

## Financial Aid at Lakewood Catholic Academy: Frequently Asked Questions

### Does Lakewood Catholic Academy offer financial aid?

Yes. Parents with children attending grades Kindergarten through Eight at Lakewood Catholic Academy are able to apply for need-based financial assistance. However, no tuition assistance is available for students enrolling in the Early Childhood (Preschool) Program. There are two sources of aid:

- The Diocese of Cleveland offers financial aid through its Diocesan Tuition Assistance (DTA) Grants Fund, and this aid is available to all applicants. These funds come from generous donors from across the Diocese.
- Lakewood Catholic Academy also offers support to families through its own tuition assistance fund.

### How do I apply for aid?

Any family seeking need-based tuition assistance **must complete and submit the PSAS (Private School Aid Service) form.** No aid, whether from the DTA Grants Fund or from LCA's own tuition assistance fund, can be awarded without filing the PSAS form. PSAS is an independent third party that processes the financial aid applications and generates reports used to determine a family's financial need. These reports are used by the Diocese and by LCA to determine tuition assistance awards.

### Does the school receive access to my personal financial information?

PSAS applications are not reviewed by Lakewood Catholic Academy. They are reviewed by independent analysts at PSAS, who then submit a report to LCA outlining need. The applicant's detailed financial data is not shared with the school, and Lakewood Catholic Academy is committed to protecting your privacy.

### How do I obtain a PSAS Form to apply for aid?

There are two ways. You may stop by or call the Main Office to obtain a paper copy of the form, or you can use an electronic form downloaded from the LCA website. This form is in a "writeable" PDF format and is very simple to use. You will find a link to the form on the LCA website at [www.lakewoodcatholicacademy.com/financialaid.htm](http://www.lakewoodcatholicacademy.com/financialaid.htm). On that same page, you'll find instructions on how to save, complete, and return the form. **LCA's PSAS School Code Number is 4338.**

### When is the deadline for applying for financial aid using the PSAS form?

**The deadline for applications is March 1, 2012.** While applications may be filed until June 1, it is possible that the applications filed before March 1 and approved for aid will exhaust the pool of available funds. ***Families are strongly urged to submit by this early deadline.*** Families may still apply until June 1, but the chances of receiving aid are greatly reduced by the later submission.

### What will I need to complete the form?

You will need your most recent tax returns – ideally, your 2011 tax returns – although if you are unable to complete your tax returns prior to the March 1 deadline, you may use copies of your 2011 W2 or 1099 income forms.

### When will I be notified of my award?

If you submitted your PSAS by March 1, 2012 you will receive notification from the Diocese in May about any funding you may receive from the Diocesan fund. If you submitted your PSAS by June 1, 2012, you will receive notification from the Diocese in July. LCA will notify families of any LCA tuition assistance by the end of June.

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Any questions about financial aid can be directed to LCA Director of Marketing and Admissions Paul Nickels at [pnickels@lakewoodcatholicacademy.com](mailto:pnickels@lakewoodcatholicacademy.com) or by phone at 216.521.0559, extension 3028.