

November 27, 2017

Dear Donor,

Thank you for your dedication to Schlarman Academy. Today, we write to share with you an unprecedented opportunity for Catholic education that requires your swift attention. In August, with bipartisan support, the House and Senate passed a comprehensive education funding bill which was signed into law by the governor. The bill includes a new five-year program for tax credit scholarships (TCS) for students in private schools that will create more equity in school funding throughout Illinois.

We have included a brief overview of the tax credit scholarship program and the opportunity it provides for students, their families, and potential donors.

Under the TCS program, individuals and corporations will make donations to Scholarship Granting Organizations (SGO) that will distribute scholarships to qualified students (described below).

Individual and corporate donors, such as yourself, will receive a 75 percent state tax credit, up to \$1 million, for donations made to an SGO. Individuals, but not corporations, can designate their donation to an individual school or subset of schools.

Students in grades K-12 may receive tax credit scholarships beginning with the 2018/2019 school year. To qualify for tax credit scholarships, families must earn less than 300 percent of the federal poverty level. Please see the chart below.

2017 Federal Poverty Line	Family Size	185% Federal Poverty Line	250% Federal Poverty Line	300% Federal Poverty Line
\$16,240	2	\$30,044	\$40,600	\$48,720
\$20,420	3	\$37,777	\$51,050	\$61,260
\$24,600	4	\$45,510	\$61,500	\$73,800
\$28,780	5	\$53,243	\$71,950	\$86,340
\$32,960	6	\$60,976	\$82,400	\$98,880
<b>Scholarship Amount:</b>		100% Scholarship	75% Scholarship	50% Scholarship

Tax credits will be available on a first-come, first-served basis beginning on January 2, 2018. As there is a limit to the amount of scholarships available, it is critical that we move quickly to ensure we do not lose the opportunity to have the funds designated to Schlarman Academy. Strong interest may cause this cap to be reached within minutes of opening.

We would enjoy talking with you about this opportunity and may be reached at 217.442.3880 and ask for Gail Lewis ([glewis@schlarman.com](mailto:glewis@schlarman.com)) or Christina Dietzen ([cdietzen@schlarman.com](mailto:cdietzen@schlarman.com)). We invite you to visit <http://www.schlarman.com/support-sa/> or simply visit the Schlarman website at [www.schlarman.com](http://www.schlarman.com) and select **Support SA** to learn more. Please consider this opportunity with an open heart and I thank you for your dedication to Schlarman Academy.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Gail Lewis, Principal