

Illinois Tax Credit Program: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

APPLICATION DATE CHANGE: New Application date is WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31 beginning at NOON.

As you may have heard, in late 2017, the Illinois Legislature created the income-based Illinois Tax Credit Scholarship Program to ensure all children have access to a quality education. This scholarship program will make K–12 private schools an option for thousands of kids. These scholarships will provide children and their families with opportunities that otherwise wouldn't be available. Scholarships are based on financial need.

We want to encourage all families, especially those who are currently receiving financial aid, to research this opportunity to see if this is a fit for your family, and apply!

Empower Illinois will begin accepting student applications for tax credit scholarships on Wednesday, January 31, 2018 beginning at Noon. The application portal is available at <https://empowerillinois.org/>

You can begin the process now by going to <https://empowerillinois.org/> to learn more about this program, and also by beginning to collect the following documents:

- Copy of 2016 OR 2017 federal tax return, 1099, W-2 or year-end pay stubs. (Do not mix years)
- Verification of Illinois residence (utility bill, driver's license etc.).
- Documentation of student age (birth certificate, federal/state ID or passport).
- Student's prior semester report card.
- If available, letter of acceptance or enrollment at an eligible school.

The funds are available on a first come, first served basis, so we are encouraging families to apply early in the day on Wednesday, January 31, 2018 beginning at Noon. The computer lab in the East Campus Library at Sacred Heart-Griffin, 1200 West Washington, will be reserved and staff will be on hand to help families through this process from Noon-6 p.m. on Wednesday, January 31.

Thank you!