



# 2019-2020 Financial Aid Program

## Overview

St. Thomas High School has a long tradition of providing a Basilian Catholic education to students from all socioeconomic backgrounds. The Basilian Fathers remain committed to assisting those families that may not be in a position to pay full tuition to attend St. Thomas. Each year nearly one-third of our students receive academic scholarships or financial aid. In an effort to provide assistance to those that need it most, this flyer was created to help you understand what is available and the steps you need to take for consideration.

## Timeline

<u>Date</u>	<u>Action</u>
December 1, 2018	SmartAid Financial Aid Application is available online at <a href="http://www.sths.org">www.sths.org</a> under the Admissions tab
February 1, 2019	Online application must be complete and received by SmartAid. It is very important to meet this deadline. Late applications will be considered after all applications received by the deadline are considered.
February 20, 2019	2018 tax return must be received by SmartAid (do not send any information directly to the school).
Week of March 11, 2019	Award notifications will be sent out from SmartAid
Wednesday, April 3, 2019	New student registration is due. Students not enrolled by this date may forfeit financial aid.

## Keys to Success

- Complete the online Financial Aid application fully and completely. Incomplete applications cannot be considered.
- Complete the Financial Aid application on time. Chances of receiving an award are greatly reduced after the application deadline.
- Provide your **2018** tax return to SmartAid by the due date. We cannot award aid without a complete 2018 tax return.
- Utilize the online application process. Do not email or mail any data or tax returns to the school. Information sent to the school will be shredded upon receipt to protect your personal information.
- Direct all application questions to SmartAid: (800) 360-8027, [support@smartaidforparents.com](mailto:support@smartaidforparents.com)
- Complete the financial aid application with integrity and honesty. We reserve the right to rescind awards if we find that information was omitted or completed inaccurately.
- All awards are communicated the week of Spring Break to the email address you use during the application process. Please do not call the school for award information.

## Other Things You Should Know...

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- St. Thomas does not accept the Archdiocese application for financial aid used by elementary and middle schools.
- St. Thomas is not able to make “full ride” awards. Typical awards for those that qualify range between \$500 and \$7,000. Tuition is estimated to be \$19,100 for 2019/20 year and the student’s family is expected to contribute the difference between aid and full tuition.
- Tuition assistance does not cover the cost of registration, fees, books or cafeteria costs.
- Tuition assistance is awarded one year at a time. Families must reapply each year. Freshman awards are typically larger than awards for the following years.
- St. Thomas participates in a tuition payment program. After aid decisions have been made, families may select from three payment plans, including a 10-month payment plan. Each plan is the same tuition rate with no additional finance fees.
- St. Thomas may offer one Basilian Scholarships to a qualifying student from each of the Archdiocesan inner-city Catholic schools. The student is selected by St. Thomas High School. The award is based on academic performance, demonstrated leadership, activities, test scores and discipline record.
- Academic scholarships for freshmen are solely based on HSPT or ISEE scores. You will be advised by the Business Office upon acceptance if you qualify for an Academic Scholarship.
- Students on Academic or Basilian Scholarship do not qualify for financial aid.

## Requirements for a Financial Aid Awards

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1. We expect a commitment to St. Thomas High School including active parental involvement, volunteerism, attendance at events and support of school fundraisers and activities.
2. Your son is required to attend the annual Scholarship Breakfast one weekday morning, typically in the spring.
3. Your son is required to actively sell raffle tickets at our spring Round Up fundraiser. Financial aid will be rescinded from any student not selling at least one quota of tickets.
4. Payment of the balance of tuition and all fees must be made promptly. Financial Aid is not available to those families that are in arrears on tuition or fee payments.
5. This is an annual award and re-application must be made each year for consideration.
6. Your son must maintain a good attendance and conduct record.

**Contact SmartAid first:**

**800-360-8027**

**St. Thomas High School Business Office:**

**713-864-6348 x 113**