

2024 - 2025 General Information

Good Shepherd Catholic School strives to foster each student's genuine love of learning. We believe that a strong Catholic education benefits the entire community.

- *Our Graduates are admitted to leading Catholic, private, and public selective enrollment high schools.*
- *Good Shepherd provides state-of-the-art facilities and tools. Every classroom has an Interactive Smart whiteboard, iPads, and an Apple Computer Lab.*
- *Many Alumni have chosen Good Shepherd Catholic School to educate their children. We are proud to be the home school of our “Legacy” students.*

Come experience the Good Shepherd difference for yourself! Join us at an open house event or an all-school mass, or click here to schedule a tour.

<https://good-shepherd-school.org/schedule-a-tour/>

Tuition Installment Plans:

Families who pay full tuition upon registration will receive a 5% discount (not applicable to fees). If you prefer to pay in installments, tuition costs will be paid in 10 installments from August to May.



PAYMENT PLAN OPTIONS

Option 1

One-time payment in full by August 20th through FACTS

Option 2

Installment payment plan through FACTS Management

Ten monthly installments from August 2024 through May 2025

Scholarships and Financial Aid:

Good Shepherd Catholic School is committed to creating an excellent education accessible to all students. When requested, we carefully and fairly assess each family's level of need and work with them to make tuition as affordable as possible. Here are some ways qualifying families may reduce their tuition responsibility:

- *Step Up for Students Scholarship by clicking here:*

<https://www.stepupforstudents.org/>

New families may apply for the Scholarships for the 2024-25 school year in the spring.

Includes: Florida Tax Credit, Family Empowerment Opportunities, and Family Empowerment-Unique Abilities

- *Financial aid may be available for school families who are not eligible for Step Up for Students. Apply online through FACTS by clicking here:*

<https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/3TMYR>.

- *VPK Scholarship by clicking here:*

<http://www.fl DOE.org/schools/early-learning/parents/vpk-parents.stml>



Referral Incentive:

Good Shepherd Catholic School hopes that all of our parents and guardians have the best possible experience and are satisfied with the educational program we provide. The best way for a family to show their appreciation of our school is to recommend it to their friends! We offer our families a referral incentive to encourage them to spread the word.

When you refer a family to Good Shepherd Catholic School, and they successfully enroll through the first quarter, you will receive a \$375 credit toward your child's tuition! This incentive is unlimited, so you could pay off your entire tuition by helping us grow our school community! This is an excellent way of helping your friends and family while reducing costs.

Application and Registration Requirements and Procedures:

Good Shepherd works hard to ensure that we are the right fit for each of our students and that each student will be successful in our school. For this reason, we require the following during the application process:

- *Admissions application by clicking here*
<https://good-shepherd-school.org/student-application/>
- *Admission Evaluation Test (contact the school office to schedule testing)*
 - *Report card or Transcript showing promotion to current grade*
 - *Standardized test results from the previous two years*
 - *Prior Individualized Education Plans (IEP) (evaluation must be three years or less.)*
 - *If applicable, psychological or socioemotional evaluation form*
 - *Application fee*
- *Interview with Pastor and Principal*



Once your student has applied and been accepted, the following documents will be required to complete registration:

- *Registration form*
- *Birth certificate*
- *School Entry Health Exam (Form DH 3040)*
- *Florida Certificate of Immunization (Form DH 680)*
- *Certificates of Sacraments (if Catholic)*
- *Photo*
- *Registration fee*

All new students must commence the enrollment/registration process within ten business days of receipt of the acceptance letter.

Probationary Period:

All new students will be accepted on a probationary period of nine weeks. During that period, teachers and administrators will evaluate his/her attendance, conduct, academic performance, and the family's ability to meet their financial obligations and support the school's mission, vision, and philosophy.

Given the mission of GSCS as an agent of Catholic Christian formation, the school will give preference to:

- Students whose parents demonstrate an understanding of the specific Catholic nature of the school and a desire to participate in that mission.
- Students whose families are active members of GSCC.
- Together, we will evaluate if our mission and values align to ensure that GSCS is the right fit for your family.

Regarding admission and registration, the Pastor, Principal, and admission committee decide the specific method of selecting students, and their selections are final.



According to Archdiocesan policy, a child must meet the following age criteria upon entering school:

A CHILD ENTERING	MUST BE	
Pre-K2	18 months- Years old	
Pre-K3	3 years old (Must be Potty Trained)	on or before September 1st of that year
Pre-K4	4 years old	
Kindergarten	5 years old	
1 st Grade	6 years old	

Active participation in the life of the parish by giving full of your time, talent, and treasure and by regularly attending Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation is required at GSCS.



	PRE-K2, PRE-K3 AND PRE-K4	KINDER TO 5 th GRADE	6 th TO 8 th GRADE	K-8 Mother Seton Program
REGISTRATION FEE NON-REFUNDABLE	\$375	\$375	\$375	\$375
GENERAL TUITION TUITION RATE	\$7,600	\$8,430	\$8,570	\$9,780

Tuition covers school operations and includes the following fees:

- **SECURITY FEE**
- S.T.R.E.A.M. Materials
- Standardized Testing
- Textbooks/Workbooks
- Instructional Materials
- Digital Instructional Programs
- Technology Fee
- iPad Fee
- Counseling Services
- Insurance
- Yearbook
- Athletic Fee (not the same as the after-school sports fee paid per sport)



Online Tuition Management:

Good Shepherd Catholic School offers a convenient way to pay your tuition and fees online using the FACTS Tuition Management platform. Electronic payments are made easy by setting up monthly tuition amounts to be charged to a credit card or withdrawn from your savings or checking account.

Required Fees:

Families are responsible for the fees and tuition costs below. These fees differ by grade, are non-refundable, and are paid during the registration process:

- *Application fee (per New student, submit with application): \$100 Rams Scholar Program, \$125 Mother Seton Special Program*
- *Registration fee (per student): \$375*
- *STREAM Shirt (per student, PK-8th): \$16*
- *Field Day Shirt (per student, PK-8th): \$16*
- *Field Trips (per student, PK-8th)*

- *Parish Festival*
- *Lunch*
- *Extracurricular Activities*
- *Sports Teams*

The application fee is \$100.00 per child. This fee includes the entrance exam/screening and is nonrefundable. Applications will be considered and scheduled for an entrance exam contingent on space availability.

The application deadline for the January entrance exam is **January 18th, 2024**.
Mother Seton Special Program Entrance Exam \$125.00 Per child.



Entrance Exam/Screening

As part of the admissions process, all prospective students must take an entrance exam/assessment upon receipt of an online application.

- Students entering PK2 - Kindergarten will be contacted individually to schedule an in-person assessment.
- Students entering 1st - 8th grades will be notified via email for the entrance exam.

Fundraising:

We appreciate the sacrifices made by our families to send their children to Catholic school. At Good Shepherd, we maintain our costs to keep tuition affordable. The cost of tuition is based on the per-pupil cost. It is calculated upon the school's expenses, including salaries, benefits, professional development, maintenance, utilities, supplies, and property liability, among other expenses. The per-child tuition rates do not cover the costs of educating a child. Fundraising is a significant factor in keeping our tuition affordable. Two important ways that families can help us in our efforts are to participate in our fundraising events and by positively promoting our school in the neighborhood!

Volunteer and Service Hour Requirements:

Good Shepherd is blessed to have a tight-knit school community in which families are encouraged and empowered to get to know one another and to work together to benefit their students and the whole school. To foster community and keep Good Shepherd strong, we require each family to contribute 20 hours of service each school year. This commitment can be met in a variety of ways. Please note that all volunteers working directly with students must submit to a background check, complete the Protecting God's



Children training, and remain up to date with online Virtus content.

Student-interfacing volunteer tasks include:

- *Room Moms*
- *Summer Book distribution*
- *Chaperoning field trips*
- *Coaching sports teams or activities*
- *School Planning and Facilitating Events*
- *In-kind business services such as photography, technology lessons, etc.*

Parents/Guardians who are not available during school hours or who are unable to complete the background check and training may consider volunteer options which are either not on school grounds, do not work directly with students, or are completed outside of school hours:

- *School board membership*
- *Parent Ambassador membership*
- *Fundraising committee membership*
- *Spirit Store Membership*
- *Family and School Association membership*
- *Speaking at Mass on behalf of the school*
- *Translation of informational or marketing materials*
- *Distribution of marketing materials*
- *In-kind business services such as printing, graphic design, web design, etc.*

Please let us know if you think of another way to serve the school community! We want to make volunteering as easy and enjoyable as possible.



Admissions/Inclusion Policy:

Good Shepherd Catholic School has an open admission policy. No person, on the grounds of race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, disability, or national origin, is excluded or otherwise subjected to discrimination in the receiving of services. Good Shepherd does not discriminate in hiring, promotion, discharge, pay, fringe benefits, job training, classification, referral, or other aspects of employment based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, disability, age, or national origin.

Good Shepherd Catholic School adheres to Title IX: “No person in the United States shall, based on sex, be excluded from participating in, be denied the benefits, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal assistance.”

Immunization Policy:

The Archdiocese of Miami requires that, before enrollment or attendance in preschool and above, each student must present or have on file with the school an immunization certification to prevent those communicable diseases for which the Department of Health requires immunization. A completed Florida Certification of Immunization (Form DH 680) is required to document the administration of prescribed immunization dosages. An exemption from immunization requirements is permissible only with a physician’s certification as to the need for either a temporary or permanent medical exemption. An exemption from immunization requirements is not permissible for religious, philosophical, personal, or other reasons.



GSCS Financial Plan

Financial plans at GSCS School include educational materials for distribution to all members of the community, explaining the total cost per child and how that cost is met by identifying the percentage of cost that is paid for by tuition and the remaining amount of cost that is supported by other sources of revenue.

2022-2023 TOTAL EXPENSES \$2,042,067	
# of students enrolled	231
Average cost per student	\$8,840
Income from tuition	\$2,052,783
Average income per student	\$8,886
Gap per students	\$18

Fundraising and other sources such as afterschool care, registration, extra-curricular activities, and sports fees allow us to maintain the facilities and make capital improvements to the campus.

