



The Catholic Education Endowment Trust

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

The 28th Annual Bishops' Scholarship for Excellence

Up to \$3,500 for High School Scholarships Grades 9–12 and
Up to \$1,200 for Elementary School Scholarships Grades 6–8

Application for the 2026-2027 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:

Pier Georgio Frassati, a young Italian, died of polio at the age of 24 and was recently canonized, but in his short life he was known for his social and political activism and his service to the poor. He was never afraid to defend his faith. Pier Georgio also loved sports, especially mountain climbing, and he used climbing expeditions as a chance to lead his friends to Mass, scripture, and praying the rosary. Though it was not his motto in life, “Verso l’alto” was frequently associated with Saint Pier Georgio Frassati after his death because he wrote it on a picture of him mountain climbing, which ended up being his last climb before his death. The phrase means “to the heights” or “toward the top.”

Give a specific example with clear details of how some aspect of your life reflects one of the traits of Pier Georgio Frassati: social or political activism, serving the poor, or bringing others to the faith through sports or another activity. Then explain how you could take your actions “to the heights” to better serve God. In what ways could you do more to serve others?

- 2. A completed **FACTS Grant and Aid** application for 2026-2027 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 2026-2027 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 15th**
- Scholarship Recipients will be notified by mail in early May/2026.
- Completed applications can be sent via:
 - email to: 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
(please do not staple application)

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 2026-2027 _____ FACTS Grant & Aid application ID#: _____

S.1 and S.1a of Circular 44, 1991 (required)

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

High School:

Address: _____

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:

Recommendation from a Teacher, Guidance Counselor, or Parish Staff Member

By: _____

Name _____

Title

Date

Principal Recommendation

*Please verify that this application is accurately completed and that all documentation is included and **paper clipped together** (please do not staple).

Student Application

Student's essay (verify that guidelines were followed)

Academic Transcript/or most recent report card

Recommendation

Principal Comments

Principal's Signature

Date