

**PARENTS/GUARDIANS: PLEASE KEEP THIS PAGE FOR YOUR RECORDS.**



**GRACE Scholarship Process  
School Year 2019-2020**

**Welcome to GRACE Scholars.** GRACE Scholars is a Georgia student scholarship organization (SSO) serving Catholic school students in the Archdiocese of Atlanta and the Diocese of Savannah through 34 participating Catholic schools. **All GRACE awards are made on the basis of financial need.**

- 1. How do I apply?** Parents and guardians apply on behalf of their children by submitting the accompanying application form to the school of their choice. Please see the "Certification" section of the application about other required information.
- 2. Is there a deadline?** March 1 is the due date for awards announced during the spring enrollment period. Applications may be submitted after March 1 but less funding is usually available.
- 3. Are there other documents and information required in addition to the application?** Yes. Prior to applying for GRACE, families must submit an application to an outside financial aid company and provide tax documents. The financial aid company uses the information to calculate the student's/family's financial need. Additional documentation is also required and must be submitted with the application. **Parents/guardians should contact school personnel regarding documentation needed.**
- 4. How is financial need calculated?** Calculated financial need is determined by an outside company using tax documents and other information provided on the application. The financial aid company reports the calculated financial need to the school.
- 5. How are decisions made?** Each school reviews applications and makes recommendations to GRACE. The GRACE staff reviews applications for compliance and availability of funds. The GRACE executive committee makes the final decision on awards.
- 6. To whom do I direct questions about the award process?** **The school is your primary contact.** You should direct questions to the school's principal or president or to a staff person designated by the principal/president. For your convenience, you can jot down below the school's designated person and contact information.

**Blessed Sacrament School**

*Name of school*

**(912) 356-6980**

**Contact person telephone number**

**Kathy Fialkowski**

*Name of contact person*

**kfialkowski@bss-savannah.org**

**Contact person e-mail address**

- 7. How will I be notified if my child is selected for a GRACE award?** GRACE Scholars generates an award letter addressed to the parent/guardian and sends it to the principal/president. Included with the letter is an acceptance letter. The schools provide award letters to parents/guardians and collect signed acceptance letters and return them to GRACE.
- 8. Will I be notified if my child is not selected?** The school is responsible for non-award notifications.
- 9. How much is the award?** The size of the annual award depends on the availability of funds. The annual award will not exceed the lesser of calculated financial need, 80% of tuition, or a state index calculated by the Georgia Department of Education. Awards cover the student's career at the school as long as eligibility is maintained.
- 10. Is there a maximum family income?** No. Calculated financial need is determined by an outside company based on several variables including family income, number of children, and the tuition rate.
- 11. How and when are funds disbursed?** Checks are issued to the school in names of the parents/guardians in August. Schools notify the parents/guardians who are required to go the school to endorse the checks.