



## The Catholic Education Endowment Trust

*Providing opportunities for scholarship assistance in the various ministries of Catholic Education within the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland.*

# The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Bishops' Scholarship for Excellence

Ten (10) \$3,500 High School Scholarships Grades 9–12

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Twenty (20) \$1,200 Elementary School Scholarships Grades 6–8

Application for the  
2025-2026 School Year

The Catholic Education Endowment Trust (CEET) was established in 1976 by the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland to promote Catholic education, provide support for religious programs, and to offer tuition aid and scholarships to families with financial need who desired a Catholic education for their children. As part of this initiative, CEET started the *Bishops' Scholarship* to encourage *Excellence* in Catholic education.

## Guidelines and Requirements of the Scholarship

- The completed *Bishops' Scholarship for Excellence* application must include:
  1. An essay written by the student, typed and double-spaced using traditional font, such as Times New Roman, Ariel, Cambria, or Calibri in 12pt, with 1-inch margins and a minimum of two pages/maximum of three pages, on the following topic:

*In his recent encyclical Dilexit Nos ("He Loves Us"), Pope Francis explores how modern technology shapes human relationships and challenges us to rediscover the central role of compassion in our lives. He warns of the dehumanizing effects of excessive reliance on digital tools, which can isolate individuals, weaken genuine communication, and erode empathy. At the same time, he urges us to use technology responsibly as a means to promote solidarity and care for one another.*

*Reflecting on these ideas in your own words, write an essay examining how Pope Francis's themes of compassion and technology relate to your personal experiences and observations. Address the following questions:*

1. ***Impact of Technology on Relationships:*** *How has technology affected your ability to connect with others on a deeper level? Consider both the positive and negative effects of tools like smartphones, social media, or online communication.*
2. ***Cultivating Compassion:*** *What practical steps can individuals, schools, or communities take to foster compassion and meaningful connection in a technology-driven world?*

2. A completed **FACTS Grant and Aid** application for 2025-2026 to determine need; <https://online.factsmgt.com/aid>.
  3. The student's academic transcript or current report card.
  4. A brief recommendation e.g., from a teacher, guidance counselor, or a parish staff member (not a family member) on page 4.
  5. Principal recommendation and signature on page 5.
- A separate application for each student is required if a family has more than one child applying for the Scholarship
  - Applications are only open to students attending a Diocesan Tuition Assistance (DTA) participating school in the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland for the 2025-2026 academic year. Check with the school to verify.
  - Students must return completed applications to their school office.
  - School must submit all applications to the Office of Catholic Education by **March 15<sup>th</sup>**
  - Scholarship Recipients will be notified by mail in early May/2025.
  - Completed applications can be sent via:
    - email to: [cwilliams@dioceseofcleveland.org](mailto:cwilliams@dioceseofcleveland.org)  
(be sure to scan the pages as double-sided, to prevent missing pages)
    - or mail to: The Office of Catholic Education  
Attn: Cindy Williams  
1404 East 9th Street  
Cleveland, OH 44114

Application for the Bishops' Scholarship for Excellence

Student-Applicant:

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Last Name

First Name

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Grade in 2025-2026 \_\_\_\_\_ FACTS Grant & Aid application ID#: \_\_\_\_\_  
(required)

School Student Currently Attends: \_\_\_\_\_

If you are a current 8<sup>th</sup> grade student, enter the high school you are planning to attend, and the school's address:

High School: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

List any extracurricular activities you are involved in at school, at your parish, or in your community. You may also list additional personal factors including leadership or notable achievements:

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\*Feel free to use another sheet if you need more space to write.



