

Financial Aid:

Southwest Florida Christian Academy desires to offer a Christian Education to as many families as possible regardless of their social or economic status. Many of our families receive tuition assistance of varying amounts. A portion of our budget is set aside for this purpose, and the budgeted amount is supplemented with various fund-raising programs.

A third party organization is utilized to determine eligibility for financial aid. This ensures that the process is confidential and impartial. The application is done online. There is a link on the school's website that will lead you to the financial aid application. You may apply for financial aid as soon as your 2011 tax returns are completed.

- You must first submit the student's application to the school and pay the required fees.
- It is recommended that you get your application in for the first round of distribution. The first round ends on April 16. After that date, if financial aid is still available it will be distributed at a reduced rate.
- The amount of money available, and the maximum percentage of aid that can be given to a family, varies from year to year. It depends upon the number of families who apply, the amount of money raised through fundraisers, the total number of students enrolled at the school, and a variety of other factors.
- We try to help as many families as possible. Therefore, if a large number of families apply, we will give everyone a reduced percentage of the recommended amount. For example, you may qualify for an 80% scholarship, but the most we may be able to give may be 50%.

Other Scholarships:

Step Up For Students— This is a state scholarship program for low income families. Please refer to the Step Up website at www.stepupforstudents.org to see the financial qualifications and other guidelines. Students entering grades 2-12 must have attended a Florida **public school** for the entire previous school year in order to be eligible, but if your child is going into grades K or 1, this does not apply.

Paul or Esther Award—This scholarship is worth \$500 per year for grades 9-12. There is one scholarship for a boy and one for a girl awarded every year. It is *open to only to returning students in grade 8 (going into 9th) or grade 9 (going into 10th)*.

Academic Scholarship—This scholarship is for students entering 9th grade. For the 2012-2013 school year, we will award up to four scholarships worth \$3000 each. Students would qualify if they meet the **both** of the following criteria:

- 95th percentile or higher in total reading or total math on an approved standardized achievement test.
- 92nd percentile or higher Total Battery score on the same test.