Diocesan Tuition Assistance
Frequently Asked Questions

1. ***How does my school opt in to Diocesan Tuition Assistance (DTA)?***

   In a departure from the process of prior years, the School Tuition Assistance Request (STAR) form will **no longer be used** to indicate a school's decision to request or decline diocesan tuition assistance (DTA). Instead, this question was addressed on the **Standard School Survey** this past fall 2019. Going forward, this will be the process for opting in or out of DTA for the upcoming year.

   Please note that if a school opts out of DTA consideration, they will be removing families from the option of receiving diocesan funds, and will rely completely on their own school and/or parish funds to provide financial support to their students.

2. ***Who will be the grant and financial aid assessment provider for the 2019-20 academic year?***

   The Office of Catholic Education will once again use **FACTS Grant and Aid** to assess need and determine DTA awards.

   Schools have the option to either participate with limited functionality/access to their families' data, or to contract with FACTS for full access to reporting and data. Please keep in mind that contracting is a no-cost option that will provide each school with the full spectrum of FACTS Grant & Aid capabilities. If your school or parish requires financial assessment to distribute financial aid, we recommend contracting with FACTS Grant & Aid.

3. ***Where do our families access the FACTS application?***

   The application may be accessed online at: online.factsmgt.com/aid. While applications for DTA officially open in January of 2020, families with incoming freshman may have started the application earlier due to the acceptance decision timeline of the high schools. To be considered for diocesan tuition assistance, these families must update their application with 2019 tax documentation when available.

   As of 2019, paper applications are no longer available, and applications must be completed online.

4. ***Why should a family fill out a FACTS application?***

   We believe that the *FACTS* application is an objective and credible tool for identifying financial need, the qualifying factor among those who apply for tuition assistance. Completion of the *FACTS* application is required in order to be considered for Diocesan Tuition Assistance.

5. ***What are the deadlines for families to apply for Diocesan Tuition Assistance?***

   As in past years, the OCE will offer two sessions to apply for DTA, with reconsideration opportunities after each.

   > ### *Deadline for Round 1: March 15, 2020*
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   > ### *Deadline for Round 2: June 1, 2020*

6. **Is there any reason a parent should <u>not</u> fill out a FACTS application?**

- If the school or parish has decided **not** to participate in the DTA process and are not using FACTS Grant & Aid to award local funds.
- If the June 1, 2020 deadline has passed. Please **do not** invite parents to apply after the deadline, as application verification and consideration cannot be guaranteed after this date.
- If a family's income level indicates that they are not in need of tuition assistance.
- If the student has other **private scholarship funding** which significantly contributes to or substantially covers the cost of tuition, e.g., scholarships from a religious community; special academic scholarships; memorial scholarships.

7. **My school utilizes another FACTS service such as Tuition Management or Renweb. Will families at my school be able to use a singular login between the Grant and Financial Aid Assessment and other products?**

Please contact the FACTS Account Management team at (866) 412-4637 for assistance.

8. **Whom can we contact with questions?**

For questions about DTA, please contact:
Melanie Galizio, Tuition Assistance Coordinator
By email: mgalizio@dioceseofcleveland.org
By phone: (216) 696-6525 ext. 1032

For questions about FACTS, please contact:
Mike Rivard, FACTS Regional Vice President
By email: mrivard@factsmgt.com
By phone: (586) 495-2662