



SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS REGIONAL CATHOLIC HIGH

14520 Voss Drive
Hammond, LA 70401

Phone: 985.542.7662
Fax: 985.542.4010
www.stafalcons.org

2017-2018 School Year

Dear Falcon Parents,

While we are busy finalizing plans for the upcoming 2017-2018 school year, I would like to update everyone on a few financial items:

- The 2017-2018 Tuition and Fees Schedule is now available on our website for your review. It can be found at www.stafalcons.org under the "Admissions" tab at the top, or in the "Hot Spots" under "STA Docs"

There are two payment options for tuition:

- 1) You may pay the school directly for tuition and fees **IN FULL** by May 1, 2017
 - 2) You may secure a Tuition Loan through Gulf Coast Bank by March 31, 2017
- Gulf Coast Bank will be used for our Tuition Loan Program once again this year. All loan applications are made online at <https://tuition.gulfbank.com>. Tuition Loan Applications are due by **March 31, 2017**. The first payment of the 11-month loan will be due June 2017 and the final payment due April 2018
 - Tuition Assistance: It is the goal of Saint Thomas Aquinas Regional Catholic High School to work with each family to provide a Catholic education for their children. STA uses FACTS, an independent third party, to create an objective assessment of family need. This information is used by the Tuition Assistance Committee to award the limited funds available. St. Thomas Aquinas Regional Catholic High School **does not** fully fund 100% of a student's tuition. Each family will need to contribute a portion of the cost of educating their child

- To apply:
- Go to website <https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/43XLL>
 - Completely fill out the application (missing items could delay aid)
 - Pay the \$30 application fee directly to FACTS
 - Tuition Assistance applications must be submitted by **March 10, 2017**
 - **No request for assistance will be considered unless the \$350 Registration Fee has been paid by Friday, March 17, 2017**

We look forward to a successful spring semester and are excited about the upcoming 2017-2018 school year!

Thank you for choosing to be part of the St. Thomas Aquinas High School family.

Sincerely,

Pam Smith
Business Manager

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS REGIONAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
BUSINESS OFFICE MEMO

In order for your child to be considered “ENROLLED” for the 2017-2018 school year, you **MUST** complete and return the following information to the Business Manager with your Registration Fee by **Friday, March 17, 2017.**

1. Signed “Tuition Collection Policy” *for each student enrolled at STA*
2. Completed “Financial Arrangement Agreement”
 - The entire form must be completed
 - Please check the payment option you will be choosing
 - If you chose to finance with Gulf Coast Bank and Trust Company, you must complete the loan application online at https://tuition.gulfbank.com/users/sign_in
 - **Loan application deadline is Friday, March 31, 2017**
 - Remember that you may finance all fees with the exception of the Registration Fee
3. Registration Fee of \$350: Checks should be made payable to “St. Thomas Aquinas” or “STA”.
Please put the student’s name(s) and 2017-2018 grade(s) in the memo section.
4. At this time, information regarding our Tuition Assistance Program can be found our website. Tuition Assistance applications are to be submitted online to FACTS by **March 10, 2017.**
5. You **MUST** update your RENWEB account contact information, mailing address, etc., by following the steps below:

Updating RenWeb Accounts

- Login to your ParentsWeb account,
Using our District Code (STAQ-LA), your username, and password
- Choose “Family Information”
- Choose “Family Home”
- Choose “Family Demographic Form”
- Update ALL FIELDS for EACH STUDENT
- Update “Emergency Contact Form”
- Ensure all information about “Grandparents” is correct and updated
- RenWeb Questions? Contact Mr. Nick Stoulig, Counselor at nstoulig@stafalcons.org

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Pam Smith, Business Manager, at
psmith@stafalcons.org or 985-542-7662.

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS REGIONAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

2017-2018 TUITION AND FEE SCHEDULE

REGISTRATION FEE - This fee may **NOT** be financed with Gulf Coast Bank.

ALL STUDENTS	\$350	Due March 17, 2017
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This fee is paid annually per student and is ***non-refundable***. ***This fee must be paid directly to St. Thomas Aquinas Regional Catholic High School and submitted along with the completed Registration Form and signed Tuition Collection Policy.***
Payment can be made in person or mailed to St. Thomas Aquinas Regional Catholic High School, 14520 Voss Drive, Hammond, LA 70401 Attention: Mrs. Pam Smith, along with the completed Registration Form and signed Tuition Collection Policy.

Please put the student(s) name and 2017-2018 grade(s) in the memo section of your check.

**There is an additional \$100 late fee that will be applied for all registration fees received after the March 17th deadline.*

Any registration fees received after the above deadline may result in your child losing his/her place at St. Thomas Aquinas Regional Catholic High School.

GENERAL FEE - This fee **MAY** be financed with Gulf Coast Bank.

Juniors, Sophomores, Freshmen	\$615	Due May 1, 2017
Seniors	\$775	Due May 1, 2017

This fee is paid annually per student and is non-refundable after June 30th.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FEE - This fee **MAY** be financed with Gulf Coast Bank.

Per Family	\$300	Due May 1, 2017
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This fee is paid annually per family and is non-refundable after June 30th.

TECHNOLOGY FEE - This fee **MAY** be financed with Gulf Coast Bank.

All Students	\$350	Due May 1, 2017
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This fee is paid annually per student and is non-refundable after June 30th.

TUITION - This **MAY** be financed with Gulf Coast Bank.

Catholic Students	\$6,820	Due May 1, 2017
Non-Catholic Students	\$7,220	Due May 1, 2017

All loan applications must be submitted online to Gulf Coast Bank (<https://tuition.gulfbank.com>) by **March 31, 2017.**

****There is an additional \$100 late fee that will be applied for all tuition payments not received by May 1st or tuition loans not coordinated by the March 31st deadline.***

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- All fees are due by the dates listed above. Any fees received after the above mentioned dates will incur a \$100 Late Fee

There are two payment options for tuition:

- 1) You may pay the school directly for tuition and fees **IN FULL** by May 1, 2017 or
- 2) You may secure a Tuition Loan through Gulf Coast Bank by March 31, 2017

- If either option is not complete by May 1, 2017, an additional \$100 late fee will be applied.
- ***Incoming students may not begin participating in any extra-curricular activities or try-outs until the \$350 Registration Fee is paid.***

SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS REGIONAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL TUITION COLLECTION POLICY

(Please complete one (1) per student enrolled)

It is the goal of Saint Thomas Aquinas Regional Catholic High School to work with each family to provide a Catholic education for their children.

We understand that many families are sacrificing to invest in their child(ren)'s education. The financial health of STA depends on the prompt and full payment of tuition and other fees. **It is important that there is open and honest communication about timely tuition payments.**

A Tuition Payment Plan approved by STA is available through Gulf Coast Bank and Trust Company. Enrollment in the STA approved Tuition Payment Plan requires that all payments be made when due.

By Monday, May 1, 2017, each family must have paid all fees and tuition in full for each student or must be enrolled in the STA approved Tuition Payment Plan for the coming school year. For students accepted late, fees and tuition must be paid in full or enrollment in the STA approved Tuition Payment Plan must be completed within fifteen (15) days after acceptance.

If you are enrolled in the STA approved Tuition Payment Plan and you are unable to meet a tuition payment, it is your responsibility to contact the STA Business Manager to advise of the delinquency. A tuition payment is in default if it remains unpaid for more than thirty (30) days.

Students of families whose tuition payments are in default will not be allowed to (a) Register for the next school year, (b) Participate in Graduation, (c) Attend prom and other school sponsored social activities, (d) Take final or mid-term exams, (e) Participate in athletic and/or extra-curricular activities, and (f) Are subject to suspension and expulsion from STA.

If you are in default, you will receive written notice of default. If the default remains unsatisfied for fifteen (15) days after notice, your child(ren) will be immediately suspended from school. If the default remains unsatisfied for five (5) days thereafter, your child(ren) will be immediately withdrawn (expelled) from school and all tuition and other fees previously paid will be forfeited.

Collection and Legal Action: If it is necessary for STA to hire an attorney to enforce payment of tuition and any other fees due to STA, you will be responsible for all attorney fees and costs incurred in the collection efforts, including the costs and attorney fees to file suit.

Please sign below to indicate your understanding of this policy and agreement to be bound by its terms. For each student, this form and your registration payment must be received by the due date.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Student Name: _____

Grade for 2017-2018: _____

**ST. THOMAS AQUINAS REGIONAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
2017-2018 FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENT AGREEMENT**

STUDENT #1: _____

2017-2018 GRADE _____

STUDENT #2: _____

2017-2018 GRADE _____

STUDENT #3: _____

2017-2018 GRADE _____

PLEASE CHECK THE OPTION DESIRED:

_____ **PAY STA DIRECTLY IN FULL**
(Due Date: May 1, 2017)

_____ **FINANCE WITH GULF COAST BANK**
(Loan Application Deadline: March 30, 2017)

If you are paying STA directly, please indicate the total amount that you will be paying to STA: \$ _____

If you are financing with Gulf Coast Bank, please indicate the total amount that you will be financing: \$ _____

Parent/Guardian #1 Name

Parent/Guardian #2 Name

Home Phone

Work Phone

Home Phone

Work Phone

Cell Phone

Cell Phone

Address

Address

City, ST ZIP Code

City, ST ZIP Code

Email Address

Email Address

Alternate Email Address

Alternate Email Address

Please include your student's name(s) and 2017-2018 grade(s) in the Memo section of your check or money order.



GULF COAST BANK & Trust Company



St. Thomas Aquinas High School has reached an agreement to provide tuition financing through Gulf Coast Bank and Trust for the 2017-2018 school year. The tuition team at Gulf Coast Bank has nearly 260 years of banking experience and over 160 years of tuition lending experience. We help our customers get what they want, one on one. We would like to take this opportunity to officially welcome all of you to our family!

The online tuition system will be available to you 24/7 and offers you the ease of account application and management, including the ability to schedule payments online. To create your tuition management account, please visit <https://tuition.gulfbank.com>. Once you create your user ID and password, you can manage all of your student's tuition information. Even if you prefer to pay the school in full and are not financing any of your student's tuition, you can still do so through our website with no fee or interest. It is that easy!

If you decide to finance all or part of your student's tuition with us, here are a few items to keep in mind:

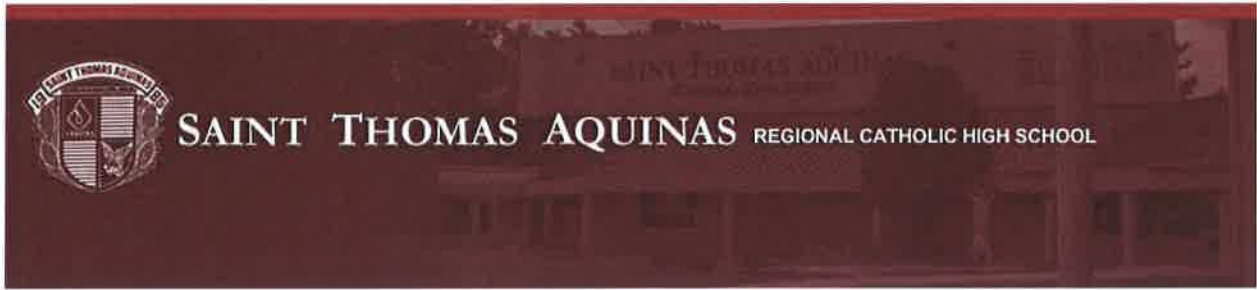
- The interest rate on your loan will be 8.50%;
- There is a one time fixed \$20.00 Origination Fee per loan / school term.
- The online tuition website will open February 20, 2017 for St. Thomas Aquinas parents;
- The first payment on your loan will be due June 1, 2017;
- You may incur late fees if your payment is late (refer to your borrower agreement for details);
- The final payment will be due April 1, 2018, although you can pay your account in full before the maturity date without penalty.

Should you need any assistance at all or have any questions, feel free to contact us at 504-544-6370 or 1-855-335-2068 (toll free). We have tuition customer service representatives waiting to help you with all of your tuition financing needs.

We would also like to take this opportunity to offer all of our tuition customers a free Gulf Coast Easy Checking account with Gulf Coast Bank. You will receive a free ATM/debit card, online banking, electronic statement delivery and smartphone banking app.

Again, welcome to the Tuition Lending group of Gulf Coast Bank and Trust!

Katie Tricon
Gulf Coast Bank
855-335-2068
225-757-4404



TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Thank you for your interest in Saint Thomas Aquinas Regional Catholic High School. Applications for Tuition Assistance for the 2017-2018 school year will be accepted from February 20, 2017 until March 10, 2017.

PHILOSOPHY

Saint Thomas Aquinas Regional Catholic High School is committed to enrolling students from diverse economic, ethnic, racial, and social backgrounds. The school attempts to select the most qualified students for admission based on each applicant's academic abilities, personal qualities, and potential to contribute to the life of the school community. STA strives to make such admissions selections independent of a family's ability to meet the full cost of a Catholic education. As part of that commitment, the school has established a program of Tuition Assistance for families who would otherwise be unable to consider STA. The school's philosophy regarding Tuition Assistance is that it be based on financial need. As such, the financial aid program enables the school to attract well-qualified students who represent the socioeconomic, cultural, and ethnic diversity of the local community.

It is difficult to predict whether a family will qualify for Tuition Assistance since individual circumstances vary so widely, and the overall demand varies from year to year. The following information may help you decide whether or not to apply for Tuition Assistance.

Intended as a supplement to family resources, awards are made to families whose ability to pay school costs are extremely limited and to those that may need only a minor subsidy to meet tuition requirements. Because there is more need than there are school funds available, the Committee will take into account all reasonable means of spreading the available funds among the most qualified recipients.

Tuition assistance at STA serves a two-fold purpose:

1. To provide deserving students the opportunity of a high quality, Catholic education that otherwise might be unobtainable for them, and
2. To provide the school with a well-qualified student body reflecting a broad social and economic mix of the surrounding region.

***Tuition Assistance Application Process For 2017-2018
Opens February 20, 2017 and Closes March 10, 2017***

Thus, it is essential that ability to pay the full tuition not be the deciding factor in determining whether or not a promising young person may attend the school.

SELECTION PROCESS

Registered students qualifying on the basis of financial need outnumber those the school can afford to assist. Therefore, St. Thomas Aquinas does not fully fund 100% of a student's tuition. Each family will need to contribute a portion of the cost of educating their child. Decisions must be made to determine the allocation of available funds. The final distribution among applicants demonstrating such need and completing the application process within the time frame allotted will be based on an evaluation that considers the following:

1. Is the applicant a practicing Catholic?
2. The student's Disciplinary record;
3. The student's Academic record;
4. Is the student presently enrolled at STA?
5. Does the student have a sibling enrolled at STA?
6. Is the student transferring from another Catholic school?

All decisions of STA's Tuition Assistance Committee, as approved by the school's Principal, shall be final subject only to the appeal process set forth below. Everyone interested in attending STA, without the full financial means for doing so, is encouraged to apply for Tuition Assistance regardless of whether they meet all, some, or none of the criteria set forth above.

RENEWALS

Tuition Assistance is granted on an annual basis only. Receipt of assistance for one school year does not necessarily mean assistance will be awarded in successive years. Thus, applications with current information must be made each year need can be demonstrated.

LATE APPLICATIONS

Those missing the initial deadline are still encouraged to apply for Tuition Assistance. Late applications may be considered based on a timeline set by the Tuition Assistance Committee so long as funds remain available after initial gifts are allocated.

COMPUTATION

Saint Thomas Aquinas Regional Catholic High School subscribes to the services of FACTS for allocating funds to families applying for Tuition Assistance. During the application process, families seeking assistance provide financial and other relevant confidential information to FACTS. In turn, FACTS provides STA with a financial analysis based on the information gathered. The FACTS reports provide a basis for the STA Tuition Assistance Committee to make decisions on the assistance granted to applicants.

***Tuition Assistance Application Process For 2017-2018
Opens February 20, 2017 and Closes March 10, 2017***

EXTERNAL RESOURCES

All financial support, including funds that may be available beyond the parents' own income and assets, should be reported as part of the application process. This includes resources that might be expected from grandparents or other relatives, family trusts, church funds, direct scholarship grants, etc. The Committee welcomes parents' explanations for these potential sources of assistance, and all relevant details should be included in the information provided to FACTS.

DIVIDED FAMILIES

We believe any responsibility for educational costs that the school may accept must come after the obligation of the student's parents. In most cases, the Tuition Assistance Committee will make an award only after considering the resources of both parents. Therefore, each parental household must complete the full application process. If either parent remarries, the resources of the step-parent must also be considered, bearing in mind the obligations of the step-parent to his or her own natural children. If any parent or step-parent, custodial or non-custodial, refuses to provide the required financial information, the application may not be processed.

EMPLOYMENT

If a parent or step-parent does not work and there are no pre-school children at home, income will be computed for the non-working spouse at the rate of minimum wage and full-time employment. An exception may be made if the parent is ill or is caring for a child, grandchild, or grandparent that is disabled or critically ill. Consideration may also be given if the parent is home-schooling other children in the family, or one non-working parent is attending school. Please communicate these exceptions when completing the FACTS application.

CHILDREN NOT LIVING WITH PARENTS

Children living with grandparents or others will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. If the parents are still living, the parents must complete the FACTS Tuition Assistance application. If someone other than a parent has custody, the individual or individuals having custody must complete the FACTS application as well. Proof of custody will be required.

APPEALS

Families who determine they will be unable to meet the financial expectations outlined in the tuition assistance award agreement may request a second review of their application by contacting the school's Principal within ten (10) days of receiving notice of said Tuition Assistance award. The granting of any reconsideration will be at the sole discretion of the Committee. The ability to grant reconsideration or increase the initial award after reconsideration may be limited by the remaining funds available for distribution.

***Tuition Assistance Application Process For 2017-2018
Opens February 20, 2017 and Closes March 10, 2017***

IMPORTANT

- Awards are made as a reduction to tuition only. Parents are therefore responsible for all other fees including - but not limited to - enrollment, lunch, books, technology, extra-curricular activities, and transportation. Personal appointments may be scheduled for situations requesting any consideration of exceptions to this policy.
- Your request for financial assistance and any awards granted will be considered confidential information.
- Should discrepancies be found in the information given to FACTS and/or STA, the Committee reserves the right to revoke any financial aid award.
- The school reserves the right to request additional financial information at any time.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

To apply for Tuition Assistance, please complete the application online at:

1. Complete and submit your 2017-2018 Registration Form, with the \$350 Registration Fee. Only those families who have completed the registration process and submitted the Registration Fee are eligible for financial assistance consideration.
2. Visit the FACTS secure website. <https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/43XLL>
Click on the "Create a FACTS Account" button. Follow the instructions to create an account and complete the online Financial Aid application. The deadline for completing the application and submitting all the required documentation is **March 10, 2017** in order to be considered for assistance.
3. Submit your Federal Form 1040 Income Tax Return, W-2 forms and supporting documentation for non-taxable income to FACTS. You can upload your documents directly to FACTS by scanning them and uploading to your account or fax them to 866-315-9264. Draft or Preview Copy tax documents cannot be accepted.
4. Pay the Thirty Dollar (\$30) application fee when you submit your application to FACTS for processing.
5. The school will mail award notification letters to families after April 15, 2017. Therefore, you may need to apply for a loan with Gulf Coast for the full amount. That amount will then be adjusted down based on the amount of aid that is awarded.

St. Thomas Aquinas Regional Catholic High School does not fully fund 100% of a student's tuition. Each family will need to contribute a portion of the cost of educating their child.

St. Thomas Aquinas Regional Catholic High School's admissions policy for qualified students is administered without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national and ethnic origin or disability.

***Tuition Assistance Application Process For 2017-2018
Opens February 20, 2017 and Closes March 10, 2017***



FACTS
an nlnet company

Grant & Aid Assessment

FACTS Management makes quality education affordable for families by assisting schools in awarding financial aid. We work with schools to create a custom application and collect financial data so schools can make accurate award decisions based on financial need.

To apply for financial aid, visit online.factsmgmt.com/aid.

After completing the online application, you will need to upload or fax all required supporting documentation. Uploaded documents must be in PDF format and the size of each document must be less than 20 MB. If you are unable to upload, fax the required documents to 866.315.9264. Please **DO NOT** use your mobile device to photo copy required documents due to problems with legibility.

The following supporting documents are required to complete the application process:

- Copy of the most recent **IRS Federal Form 1040, 1040A or 1040-EZ U.S. Individual Income Tax Return** (the year of the tax return depends on the tax requirements of the school). If applicant and co-applicant file separately, we require both tax returns for the same tax year. We do not require State Tax Returns.
- Copies of **all the current year W-2 Wage and Tax Statements** for both the applicant and co-applicant. **NOTE:** If you are applying before you have received all the current year W-2 Wage and Tax Statements, please submit them as soon as they become available.
- Copies of all supporting tax documents if you have business income/loss from any of the following:
 - Business** - send Schedule C or C-EZ and Form 4562 Depreciation and Amortization
 - Farm** - send Schedule F and Form 4562 Depreciation and Amortization
 - Rental Property** - send Schedule E (page 1)
 - S-Corporation** - send Schedule E (page 2), Form 1120S (5 pages), Schedule K-1 and Form 8825
 - Partnership** - send Schedule E (page 2), Form 1065 (5 pages), Schedule K-1 and Form 8825
 - Estates and Trusts** - send Schedule E (page 2), Form 1041 and Schedule K-1

***IMPORTANT: If you file a tax return but do not have W-2 wages because you are self-employed, you will be required to submit a copy of your current year Federal Form 1040 Tax Return.**

- Copies of all supporting documentation for **household Non-Taxable Income** such as: Social Security Income, Welfare, Child Support, Food Stamps, Workers' Compensation, and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). If you do not file a tax return, you are required to provide documentation of all income received.

*All documentation received is imaged upon receipt and then destroyed.

You may login to your FACTS user account to review the status of your application. **Please allow 2 weeks processing time from the date you provided the supporting documents before inquiring further about receipt and/or status of the uploaded or faxed documents.** Application deadlines are set by the institution awarding the scholarships. If you are applying after the deadline, please contact your school to ensure that your application will be accepted.

*A non-refundable application fee may be required before your application will be submitted.

NOTE: Award decisions are made by the institution providing the scholarship, not FACTS.

For more information, visit FACTSmgt.com/grant-and-aid

