**Student First Act/Educational Savings Accounts ESA and the Annual Diocesan Appeal**

**The Annual Diocesan Appeal (ADA) is not impacted by the Student First Act and Educational Savings Accounts (ESAs).  The ADA funds the Office of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Davenport, whose mission is to offer leadership and administrative service to the Catholic schools within the Diocese.   The ADA does not, nor has ever, funded tuition or the qualified educational expenses outlined in the Student First Act.**

**What is the Student First Act?**

The [Students First Act](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation/BillBook?ga=90&ba=HF+68), signed into law on January 24, 2023, makes state funding available to support the success of every K-12 student in Iowa. The bill establishes a framework and funding for education savings accounts, which may be used by eligible families to cover tuition, fees, and other qualified education expenses at accredited nonpublic schools in Iowa. It also provides public schools additional funding for students who live in their district but attend nonpublic schools.

**What is an Education Savings Account?**

An Education Savings Account (ESA) is a deposit of public funds into government-authorized savings accounts which eligible families may use to cover tuition, fees, and other qualified education expenses at accredited private schools in Iowa. Parents who enroll their eligible children in an accredited private school will receive an estimated $7,598 per pupil for the 2023- 2024 school year. Funds are deposited into the student's ESA each year until the student graduates high school or turns 20. The remaining balance is returned to the state general fund.