



TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Dear Parents,

Our first full month of school is in the books! It is a gentle reminder that FAFSA and college applications become a focus for the Class of 2026. I just received confirmation from the Bank of North Dakota that the FAFSA window is now open, just a few days early of the Oct. 1st launch date.

FAFSA is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. Every college freshman, regardless of parental income, is eligible for \$5,500 in loans. If a student qualifies for grants or work study, the sooner the application is submitted, the more likely free federal funds will be awarded. Both applicant and parent are required to create a FAFSA ID. This ID is necessary to sign the application. Previously, the ID required 2–3 days for processing. It is now processed in real time with a social security number. Banks, secondary lenders and on-campus employment require FAFSA to be completed. The Bank of North Dakota has several short video clips to assist in the application process.

<https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch>

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLOnRHvzISVv1_Q5SHIawJbAwPG0ZiDTrk

Next month, the Bank of North Dakota also sponsors College Application Month. They provide a waiver for one application fee to any school of choice in North Dakota. Our date is set for Monday, October 13th. All seniors will have the opportunity to focus on various realms of life beyond high school, from college applications to apprenticeships. You can find helpful financial tips and resources on their webpage, which I have linked to my site.

Lastly, all local scholarship information received will be posted to my webpage. You can also find search engines for college scholarships. Links and forms are posted in chronological order by due date. I send friendly reminders to the seniors via the group chat on TEAMS. Most applications open after the new year. Please reach out with any questions. <https://trinitycatholicschools.com/counselors-corner-1>

In Christ,

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