

# Scholarship Fund for Inner- City Children (SFIC)

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q:** When can I apply for the SFIC Scholarship?

**A:** Applications for the 2010-2011 school year are now being accepted from October 15, 2009 until January 15, 2010. Please make sure to submit a complete and accurate application to the address indicated. All applications received without the proper financial documentation will not be considered. Any applications postmarked after the January 15, 2010 deadline, will not be considered.

**Q:** How can I get a copy of the application?

**A:** Applications for the 2010-2011 school year are available by visiting a Catholic elementary or high school office within the Newark Archdiocese. You may also obtain a copy by visiting 'Applications' on the SFIC webpage at [www.sficnj.org](http://www.sficnj.org)

**Q:** What is needed with my application?

**A:** All applications must include a copy of your signed 2008 Federal 1040 form and all 2008 W-2 forms. You must also include a \$15 money order payable to SFIC. The Federal 1040 form must include the name(s) of each child for whom you are requesting assistance. If appropriate, you should also include copies of Unemployment Benefits, Child Support, Public Assistance, and Social Security.

**Q:** What should I do if my current financial situation is different from my income reported on my 2008 Federal 1040 form?

**A:** Please attach a letter explaining any change in employment or compensation status. You should also include any documentation that supports your letter.

**Q:** Who is eligible to apply for the SFIC scholarship?

**A:** Parents/Guardians of students from low income families currently or planning to enroll in a Newark Archdiocesan school (Catholic Schools within Bergen, Essex, Hudson, and Union counties,) are eligible to apply. For a complete list of schools, please visit [www.rcan.org](http://www.rcan.org).

**Q:** Can I inquire about the status of my application?

**A:** All applications received will remain under review until final determinations are made. Due to the high volume of applications received, SFIC will not be able to tell you if your application has been received. SFIC will not provide any other information before a finalized award decision has been announced. All correspondence regarding your application will be mailed to you after March 15, 2010.

**Q:** If my child is awarded, how is the payment made?

**A:** If your family has been awarded a scholarship, payments will be made directly to your child(ren's) respective school in the form of two installments: 50% of the award will be paid in February for the first half of the school year and the remaining 50% will be paid in June for the second half of the school year.

**Q:** If my child is currently receiving a scholarship, do I have to reapply for the following school year(s)?

**A:** Families must apply for the SFIC scholarship every year, regardless of whether they are currently receiving or have been past recipients of an award. Families must also supply the most current financial documentation with their application.

**Q:** What are the requirements needed to be considered for your scholarship?

**A:** Eligibility is based upon family income and location of the school. Your child must be enrolled or attending a Catholic school in the Archdiocese of Newark in grades Kindergarten to 12<sup>th</sup> and you must meet the financial requirements. The SFIC financial guidelines are similar to the Federal free/ reduced lunch program.

**Q:** Do I have to be living in the same town as the school my child attends to be eligible to apply?

**A:** Your child must be attending a Newark Archdiocesan school, however, you do not have to live in the same town as the school. For a complete list of schools, please visit: [www.rcan.org](http://www.rcan.org)

**Q:** Can we still apply for a scholarship if my child is currently in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and has yet to be accepted to a Catholic high school before the deadline?

**A:** Yes, you can still apply. Please write "Catholic H.S."-TBD in the school section for 2010-2011. You can notify The Scholarship Fund for Inner-City Children in writing once you have registered your child at the school of your choice.

**Q:** Can I receive more than one scholarship from The Scholarship Fund for Inner-City Children?

**A:** No, only one scholarship per student is permitted. Students in grades K-8 receiving tuition assistance from The Children's Scholarship Fund (CSF) program are not eligible for The Scholarship Fund for Inner-City Children scholarship.