



# Our Lady of Grace Catholic School



Week 24

*The mission of Our Lady of Grace Catholic School is to provide an academically superior education in a secure environment focused on Catholic identity for creating educated, spiritual leaders for the future.*

## A Message from the Principal:

Dear OLG Families,

We are entering Week 24 of school, and we want to thank you for the continued partnership and support you show our students and staff.

### Faith and Community

There will be no school Mass this Friday as we wish Father Francis our prayers and best wishes while he is on retreat.

This Friday, our students will be sharing their Saint Presentations in the Big Hall beginning at 8:30 a.m. Families are welcome to join us as students celebrate the lives and virtues of the saints.

### Academic & Family Engagement

Thank you to all families who took time to attend Parent Academic Conferences. We truly appreciate your partnership in supporting student growth and success. We hope you are also able to join us for Sweet Treats with Someone You Love, a special opportunity to spend time together and celebrate our school community.

### Campus Life & Events

A huge thank you to our PTC for organizing an incredible Casino Night fundraiser. The time, effort, and dedication of our volunteers made this event a tremendous success, and we are grateful to everyone who supported this fundraiser for our school.

### Enrollment & TEFA Support

We continue to encourage all families to apply for the Texas Education Freedom Act (TEFA). To support families through the process, Family Night is scheduled for this Wednesday, and staff will be available to provide guidance and answer questions. We hope you will join us if you need assistance.

Thank you for all you do for OLG. Together, we continue to create a joyful, faith-filled environment where our students grow academically, spiritually, and socially.

With appreciation,

Ms. Valdez, Principal



### Monday, February 9

- Open Enrollment for the 26-27 school year

### Tuesday: February 10

- Advisory Council meeting @ 6pm
- Cheer Practice 3:30 - 5:00 PM

### Wednesday: February 11

- Fire Drill
- Guitar Practice
- TEFA Family Night - 4-6pm

### Thursday: February 12

### Friday: February 13

- No Mass Today- Regular school Uniforms
- 8:30am- Saint Presentations
- 8:45am- Sweet Treat event

### Saturday: February 14

Happy Valentine's Day

## Applications are open!



Our Lady of Grace Catholic School

"Educating the Whole Person to Live in Jesus Christ"



**TEXAS EDUCATION  
FREEDOM ACCOUNTS**

*Freedom to learn your way.*

**TEFA Application is OPEN.**

FEBRUARY 4 - MARCH 17

**We are encouraging all  
families to apply.**  
<https://educationfreedom.texas.gov/>

# THANK YOU!

TO OUR AMAZING PTC AND PARENT VOLUNTEERS!

We are so grateful for your incredible dedication, hard work, and support in making *Casino Night* a fantastic fundraiser for our school. Your time and generosity truly make a difference!

*The evening was a big success thanks to YOU!*

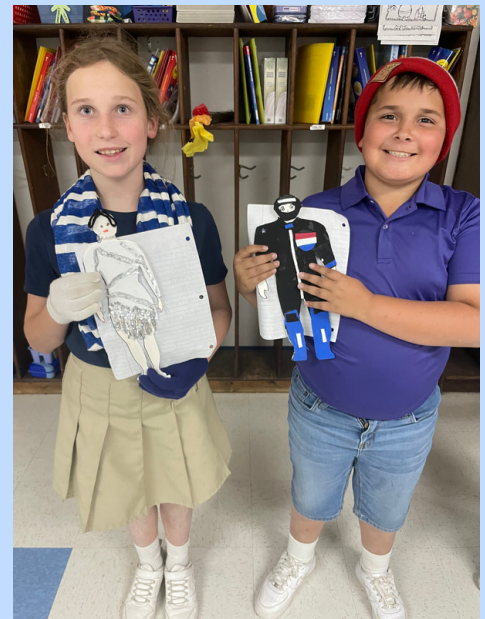
Your involvement strengthens our school community, and we are grateful today and always.



## A Sweet Treat With Someone You Love

Join us for a Valentine's Day celebration filled with love, sweets, and community spirit.  
Friday, February 13, 8:45AM

Big Hall  
Please limit two guest per family



## Counselor's Corner with Ms. Mani

This Valentine's Week, we are also celebrating Random Acts of Kindness Week! In guidance class, students will be working on a special project focused on showing kindness in simple, meaningful ways. Each student will be encouraged to share their act of kindness with someone unexpected by the end of the week. We hope this activity helps students see that small acts of kindness can make a big difference in our school and community.

**Tuesdays-Wednesdays from 8:00 am-3:30 pm**  
**Thursdays from 8:00 am - 12:30 pm.**



BEST EDUCATION





# OPEN ENROLLMENT

- Current Families – Auto enrollment will open 1/26/2026. Be on the look out for an email from FACTS/RenWeb.
- Siblings of a current OLG student will have priority enrollment between February 2 and February 6, 2026.
- February 9, 2026 Enrollment opens up to new and prospective families.

### WHAT SETS US APART

- ✓ Superior Education
- ✓ Secure and Safe Environment
- ✓ Christ Centered School Community
- ✓ Small Class Sizes
- ✓ All Religions Welcome

[www.olgcstx.org](http://www.olgcstx.org) (830)569-8073

**Please let us know if you did not receive your email regarding registration.**  
**Call our office at 830-569-8073**  
**We are here to help!**



## ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN ANTONIO

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

2718 W. Woodlawn Avenue | San Antonio, Texas 78228-5134 | 210-734-3620 | Facsimile: 210-734-0708

*Ven, Holy Spirit, Ven!*

*"Train the young in the way they should go; even when old, they will not swerve from it." ~ Prov. 22:6*

January 9, 2026

Dear Parents,

May the peace of Christ be with you! I write to you with sincere gratitude for your faithful commitment to Catholic education, and with great joy to share a providential moment of grace. The State of Texas has established the Texas Education Freedom Accounts (TEFA), a historic opportunity that can support the sacrifices you have made for your children's formation in faith.

For years, families have carried the financial responsibility of Catholic education with faithful perseverance. Now, TEFA can offer substantial assistance at a crucial time. The Texas Education Freedom Accounts (TEFA) offers new possibilities, providing eligible students with approximately \$10,474 annually for tuition, books, lunch, and other expenses. For many currently enrolled students, this support can significantly reduce or remove the cost of Catholic education, while also opening doors for other families who have long desired this opportunity.

In his recent Apostolic Letter on education, *Drawing New Maps of Hope*, Pope Leo XIV reminds us that Catholic education is never an individual endeavor, but a shared mission of the Church. He writes, "*Christian education is a collective endeavor: no one educates alone. The educational community is a 'we' where teachers, students, families... converge to generate life.*" In this spirit, Catholic schools form the whole person in mind, heart, and spirit, remaining fully part of the Church's evangelizing mission, entrusted to families and educators alike.

As a parent at an Archdiocesan Catholic school not attached to a parish, I feel uniquely connected to you as your pastor. I ask for your help to share information about TEFA with other families, friends, and neighbors who may now be able to consider Catholic education. In this way, you become witnesses to the Church's hope for every child. Learn more about TEFA at [sacatholicschools.org](https://sacatholicschools.org) and register for updates so you may be notified when the application period opens on February 4.

I wish to again express my special gratitude for the ways you, as parents, help sustain and strengthen your school's mission through your sacrifices and your love for the Church. Be assured of my prayers for you and your family, as the Holy Spirit guides you in forming the next generation in faith.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Gustavo Garcia-Siller, MSpS  
Archbishop of San Antonio



FEB 4TH 2026

Applications open

MID MARCH 2026

Expected Application Close Date

# A GUIDE TO TEFA

## FOR FAMILIES



Senate Bill 2 established TEFA to help families access funds for approved educational expenses starting in 2026–27. With final rules released on November 25, 2025, families now have clarity on how the program will work.

### ELIGIBILITY

Any Texas resident **eligible for public school (PK–12)** may apply.

This includes:

- Children entering PK3–PK4 who meet Texas eligibility
- Students currently in public, private, or homeschool settings
- Students with TEFA qualifying disabilities

*There is no income limit to apply, but awards are offered based on State priority groups.*

### PRIORITY GROUPS

BASED ON THE FPL (FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL)

|   |                                      |   |                                                                                             |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | ≤500%+<br>Children with disabilities | 2 | ≤200%<br>≥500%                                                                              |
| 3 | 200% – 500%                          | 4 | (20% cap of total awards)<br><i>*Public School students may have priority in this group</i> |

### FEDERAL POVERTY LEVELS

| Household Size | 200% of FPG Yearly Income | 500% of FPG Yearly Income |
|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2              | \$42,300                  | \$105,750                 |
| 3              | \$53,300                  | \$133,250                 |
| 4              | \$64,300                  | \$160,750                 |
| 5              | \$75,300                  | \$188,250                 |
| 6              | \$83,920                  | \$215,750                 |
| 7              | \$108,300                 | \$270,750                 |

### ALLOWABLE EXPENSES

| Tuition/Fees                  | Books/Materials | Tutoring | Therapies                                                 | Meals                        | Assessments | Technology | Transportation  |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------|------------|-----------------|
| Participating Private Schools |                 |          | Therapies not covered by government or private insurance. | Provided at school for a fee |             | 10% Cap    | Commercial Only |
| ✓                             | ✓               | ✓        | ✓                                                         | ✓                            | ✓           | ✓          | ✓               |

\*All purchases must be through the TEFA portal from approved providers.

**\$10,800\***

Award per student (85% of public funding).

Additional funding may be awarded based on a student's IEP for disabilities – up to \$30,000.

\*TEA currently estimates this amount to be \$10,800, and the final amount will be released in January 2026.

### PARENT:

As defined by Education Code, §29.351(5), a resident of this state who is a natural or adoptive parent, managing or possessory conservator, legal guardian, custodian, or other person with legal authority to act on behalf of a child.

### PARENT RESPONSIBILITY

**Families must:**

- Use funds only for approved expenses
- Not withdraw cash or request reimbursement
- Keep receipts
- Ensure annual testing (Grades 3–12)
- Report public school enrollment
- Follow all TEFA rules

### APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Choose **ONE** item from each column

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 2                                                                                                                                                        | 3                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Proof of Residency                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Proof of Citizenship                                                                                                                                     | Proof of Income                                                                                                                                                          |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lease, mortgage, or utility bill</li><li>• Texas ID/driver's license</li><li>• Voter registration</li><li>• Government agency letter</li><li>• Notarized affidavit</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Birth certificate</li><li>• U.S. passport</li><li>• Naturalization certificate</li><li>• DHS documents</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• IRS transcript (if available)</li><li>• Most recent tax return (2024)</li><li>• Texas Workforce Commission income data</li></ul> |

### WHAT IF FUNDS RUN OUT?

If funds run out, eligible students go on a state waitlist.

If more funds become available, awards may be offered mid-year, prorated, and begin the month after approval.

### WHAT'S NEXT?

When applications open on the Texas Comptroller Website, you will apply and select one approved school. Upon completion, eligibility will be determined. Awarding is expected to go out mid-April. If your child is selected, you'll receive instructions to accept the award in the TEFA portal. Your child's TEFA account is then created so you can choose approved schools, providers, and services.



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS  
— ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN ANTONIO —



*Freedom to learn your way.*

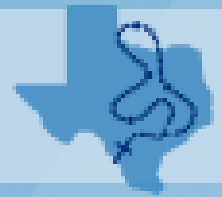


**SACATHOLICSCHOOLS.ORG**  
FOR MORE INFORMATION



# A GUIDE TO TEFA

*PRE-K, Siblings & Students with Disabilities*



## PRIORITY GROUP #1

BASED ON THE FPL (FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL)

**≤ 500% +**

Children with qualifying disabilities

## FEDERAL POVERTY LEVELS

| Household Size | 500% of FPL<br>Yearly Income | 500% of FPL<br>Yearly Income |
|----------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2              | \$143,300                    | \$105,750                    |
| 3              | \$153,300                    | \$113,250                    |
| 4              | \$64,300                     | \$160,750                    |
| 5              | \$175,300                    | \$168,250                    |
| 6              | \$183,300                    | \$215,750                    |
| 7              | \$199,300                    | \$276,750                    |

**\$10,800\* – \$30,000**

Award per student  
(85% of public funding).  
Additional IEP-based funding for disabilities—  
up to \$30,000 total.

\*TEFA currently estimates this amount to be \$10,800, and the final amount will be released in January 2026.

## PRE-K ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

PK ages 3–5 qualify if they meet Texas public PK eligibility criteria

(emergent bilingual, economically disadvantaged, homeless, military, foster, child of district employee, or Star of Texas).

## TEFA QUALIFYING DISABILITIES EXPLAINED

A student with special needs (Tier 1) is defined as a child age 21 or younger with a disability listed in Texas Education Code §29.003 that requires special services to be adequately or safely educated in a public school. Eligible conditions include visual or auditory impairment, physical disability, intellectual or developmental disability, emotional disturbance, learning disability, autism, speech disability, or traumatic brain injury.

## SIBLING PRIORITY

Siblings as defined by Education Code, §29.35(9), are: A brother, sister, stepbrother, stepsister, half-brother, half-sister, or a foster brother or sister who is a dependent of the participating parent and has been placed with the participating parent by an authorized placement agency or by judgment, decree, or other order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

## ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

One of the following documents is needed to prove a child with disabilities:

- A letter verifying the child's eligibility to receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), or
- A written diagnosis from a licensed physician verifying one of the listed disabilities, or
- An Individualized Education Program (IEP) issued by a Texas public school district or open-enrollment charter school.

## IMPORTANT:

A licensed professional evaluation can place your child in the top priority group, but the state can only calculate additional disability-based funding if your child has an IEP.

Families without an IEP will still be reviewed in the disability priority group but may receive the standard ESA funding amount.



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OF THE DIOCESE OF HOUSTON



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FOR MORE INFORMATION

