



MCS

Music in Catholic Schools
Catholic Schools Office, Mercy Hall
3300 N 60 ST
Omaha, NE 68104-3402
Phone: 402-557-5600; Fax: 402-557-5600; E-mail: djlund@archomaha.org

Dear Parent:

Attached is an application form for tuition assistance for students in Music in Catholic Schools. The primary funding for Music in Catholic Schools is parent-paid tuition. The bulk of the budget for Music in Catholic Schools is staff salaries. There is a very limited amount of funds available for tuition assistance grants, so filling out the application form as completely and accurately as possible will assist our Tuition Assistance Committee in awarding grants.

Because of limited funding, parents of students qualifying for grants have been in extreme financial need. Parents of students qualifying for federal guidelines for free or reduced lunch are automatically eligible for lower band tuition, which is indicated on the regular MCS "Tuition Agreement/Registration" form. Other circumstances may be in place that makes a family eligible for assistance, so that's where the attached form comes in. Students need an instrument, and MCS may be able to loan an instrument to your child for a nominal fee. Students using MCS instruments should obtain their own instrument by a student's 3rd year of band so that others may borrow an instrument from MCS. Sometime assistance with an instrument is all that is needed for parents, so please indicate that on the form.

A portion of the budgeted income for Music in Catholic Schools comes from fund-raising projects. Students sell items from a gift catalog in the fall. Although we do not require anyone to participate in these fund-raisers, we do encourage all students, especially those on tuition assistance, to take part in these activities. Parents are always needed to help carry out projects such as these, so please consider volunteering some time.

We expect that students who receive assistance to be fully committed to the band program. Students need to practice regularly and attend band classes faithfully and bring their instruments and materials to class. Tuition assistance awards may be rescinded from those students who do not demonstrate adequate effort or responsibility.

Most tuition awards are granted soon after the September 15th application deadline. We prefer to get students started prior to the deadline date, knowing that there's a chance that some students will not receive financial help. Our limited amount of funding for tuition assistance is spent every year. The number of requests for help and financial situations of those requesting assistance determine what amounts are awarded.

Please call me at the MCS office, 402-557-5600 on Mondays-Thursdays, or send an e-mail if you have a question or concern. And, emailing the tuition application is definitely acceptable—or even preferred!

We sincerely hope that regardless of your receiving tuition assistance, your child can participate in our instrumental music program. This is an investment in your child in which the benefits last a lifetime.

Sincerely,

Debra Lund, MCS Administrator