

*Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School provides Christ-centered education that nurtures the development of the whole person and prepares young men and women to meet successfully the challenges of our global society.*



## **Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School**

13651 Hays Road, Spring Hill, FL 34610  
(727) 857-2600

[https://bmchs.com/admissions/financial-aid/  
scholarships@bmchs.com](https://bmchs.com/admissions/financial-aid/scholarships@bmchs.com)



## **Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School**

# **Guide to Financial Aid**

### ***Comprehensive Information Regarding***

- Scholarships Offered by the State of Florida
- Diocese of St. Petersburg Assistance
- Mary C. Forbes Foundation Scholarship
- BMCHS Managed Scholarships
- BMCHS Catholic Credit

### ***To Access Links***

To access the links in a printed booklet, please go to [www.https://bmchs.com/admissions/financial-aid/](http://www.https://bmchs.com/admissions/financial-aid/) and click on the printable link for the Guide to Financial Aid. (see below)

### **Financial Aid Opportunities**

Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School offers a variety of financial aid opportunities to our students. Please refer to the options below for the various offers and requirements.

For a printable guide to Financial Aid, [click here](#). (Print double-sided.)

Hello,

Welcome! We are delighted that you have chosen Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School for your child's education! Whether your student is new to the high school setting or already an expert on the BMCHS campus, navigating the financial maze can feel overwhelming at times. You are not alone in this confusion—many families share your concerns, wondering how they can make this dream of a Catholic education a reality for their children.

Fortunately, there are options available! Scholarships and grants can significantly reduce the burden. BMCHS offers a variety of financial aid opportunities to our students. Please refer to the options on the following pages regarding the various offers and requirements. Each scholarship has its own Eligibility Requirements and Application Requirements. It is essential to do your research and reach out for help if needed.

Did you know that in 2023, House Bill (HB) 1 was signed into law? This eliminated the income restrictions on the FES-EO and FTC Scholarships, thus making **all children of Florida residents who are eligible to attend public school in grades K-12 eligible for a scholarship**. Don't miss the section on *Scholarships Offered by the State of Florida* and **apply for a scholarship worth an average of \$7,400!!!**

Did you know **you can “stack” scholarships** and save even more on your student's tuition? Don't miss the section on *Stacking Scholarships* to find out how!

Affording Catholic school tuition can be challenging, but many families navigate it successfully. Keep exploring your options and remember that you can reach out to me with questions along the way. Have a blessed day!

Jennifer Harris  
Scholarships Coordinator

## LOCATING REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

For the following documents, please visit the BMCHS website

<https://bmchs.com/admissions/financial-aid/>

**BMCHS Scholarship Application and Essay**

**BMCHS Parish Verification Form**

**BMCHS Scholarship Form for Tuition**

“Not only are the attitudes of teachers crucial for the success of Catholic education but also the attitudes of Catholic parents. Parents must set themselves very definite priorities, such as the determination to have schools in which their children's faith will be respected, fostered and enriched; schools in which their children learn the value and beauty of the Church's teaching. They must also see to it that their own homes are places in which these values are first fostered and lived. Parents' own practice of the faith, their own love for Christ, is of course fundamental.”

– Address of the Holy Father Pope John Paul II to the Bishops of the Ecclesiastical Regions of Chicago, Indianapolis, and Milwaukee (USA) on their “Ad Limina” Visit, May 30, 1998.

## LINKS

### AAA Scholarship Foundation

<https://www.aaascholarships.org>

### BMCHS Managed Scholarships

<https://bmchs.com/admissions/financial-aid/>

### Diocesan Assistance (CSTAG)

<https://www.dosp.org/schools-office/financial-assistance/>

### FACTS Grant and Aid Assessment

<https://factsmgt.com/products/financial-management/grant-aid-assessment/>

### Family Empowerment Scholarships

<https://www.fldoe.org/schools/school-choice/k-12-scholarship-programs/fes/>

### FES-UA Specific Diagnoses

<https://www.stepupforstudents.org/scholarships/unique-abilities>

### Florida Tax Credit Scholarships

<https://www.fldoe.org/schools/school-choice/k-12-scholarship-programs/ftc/ftc-parent-info.shtml>

### Mary C. Forbes Foundation

<https://marycforbesfoundation.com>

### Step Up For Students

<https://www.stepupforstudents.org>

## Financial Aid Sources

Scholarships  
Offered by the  
State of Florida

Diocese of  
St. Petersburg  
Assistance

Mary C. Forbes  
Foundation  
Scholarship

BMCHS  
Managed  
Scholarships

BMCHS  
Catholic Credit

## Additional Sources of Financial Aid

We encourage families to seek other sources of financial aid. Potential sources of assistance for our students may be found through the generosity of area parishes, Knights of Columbus councils, and St. Vincent De Paul Societies. Please contact these organizations directly for further information.

Parishes  
Knights of Columbus  
St. Vincent De Paul

## Scholarships Offered by the State of Florida

In 2023, House Bill (HB) 1 was signed into law which eliminated the income restrictions on the FES-EO and FTC Scholarships, thus making all children of Florida residents who are eligible to attend public school in grades K-12 eligible for a scholarship.

Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School accepts the Family Empowerment Scholarship for Educational Options (FES-EO), the Family Empowerment Scholarship for Students with Unique Abilities (FES-UA), and the Florida Tax Scholarship (FTC).

### Family Empowerment Scholarship for Educational Options (FES-EO) and the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship (FTC)

K-12 students regardless of household income, who are residents of Florida and eligible to enroll in a K-12 public school, **can receive a scholarship worth an average of \$7,400** to attend a private school that best meets their academic needs. These scholarships provide financial assistance for private school tuition. The scholarship award is based on where the student lives and their grade level.

### The Family Empowerment Scholarship for Students with Unique Abilities (FES-UA)

Students from age 3 through grade 12 or age 22, whichever comes first, who have a specific diagnosis are eligible to receive this scholarship. The amount of the scholarship varies according to grade, county of residence, and diagnosis. For information on the specific diagnoses [click here](#).

You can find more information on each of these scholarships at the Florida Department of Education website. For the [Family Empowerment Scholarships click here](#). For the [Florida Tax Credit Scholarship click here](#).

## Financial Aid Checklist

- Research, research, research—study the BMCHS Financial Aid Guide and [Financial Aid](#) section of the BMCHS website.
- Apply for an FES-EO, FES-UA, or FTC Scholarship Offered by the State of Florida.
- If you meet the qualifications, apply for the Diocese of St. Petersburg Catholic School Tuition Aid Grant (CSTAG).
- If you meet the qualifications, apply for the Mary C. Forbes Foundation Scholarship.
- If you meet the qualifications, apply for one or more of the Scholarships Managed by BMCHS.  
***All Application Requirements (documents) must be submitted together in one package or email by the required deadline.***

*Some of the requirements for BMCHS Managed Scholarships:*

- BMCHS Scholarship Application
- BMCHS Scholarship Essay
- BMCHS Parish Verification Form
- BMCHS Scholarship Acceptance Form
- Completed FACTS Grant and Aid Assessment
- Required Documents for Each Scholarship
- Additional Essays and Documents

## Stacking Scholarships

After applying for a state offered scholarship, see if your student meets the qualifications to apply for any other scholarships. The state of Florida allows each student to use one state offered scholarship. Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High school allows other scholarships to be used in conjunction with the state offered scholarship!



- State offered scholarships are available to all students, regardless of household income, who are residents of Florida and eligible to enroll in a K-12 public school. Apply for a scholarship through [Step Up For Students](#) or the [AAA Scholarship Foundation](#).
- The Catholic School Tuition Aid Grant (CSTAG) award is the only grant given by the Diocese to aid families with school tuition costs. CSTAG is available to all Catholic students K-12 who are registered at or have submitted an enrollment application to an (inter)parish or diocesan Catholic school in the Diocese of St. Petersburg. Families must have FACTS Calculated Need to be eligible for tuition assistance. For information on CSTAG, [click here](#).
- The Mary C. Forbes Foundation is an independent, private organization established to provide financial assistance, based on need or hardship, to Catholic students currently enrolled in Catholic schools within the Diocese of St. Petersburg. Information regarding this scholarship can be found [here](#).
- Please [click here](#) to learn about the internal and privately funded scholarships managed by Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School.

## Scholarships Offered by the State of Florida (Cont.)

If you are interested in applying for any of the scholarships listed on the left-hand page, you will need to contact one of the two Scholarship Funding Organizations (SFO) that administer these programs:

### Step Up For Students

P.O. Box 54367, Jacksonville, FL 32245-4367

877-735-7837

[info@stepupforstudents.org](mailto:info@stepupforstudents.org)

<https://www.stepupforstudents.org>



### AAA Scholarship Foundation

P.O. Box 15719, Tampa, FL 33684

Phone/Fax: 888-707-2465

[info@aaascholarships.org](mailto:info@aaascholarships.org)

<https://www.aaascholarships.org>



## Diocese of St. Petersburg Assistance

The **Catholic School Tuition Aid Grant (CSTAG)** award is the **only** grant given by the Diocese to aid families with school tuition costs. CSTAG is available to **all Catholic students K-12** who are registered at or have submitted an enrollment application to an (inter)parish or diocesan Catholic elementary or high school in the Diocese of St. Petersburg. Families must have FACTS Calculated Need to be eligible for tuition assistance. There is a small application fee for the Assessment.

Parents are required to fill out a [FACTS Grant and Aid Assessment](#) for each new school year. **The FACTS Grant and Aid Assessment opens in November, for the following school year. ALL documents must be uploaded to FACTS no later than April 15, to be included in the initial consideration.** An application is considered complete when FACTS Grant and Aid has received the application, and all supporting documentation required for evaluation. Applicants who do not meet the deadline of **April 15**, will be put on a waitlist. Should any funds remain or become available after the first round of decisions are made, those applicants will be notified.

The final date to submit a FACTS Grant and Aid application and documentation for the 2025-2026 school year is April 30, 2025.



## BMCHS Catholic Credit

The **BMCHS Catholic Credit** is available to each BMCHS student whose family is a registered, active, and practicing parish member at a Catholic church within the Diocese of St. Petersburg. The BMCHS Catholic Credit is \$650 per student. The document listed in the Application Requirements must be received no later than the first day of school, which for the 2025-2026 school year is August 11, 2025.

### Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must meet the following criteria to receive the BMCHS Catholic Credit.

1. Applicant must be enrolled at Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School for the upcoming school year.
2. Applicant and family must be a registered, active, and practicing parish member at a Catholic church within the Diocese of St. Petersburg.

### Application Requirements

Applicants must complete the following document and submit it to the [Scholarships Department](#).

1. Complete the *Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School Parish Verification Form*.



3. Applicant must be a resident of Hernando County or reside within one of the six parish boundaries that are part of the Hernando/Citrus District. These include St. Anne, St. Joan of Arc, St. Frances Cabrini, St. Mary, St. Theresa, and St. Thomas.
4. Applicant must demonstrate financial need as determined by a completed FACTS Grant and Aid Assessment.
5. Applicant must have a 3.2 GPA.
6. Applicant must be a registered, active, and practicing member of one of the Catholic parishes listed above.

#### Application Requirements

Applicants must complete the following criteria and submit all together to the [Scholarships Department](#).

1. Complete the *Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School Scholarship Application* and essay.
2. Complete the *FACTS Grant and Aid Assessment*.
3. Complete the *Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School Parish Verification Form*.
4. Complete the *Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School Scholarship Acceptance Form for Tuition*.
5. Provide a listing of community service performed.

## Mary C. Forbes Foundation Scholarship

In 1998, the Mary C. Forbes Foundation was established. Thousands of children have been assisted in attending our Catholic Schools in the Diocese of St. Petersburg through this foundation. The Mary C. Forbes Foundation is an independent, private organization established to provide financial assistance, based on need or hardship, to **Catholic** students currently enrolled in Catholic schools within the Diocese of St. Petersburg. The application for the Mary C. Forbes Foundation Scholarship can be found online at Mary C. Forbes Foundation. Parents may fill out and submit the application online. The deadline to apply for the following school year is April 30. Additional information and the application can be found at the [Mary C. Forbes Foundation](#) website.



## Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School Managed Scholarships

Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School manages the following internal and privately funded scholarships.

To apply for a BMCHS managed scholarship, complete the BMCHS Scholarship Application and include the name of the scholarship(s) for which you would like to be considered. Before choosing the scholarships for which you would like to be considered, please read about each scholarship on the following pages to make sure you meet the Eligibility Requirements listed. BMCHS Scholarship Applications are accepted December 15 through April 15 for the following school year.

**Once completed, submit the BMCHS Scholarship Application and Student Essay to the [Scholarships Department](#). DO NOT send incomplete packets. In addition to the BMCHS Scholarship Application and Student Essay, parents are required to fill out a [FACTS Grant and Aid Assessment](#) for each new school year. **The FACTS Grant and Aid Assessment opens in November, for the following school year. The application and ALL supporting documents must be uploaded to FACTS no later than April 15, to be included in the initial consideration.** (An Assessment is considered complete when FACTS Grant and Aid has received the application and all supporting documentation required for evaluation.)**

Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School will only consider applications for the following scholarships if the [BMCHS Scholarship Application](#), the [FACTS Grant and Aid Assessment](#), and all required documents have been fully completed and submitted by April 15. Late submissions cannot be accepted.

If you have questions or require additional information, please contact the [Scholarships Department](#).

### Application Requirements

Applicants must complete the following criteria and submit all together to the [Scholarships Department](#).

1. Complete the *Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School Scholarship Application* and essay.
2. Complete the *Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School Parish Verification Form*.
3. Complete the *Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School Scholarship Acceptance Form for Tuition*.

### St. Vincent De Paul Memorial Scholarship



The Hernando/Citrus Society of St. Vincent de Paul is pleased to offer a \$1,000 scholarship to be applied toward tuition to a Catholic Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School student. Scholarships are awarded to promote Catholic social teaching and awareness of the Society of St. Vincent De Paul's mission to the poor.

### Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must meet the following criteria to apply for the St. Vincent De Paul Memorial Scholarship.

1. Applicant must be enrolled at Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School for the upcoming school year.
2. Applicant must be a rising 9<sup>th</sup> grade student from Notre Dame Catholic School, or a rising 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, or 12<sup>th</sup> grade BMCHS student.



## John M. Parcelewicz Memorial Scholarship



The Knights of Columbus, Council 13525, believes deeply in the value of a Catholic education and strives to support parents who are investing in their children's future by sending them to Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School. They are pleased to announce the establishment of the John M. Parcelewicz Memorial Scholarship to assist families with some of the expenses associated with attending Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School. John M. Parcelewicz was a valued member of Council 13525, a 4th Degree Knight, a retired Air Force Colonel, and an active volunteer at the James A. Haley VA Hospital and at St. Timothy's Catholic Church. His brother Knights would like to honor him by offering TWO \$1,000 scholarships for a Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School student in his name.

### Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must meet the following criteria to apply for the John M. Parcelewicz Memorial Scholarship.

1. Applicant must be enrolled at Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School for the upcoming school year.
2. Applicant must be a rising 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, or 12<sup>th</sup> grade student.
3. Applicant must be a registered, active, and practicing member of a Catholic parish within the Diocese of St. Petersburg.

## Test Topper Scholarship

One incoming Freshman student with the highest overall test score on the High School Placement Test is awarded this scholarship opportunity for \$2,000 toward each year's tuition at Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School. Student must maintain a 3.5 GPA, and remain in good disciplinary standing throughout all four years at Bishop. To be eligible, applicants for the Test Topper Scholarship MUST take the High School Placement Test (HSPT) at Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School, on the FIRST DATE the TEST is OFFERED in November of each year. In the event of a tie, Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School will use the applicants' final Middle School GPA to determine that year's recipient.

### Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must meet the following criteria to apply for the Test Topper Scholarship.

1. Applicant must have submitted a Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School Admissions Application.
2. Applicant must take the High School Placement Test at Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School on the first date it is offered in November of each year.

### Application Requirements

Note: The BMCHS Scholarship Application does not need to be submitted to be considered for the Test Topper Scholarship. All applicants meeting the above Eligibility Requirements will automatically be considered.

## The Hurricane Scholarship

Up to two incoming Freshmen students are awarded this scholarship opportunity for \$2,000 toward each year's tuition at Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School. The student must demonstrate financial need, maintain a 3.0 GPA, and remain in good disciplinary standing throughout all four years at Bishop.

### Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must meet the following criteria to apply for the Hurricane Scholarship.

1. Applicant must be enrolled at Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School for the upcoming school year.
2. Applicant must be a rising 9<sup>th</sup> grade student.

### Application Requirements

Applicants must complete the following criteria and submit all together to the [Scholarships Department](#).

1. Complete the *Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School Scholarship Application* and essay.
2. Complete the *FACTS Grant and Aid Assessment*.
3. Complete the *Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School Scholarship Acceptance Form for Tuition*.
4. Provide a three-page typed essay on the most influential person in your life who has strengthened your faith.
5. Submit two teacher or personal recommendation letters based on academics, work ethic, and character.
6. Provide a listing of extracurricular activities and awards. (Community service, teams, hobbies, music, parish involvement, etc.)

## The Alessandra Augello Memorial Endowed Scholarship

This scholarship was established to create a lasting legacy in loving memory of BMCHS student Alessandra Augello. Preference is given to students involved in the performing or visual arts, or journalism programs at Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School. Awardees must maintain at least a 3.0 GPA.

### Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must meet the following criteria to apply for the Alessandra Augello Memorial Endowed Scholarship.

1. Applicant must be enrolled at Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School for the upcoming school year.
2. Applicant must be a rising 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, or 12<sup>th</sup> grade student.
3. Applicant must demonstrate financial need as determined by a completed FACTS Grant and Aid Assessment.

### Application Requirements

Applicants must complete the following criteria and submit all together to the [Scholarships Department](#).

1. Complete the *Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School Scholarship Application* and essay.
2. Complete the *FACTS Grant and Aid Assessment*.
3. Complete the *Bishop McLaughlin Catholic High School Scholarship Acceptance Form for Tuition*.