

## 2025-2026 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 [sonofasaint.org/scholars](https://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
  - Entering kindergarten for the first time in 2025-26
  - Participated in the TDC Program or the Louisiana Scholarship program during 2024-2025 school year or attended public school in Louisiana on October 1st and February 1st of 2024-2025 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 2025-2026 school year, scholarship awards will amount to \$4,412 (or the cost of tuition, whichever is less) for K-8th graders and \$4,963 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?

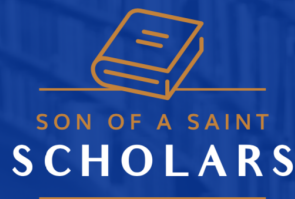
- Yes, families are responsible for covering any tuition/fees in excess of the tuition award amount.

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.

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 Tuesday, January 21, 2025. It will remain open until Wednesday, April 30th, 2025. 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](http://www.sonofasaint.org) under the tab **SCHOLARS**. There will be a link directing applicants to TADS, which is a third party application processor. **Applicants must begin the application only at the [www.sonofasaint.org/scholars](http://www.sonofasaint.org/scholars) web page or we will have no record of the application.** Scholarships are available on a first-come, first-serve basis with priority given to students who received a scholarship for the 2024-2025 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 2025-2026 school year, the application fee is \$60.

When will I be notified of my application status?

- Applicants will be notified via email by May 31st, 2025.

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.

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### 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](mailto:scholars@sonofasaint.org) for a faster response, or call (504) 561-7508 (press 6) and leave a message.

❖ A scholarship is never guaranteed even if qualifications are met.

❖ 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% MFP (or 90% for high school students).