



Aspiring Scholars
State of Louisiana Tuition Donation Credit Program
Program Summary

- The program was established by the Louisiana State Legislature in 2012 to provide scholarships for qualified low to moderate income families to attend private schools (K-12). Act 377 of the Louisiana Legislature changed the program to a nonrefundable income tax credit effective January 1, 2018.
- The Tuition Donation Credit Program empowers Louisiana families to select the school of their choice that will best prepare their children for college, careers and life.
- Students who are awarded must meet the following criteria:
 - Household income that does not exceed 250% of the federal poverty guidelines. (See attached chart)
 - Must be a resident of Louisiana
 - Have attended a public school in Louisiana from October 1st - February 1st of the most recent school year; or
 - Entering kindergarten for the first time; or
 - Have participated in the Louisiana Scholarship Program (voucher) or Tuition Donation Credit Program for the previous school year. Priority is given to these students.
- Donations are made to Aspiring Scholars- a 501(c)3 organization of the Archdiocese of New Orleans approved by the state as a school tuition organization (STO) to administer the program. The donor will receive a 95% tax credit, which is earned when the donation is made. If the credit exceeds the tax liability for the first year, it can carry over the unused portion for no more than the three following years. The Louisiana Department of Education will issue a receipt for claiming the credit. The remaining 5% of the donation qualifies for a federal charitable contribution deduction.
- Aspiring Scholars receives and approves applications, recruits participating schools, raise funds, and pay tuitions. Students in grades 9-12 receive \$4,700. Elementary school students receive \$4,200.