

***BISHOP JOHN C. REISS RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
SCHOLARSHIP FUND***
July 2024 – June 2025



SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

In keeping with the commitment of the Diocese of Trenton to assist parishes and schools in the ministry of religious education, we hereby establish a Religious Education Scholarship Fund. The purpose of this fund is to foster the continuing education of those persons in the diocese who serve in the catechetical ministry in our parish religious education programs and/or schools.

Scholarship monies may be used for course work in religious education/theology or related fields at recognized Catholic institutions of higher learning. This coursework should be beyond Catechist certification or other basic levels of ministry formation (diocesan training).

Administration of this fund will be under the direction of a Scholarship Board consisting of one pastor, an elementary school principal, a parish director of religious education, a Diocesan representative, and the Director of the Department of Catechesis.

The duties of the Board will include but not be limited to an annual review of the Bishop Reiss Scholarship guidelines, a review of applicant's credentials and selection of awardee/s.

Monies that support the fund will be transferred annually from the operating budget of the Department of Catechesis into an interest-bearing restricted account in the name of the Diocese of Trenton. Said account will be administered by the Bishop.

Details regarding eligibility and the application process are described on the following page.

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Eligibility

Scholarship grants are open to persons who are actively participating in the religious education ministry in the Diocese of Trenton.

1. Parish Catechetical Leaders of parish religious education programs.
2. Elementary or Secondary Catholic School Principals
3. Catechists who have served at least one year in a parish religious education program and/or a Catholic elementary school.
4. Religion teachers who have served at least one year in a Catholic secondary school.
5. Leaders or Team Members of AFF or RCIA.
6. Youth Ministers

Application process

The application process for the Scholarship Fund will be administered by the Director of Catechesis.

1. Availability of Scholarship funds will be announced each year.
2. Applications may be obtained from the Department of Catechesis.
3. Applicant's completed application, letter of recommendation from his/her pastor, and a letter of recommendation from Catechetical Leader, Principal, AFF Leader or RCIA Director, if applicable, is to be received at the Department of Catechesis by the stated deadline.
4. All applications will be reviewed by the Scholarship Board and its decision/s will be made known within one month of the submission deadline.
5. Applicants who qualify for scholarship assistance will be notified by mail.
6. Award will be paid directly to the institution designated by the applicant.

Applications are due on April 15, 2024.