

March 15, 2021

RE: Updated Application Process for SJEF Scholarship

Dear Prospective Scholarship Recipient:

It is my great pleasure to share with you the continuation of the St. Joseph Education Foundation Scholarship Program.

Due to recent changes to the St. Joseph Educational Foundation, the following steps have been implemented as part of the application process for SJEF scholarships. Please note that scholarships of *up to* 40% will be awarded to registered parishioners of St. Joseph Catholic Church, who's students attend Resurrection Catholic School, Lakeland, St. Anthony Catholic School, Lakeland, and Santa Fe Catholic High School, Lakeland.

Each applicant family must be currently registered (each year, the family needs to contact the pastoral center enter to make sure their information is correct and current) at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Lakeland and is actively involved in the parish. "Active involvement" means that the family is attending Mass weekly, engaged in ongoing ministry at the Parish, and financially contributing on a regular basis (if not able to contribute, it is necessary to meet with the Pastor to share the circumstances that prevent the family from contributing).

## Updated Application Process for a St. Joseph Education Foundation Scholarship

- 1. The applicant family registers or re-registers for the coming school year at one of the following Lakeland Catholic Schools: Resurrection, St. Anthony, or Santa Fe. All registration fees must be paid.
- 2. The applicant family applies for a State-funded Scholarship: Step-up, AAA, Family Empowerment, McKay or Gardiner. If ineligible, or the student does not qualify, the family should provide documentation stating this determination.
- 3. The applicant family opens a FACTS account that is active and functioning. If the student is asking for a Foundation scholarship, the family then needs to apply for FACTS Grant and Aid through their FACTS account.
- 4. The student's family applies for the St. Joseph Foundation Scholarship at one of the recipient schools.



- 5. The school makes sure the application is complete and sends to the Pastor of St. Joseph for Parish verification.
- 6. The Principal of the School notifies the Foundation of the Student's eligibility and amount that would be appropriate given the amounts awarded by State Scholarships and any other form of assistance.
- 7. Once approved by the Foundation board, the application is returned to the School with the amount of scholarship award identified.
- 8. The Foundation scholarship cannot exceed the difference between state scholarship awards or any other forms of assistance and the cost of tuition and fees.
- 9. In any event, the Foundation scholarship cannot exceed 40% of the current tuition rate at the school.
- 10. The St. Joseph Education Foundation Scholarship will be paid directly to the recipient school.

Any applicant family who falsifies any information on the application form or the FACTS Grant and Aid forms shall be disqualified from receiving a Foundation Scholarship.

Once again, on behalf of myself and my fellow board members, thank you for your interest and support of the St. Joseph Education Foundation; it is our pleasure to serve you. Should you happen to have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me directly and I will be happy to assist.

Yours in Christ,

Mr. Andrew N. LoFaro

President and Chairman of the Board of Directors