

Dear Parents-

The FACTS online application for STO is now opened and the deadline will be **April 15th**. The “Our Faith” STO website has been revised but the address is still www.ourfaithsto.org. This year parents are asked to use this website to access the FAQs and application link. On the main screen there are two main boxes for parents. One says “*For Parents*” which is where you can directly link to the application and the other is “*FAQs For Parents*” which has 26 frequently asked questions. In addition to completing the application, you will need to upload your 2019 federal tax return along with any other required schedules or tax documentation.

The following are some important points to help you with this process:

- The online FACTS application for STO award consideration is open and available at www.ourfaithsto.org
- If families applied through FACTS last year, they should use their same user name and password.
- Families must upload a completed 2019 federal tax return and related tax documents if they are required to file a federal return.
- The application deadline is April 15, 2020.
- The STO application is required for your local school tuition assistance program.
- The application fee is \$31.00 per application (not per child)
- If a family needs assistance with their application they can call the FACTS Helpline at 866-315-9262 Monday - Thursday 7:30 am to 7 pm and Friday 7:30 am to 5 pm.

What are the possible income qualifying levels for 2020-2021?

2020 POVERTY GUIDELINES FOR STO USE

Persons in Household	Poverty Guideline	300%	400%
2	\$17,240	\$51,720	\$68,960
3	\$21,720	\$65,160	\$86,880
4	\$26,200	\$78,600	\$104,800
5	\$30,680	\$92,040	\$122,720
6	\$35,160	\$105,480	\$140,640
7	\$39,640	\$118,920	\$158,560
8	\$44,120	\$132,360	\$176,480

*Important Notes about Income Guidelines

- STO qualifying levels listed are based upon 300% & 400% of 2020 Federal Poverty Levels. Final income qualifying levels will be determined by the "Our Faith" STO Board based on identified need and available funds.
- Families are eligible for STO assistance if they are Iowa residents AND their taxable income is at or below the above listed income levels. Falling within these guidelines does not necessarily guarantee tuition assistance awards.
- Family size includes parents/guardians plus total number of dependents claimed on tax return.
- For families/households with more than eight persons, add \$17,920 for each additional person.
- Any available local tuition assistance beyond STO awards may not be based upon the above income levels but may require completion of a FACTS application.

If you have questions, concerns, or need assistance, please do not hesitate to call Mr. Smith at 875-7376.