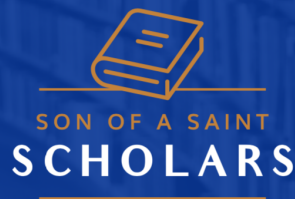
SCHOLARSHIPS

What is the amount of the scholarship and how is it determined?

- For the 2024-2025 school year, scholarship awards will amount to \$4,369.60 (or the cost of tuition, whichever is less) for K-8th graders and \$4,915.80 for 9th-12th graders* (or the cost of tuition, whichever is less).
- Scholarship amounts reset each year and cannot exceed the lesser of either the school's tuition and mandatory fees or 80% of the state average per pupil funding for grades K through 8 and 90% of the state average per pupil funding for grades 9 through 12.

Are families required to pay the difference between the scholarship amount and the school's tuition/fees?

- Yes, families are responsible for covering any tuition/fees in excess of the tuition award amount.



If my child is awarded a scholarship, is my child's acceptance to the school that I indicated interest in on my application guaranteed?

- No, once a scholarship is awarded, the student must then apply to a nonpublic school. A scholarship does not guarantee admission. Scholarships will ultimately be issued pending the verification of enrollment at a partnering nonpublic school.

What if my child is awarded a scholarship, but the school isn't the right fit and I am looking to transfer schools?

- If your child is awarded a scholarship, the funds are portable and may be used at any partner nonpublic school, pending acceptance to that school.

Can my child utilize a scholarship from Son of a Saint Scholars and another STO within the TDC Program (i.e. ACE Scholarships, Arete Scholars, Aspiring Scholars) within the same academic year?

- No, if your child is awarded a scholarship through Son of a Saint Scholars and chooses to utilize it, they would be ineligible to utilize any additional award from another STO (i.e. ACE Scholarships, Arete Scholars, Aspiring Scholars).** If a family has been awarded multiple STOs for the upcoming academic year, the family should communicate to their school's financial office which STO award they plan to accept.

APPLICATION PROCESS

When will applications open?

- Our application will open at 9:00am on Wednesday, November 1st, 2023. It will remain open until 9:00am on Tuesday, April 30th, 2024. Please note: we may close before the deadline depending on the number of applications received.

How do I apply?

- Applicants may apply directly through Son of a Saint Scholars at www.sonofasaint.org under the tab SCHOLARS. There will be a link directing applicants to TADS, which is a third party application processor. Scholarships are available on a first-come, first-serve basis with priority given to students who received a scholarship for the 2023-2024 school year. *Please make sure that the confirmation page of your submitted application says Son of a Saint Scholars.*

Is there an application fee?

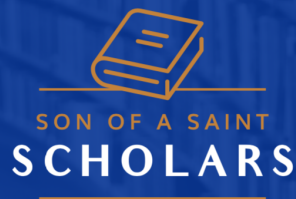
- Yes, there is an application fee for each applicant household due at the time that the application is submitted. For the 2024-2025 school year, the application fee is \$55.

When will I be notified of my application status?

- Applicants will be notified via email, phone, and/or a letter by May 31st, 2024.

If I received an award from Son of a Saint Scholars last academic year, do I need to reapply for the upcoming academic year?

- Yes, all past applicants must reapply each year.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If my child receives tuition assistance through Son of a Saint Scholars, is my child admitted as a mentee into the Son of a Saint program?

- No, Son of a Saint Scholars is a distinct program separate from Son of a Saint. Receipt of Son of a Saint Scholars tuition assistance does not mean that your child has been admitted into the Son of a Saint program as a mentee.

Where can I find more information about the Tuition Donation Credit Program?

- More information can be found on the Louisiana Department of Education's website.

Questions? Please email scholars@sonofasaint.org or call (504) 561-7508

*Tuition amounts are subject to change each academic year.

**If a student receives a TDC award from more than one STO, the amount cannot exceed 80% of MFP (or 90% for high school students).