Dear Our Lady of Lourdes Parents,

The 2023-2024 application window for tuition assistance from the Fulcrum Foundation and Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School is open. **While the application window is open until January 6, 2023, all families are encouraged to apply now, to ensure all documents are verified ahead of the deadline. Late applications will not be accepted or considered for tuition assistance awards**.

If you received assistance from the Fulcrum Foundation or OLL last year, or think you may need tuition assistance for next school year, you will need to submit an online application through FACTS Management Company. *We urge any family that experienced a decrease in 2021-2022 income, or thinks they may see a decrease in income next year, to apply for tuition assistance.*

We are partnering with FACTS again this year to manage the collection and processing of tuition assistance applications for **both** Our Lady of Lourdes and the Fulcrum Tuition Assistance Grant Program. **This means that all families applying for financial assistance need to apply through Fulcrum**. We will use the same information for OLL tuition assistance.

The application for the *Fulcrum Foundation Tuition Assistance Grant Program* is completed online through FACTS. The non-refundable $35 fee covers your application(s) for one year. You will only need to submit one application per family, even if you have children in high school. The link to the application is on the attached Fulcrum information sheet. All supporting paperwork must be uploaded electronically to FACTS; faxed or mailed documentation are not accepted. You will not return anything to the school office.

If you received this award previously, I strongly encourage you to apply again. *If you did not receive any funding from Fulcrum previously, but your financial situation has changed, please apply. Remember that you must apply through Fulcrum to be considered for OLL assistance.*

If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

Blessings,

Rebecca A Hundt

Becki Hundt
Principal

OLL / Fulcrum Tuition Assistance Application and Award Process

All Families must apply for Fulcrum assistance to be considered for OLL tuition assistance.

What is the Fulcrum Tuition Assistance Grant Program (TAP) and who can apply?
TAP is a deadline-based and need-based tuition assistance program for students in Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Seattle. Any family, currently enrolled in a Catholic school or not, may apply. Flat grant amounts are awarded to students based solely on financial need in relation to the pool of applicants. Grants are awarded for one year at a time. Families must re-apply annually, even if they have received a TAP grant before. Any family with students currently enrolled in a Catholic school or intending to enroll in a Catholic school may apply. Awards are made for students in grades K-12.

How do families apply for Fulcrum tuition assistance through FACTS?
1. *Families apply online and submit necessary documentation to FACTS*
   - Application deadline is January 6, 2023– applications received after this date will not be accepted or considered for funding. **We urge to you apply as soon as possible, preferably before Christmas Holiday begins on December 16, 2022!**
   - Families will be asked to provide IRS tax documents and W-2's directly to FACTS. They must be uploaded to the application prior to the January deadline. Fax or hard copies of documents are not accepted by FACTS. Special instructions are included in the application for those who do not file taxes or have the requested documentation.
     - Link to application**: https://fulcrumfoundation.org/grants-and-programs/tuition-assistance**

Grant and Aid website is not accessible through your Family Portal account. Copy the above link to open the application on the Fulcrum Foundation website.

2. *Fulcrum determination notifications sent to all applicants*
   - Notification to secondary students will be sent by February 13, 2023.
   - Notification to elementary students will be sent by March 10, 2023.

3. *Is there a fee to complete the application?*
Yes. It costs $35 to apply for a Fulcrum Foundation tuition assistance grant. The $35 fee covers all students from a family for the school year. Please note that this is a non-refundable fee.

4. *How do families submit their tax and W-2 documentation?*
Any documentation should be uploaded from a computer, tablet or smart phone. Fax or mail copies are not accepted by FACTS. Special instructions are included in the application for those who do not have the requested documentation.

5. *Who can families contact if they have questions about the program or the application?*
Questions about Fulcrum's programs should be directed to Fulcrum's Programs Manager, Susan Ocoma, at susan.ocoma@fulcrumfoundation.org or (206) 748-7988 or Fulcrum's Executive Assistant and Office Manager, Savannah Hawk, at fulcrumadmin@fulcrumfoundation.org or 206-219-5826.

Questions about the FACTS application should be directed to FACTS Customer Care at 1-866-441-4637 or https://factsmgt.com/.

How awards are determined
Awards are made blind to everything except the applicant's calculated financial need in relation to all other applicants. Fulcrum uses the FACTS Grant and Aid calculated financial need value, "Family Income After Core Expenses." Fulcrum ranks families on this calculated value and award grants in that order until funds are exhausted. For the 2023-2024 academic year, grants for elementary students will be $1,325 and grants for high school students will be $1,475.