



# BOTH PRICELESS AND AFFORDABLE

## Tuition Assistance at SMCC

Tuition assistance provides grants that make an SMCC education affordable for any family who seeks a Catholic secondary education, regardless of their financial resources or situation. SMCC's financial model pairs a cost-to-educate tuition rate with an aggressive tuition assistance discounting program that makes a family's final net tuition bill affordable relative to their adjusted gross income (AGI) and any special circumstances.

The tuition rate is set each year by the SMCC School Board based on the annual cost to educate (total operating budget/enrollment) with increases indexed to the rate of inflation. Tuition rates include ALL costs associated with a student's education, excluding the annual \$300 family fundraising. SMCC does not charge separate annual fees for things like technology, curriculum, textbooks, activities or Pay-To-Play!

## Who Should Apply?

SMCC encourages families with a need to apply. We partner with FACTS Management, a third party national review system, to assist us in determine if and how much financial assistance

Each year, SMCC families share in over **\$1.1 million** in tuition assistance and discounts. SMCC is blessed to benefit from over 70 named and endowed need-based and merit scholarships ensuring that ANY family seeking a Catholic education for their student will be able to afford it.

We use a **10% rule** as a guide to a family's financial aid package. SMCC expects a family to contribute a MAXIMUM of 10% of their adjusted gross income to private school tuition each year, inclusive of any tuition paid to SMCC or any other Catholic, Lutheran, or other private schools. For example, a family of five with one student at SMCC and two at an area private elementary school might have a total tuition bill of over \$18,000. If the family's AGI was \$100,000, they could receive a MINIMUM of \$8,000 in financial aid.

**Sixty-five percent** of SMCC students receive some form of financial aid or discount each year. Tuition assistance and discount packages range from **\$500 up to 80%** of tuition costs or over just over \$8,300. The average annual discount package covers 38% of tuition or \$4,100. ***This means that the average annual tuition paid by an SMCC family for their student is \$6,600.***

## How Do I Apply?

The process begins by creating a FACTS account and filling out the online application at [www.factsmgt.com](http://www.factsmgt.com) or on the FACTS Financial Aid Application page at [www.smccmonroe.com](http://www.smccmonroe.com). Please note that there is a \$35 processing fee. All applications are held in the strictest confidence by the SMCC Financial Aid Committee.

Returning families are required to re-apply each year by the initial application deadline in December or risk having their aid amount from prior years reduced based on the pool of available funds.

Inquiring families are highly encouraged to apply by this same deadline to maximize their chances for the largest amount of available aid, but applications from rising freshman or transferring students are accepted and considered on a rolling basis.

## When Will I Know If I Qualify?

Rising freshman who apply by the December deadline will receive confirmation of their financial aid package BEFORE Freshman Registration in March. Returning families will receive tuition and financial aid statements by April 1 each year. FACTS applications completed after Freshman Registration for new families, or after the December re-application deadline for returning families, will be sent out individually.

## **What Are Payment Options For The Remaining Balance of Tuition?**

SMCC offers a variety of payment options for tuition account balances designed to assist families in making an SMCC education more affordable.

A deposit equal to 10% of a families remaining balance after financial aid and discounts are applied is due by May 1st each year or upon registration if a new student is enrolling after May 1st. The 10% deposit is deducted from the balance owed for the following school year and is non-refundable.

Rather than charging a fee for enrolling in a payment plan, SMCC offers families paying their Tuition Account balance in full by July 1st a \$400 incentive credit.

All families must have tuition paid in full or have a completed and signed Tuition Covenant Agreement on file with the SMCC Business Office no later than July 1st. Standard payment plans include either a monthly or quarterly payment via automatic withdrawal. SMCC does create "special circumstance" payment plans that allow for adjusted payment schedules that can include one or more balloon payments over the course of the year in order to help meet families with unique financial circumstances.

## **Merit Scholarships and Non-Need Based Awards**

SMCC offers the following four year renewable academic scholarships based on a rising freshman's composite score on the High School Placement Test (HSPT):

- 98th - 99th Percentile      \$5,000 per year
- 95th - 97th Percentile      \$2,500 per year
- 90th - 94th Percentile      \$1,000 per year
- 80th - 89th Percentile      \$500 per year

SMCC offers a \$150 discount for each sibling currently enrolled at SMCC or an alum of SMA, MCC, or SMCC (a maximum \$900 discount per student)

SMCC awards a \$100 discount for each parent in household who is an alum of SMA, MCC, or SMCC.

## **Outside Scholarship and Grant Opportunities**

- Archdiocese of Detroit - Archdiocesan Tuition Assistance grant  
<https://www.aod.org/schools/tuition-assistance-and-scholarships/>
- Local parish or church scholarships