

Academy of Saint Elizabeth



Academic and Scholarship Programs

Honors, Advanced Placement, and Scholars Programs

To best prepare our students for the rigors of postsecondary education and to offer our highly motivated students the opportunity to participate in intellectually challenging curricula beyond the college preparatory level, the Academy of Saint Elizabeth offers a variety of accelerated academic programs:

The Saint Elizabeth Honors Program

The Academy offers honors classes to qualified students in English, Math, Science, History, and World Languages. Students are admitted into honors classes as long as they have fulfilled all prerequisites, as outlined in the Academy of Saint Elizabeth Course Description Catalog. All honors courses receive an additional weight of .5 to the final average. They include the following:

- English 9 Honors
- American Literature Honors
- British Literature Honors
- Geometry Honors
- Algebra II/Trigonometry Honors
- Pre-Calculus Honors
- Calculus Honors
- Biology Honors
- Chemistry Honors
- Physics Honors
- World History Honors
- U.S. History I Honors
- French III Honors
- French IV Honors
- Latin III Honors
- Spanish III Honors
- Spanish IV Honors

We offer freshman honors courses in English, Geometry, Biology, and World History. Admittance into ninth grade honors courses is based on middle school transcripts, standardized test scores, and scores on the Academy of Saint Elizabeth Entrance Exam and Writing Sample Assessment. In addition, admittance into an honors math course is also based on a math placement test offered in the spring of a student's eighth grade year. Students in grades 10, 11, and 12 may continue in honors courses each year by maintaining a minimum B average, along with the recommendation of the teacher and fulfillment of any prerequisites. In addition, a student may move from a regular section to an honors section by achieving a minimum average of A-, teacher recommendation, fulfilling any prerequisites, and, depending upon the class, success on a placement test.

The AOSE Advanced Placement Program

In addition to our Saint Elizabeth Honors Program, the Academy also offers Advanced Placement (AP) courses to qualified students in English, Math, Science, Social Studies, and World Languages. Students are admitted into AP classes as long as they have fulfilled all prerequisites, as outlined in the Academy of

Saint Elizabeth Course Description Catalog, along with teacher recommendation. All AP courses receive an additional weight of 1.00 to the final average. They include the following:

- AP Language and Composition
- AP Literature and Composition
- AP Calculus—AB
- AP Calculus—BC
- AP Biology
- AP Chemistry
- AP US History
- AP European History
- AP Government and Politics
- AP French
- AP Latin
- AP Spanish

All students enrolled in an AP course are expected to take the Advanced Placement Exam in May.

The Blessed Miriam Theresa Scholars Program

In addition to honors and AP classes, the Academy of Saint Elizabeth has distinguished itself as a hands-on college preparatory institution with its Blessed Miriam Theresa Scholars Program. Offered to high achieving juniors and seniors dedicated to academic excellence, this program provides the opportunity for highly motivated students to experience firsthand the rigors of challenging coursework at the college level.

Participation in this program takes many forms. Qualified students have the option of participating in the College of Saint Elizabeth's (CSE) "College Now Program" without ever having to leave the Academy. AOSE is pleased to offer in-house college courses taught by CSE adjunct professors who are also members of the AOSE faculty. In addition, select, qualified seniors whose schedules allow are also afforded the opportunity to take a total of three college elective classes on the CSE campus—just steps away from the Academy. Students experience challenging coursework at the collegiate level with CSE college students. In order to qualify for the CSE "College Now Program," juniors and seniors must have at least a 3.0 GPA, letters of recommendation from their guidance counselor, and a completed College Now application. Finally, qualifying students also have the opportunity to take approved online college courses. All college courses—whether taken at the Academy, at CSE, or online—receive an additional weight of 1.00 to the final average and require an additional per-credit fee. Besides receiving credit for these courses on their high school transcripts, students will also be awarded an official college transcript and transferable college credits.

Scholarship Opportunities at the Academy

The Academy of Saint Elizabeth offers a number of scholarship opportunities for our students. Scholarships are awarded based on a variety of factors, including academic achievement, talent, leadership, and/or demonstrated financial need. Below is a list of available scholarships:

The Mother Xavier Merit Scholarship

The Mother Xavier Merit Scholarships are offered exclusively on the basis of academic achievement and potential for success at AOSE. These scholarships are awarded annually by the Academy of Saint Elizabeth Scholarship Committee to incoming ninth grade students whose academic excellence and moral responsibility exemplify the mission of the Academy. Students are selected based on the following criteria: exemplary middle school academic performance, excellent achievement on standardized tests, superior scores on the Academy's Entrance Exam and Writing Sample Assessment, strong character and

moral values, and demonstrated leadership and involvement in school and community. These scholarships are awarded for four years provided that students maintain a cumulative 3.3 grade-point average at the end of each academic year. Incoming students will learn of their Merit Scholar status and the amount of their scholarship in their letter of acceptance sent out in December, prior to the following school year.

Incoming ninth grade students who are recipients of the Mother Xavier Merit Scholarship are automatically placed in English, History, and Science honors classes, although all are not required. In addition, Merit Scholars are also invited to take a math honors placement test in the spring of the student's eighth grade year to determine the appropriate level of math.

Financial Aid Grants

Any student who has submitted a completed admission application and any student who is currently enrolled may apply for a Financial Aid Grant. Families seeking financial assistance must file an application by December 1, 2017, through Financial Aid for School Tuition ([FAST](#)). Incomplete FAST applications cannot be processed. Financial aid must be applied for annually.

Catherine C. Murphy Memorial Scholarship

The Catherine C. Murphy Scholarship was generously established by Brian and MaryLynn Murphy in memory of their daughter, Catherine (Kitty) Murphy, a 2003 graduate of the Academy of Saint Elizabeth. Kitty often reflected upon her time at the Academy as the happiest period of her life. It is here that she flourished as a young woman and strengthened her level of personal confidence, academic potential, and Christian values. Kitty went on to graduate, cum laude, from Gettysburg College. This scholarship is awarded annually to an incoming freshman on the basis of demonstrated financial need and commitment to the Academy of Saint Elizabeth values.

- **Eligibility:** Any applicant to the freshman class who takes the entrance exam, submits all of the appropriate school records, submits an application for financial aid by December 1, 2017, and demonstrates financial need through the appropriate financial aid process (FAST), will be considered.
- **Value of the Scholarship:** This scholarship ranges in value from \$ 5,000.00 to \$20,000.00, over a four year period, provided the following criteria are continually met:

The family must demonstrate financial need each year (within designated time frame) and submit a financial aid application annually; and

Student conducts herself in a manner consistent with the values of the Academy of Saint Elizabeth.

Eileen M. O'Rourke Student Activities Scholarship Fund

The Eileen M. O'Rourke Student Activities Scholarship Fund was established to honor the name of this beloved teacher who engaged within and outside of her classroom in many activities, over many years, with many students. In the generous spirit of fun, camaraderie, and inventive mischievousness that she inspired in her students, this award is intended to offset the Student Activities expense for one year.

- **Eligibility:** Any applicant to the freshman class, who takes the entrance exam, submits all of the appropriate school records, submits an application for financial aid by December 1, 2017, demonstrates financial need through the appropriate financial aid process (FAST), and has an exhibited record of community service and/or extra-curricular activities will be considered.
- **Value of the Scholarship:** This is a one-time award of \$750.00.

Alumnae Legacy Scholarship

Founded in 1860, the Academy of St. Elizabeth carries with it the distinction of being the oldest all-girls Catholic high school in New Jersey. As such, we are an institution steeped in our traditions. We value all, but one that brings us great pride is our legacy record—the alumnae who choose to continue their familial history at the Academy. Our first and oldest legacy family began with Mary Ann Davis, an 1863 graduate of the Academy whose granddaughter, great-granddaughter, and great-great-granddaughter all attended the Academy. It is in this same spirit of history and tradition that the Academy has established the Alumnae Legacy Scholarship.

- **Eligibility:** Any legacy applicant to the freshman class who takes the entrance exam, submits all of the appropriate school records, and submits a 250-350 word, typed, essay conveying the personal significance of being an Academy of St. Elizabeth legacy student by December 1, 2017, will be considered. Legacy is defined as being the daughter, granddaughter, great-granddaughter, etc., of an alumna. Cousins, aunts, nieces, and sisters do not fall within the definition of legacy.
- **Value of the Scholarship:** This is a one-time award of \$1,000.00. Award of the scholarship will be determined through the evaluation of the required essay submitted by December 1, 2017. All essays will be evaluated by a committee of alumnae.

The Class of 1967 Scholarship

Established by the Class of 1967, The Class of 1967 Scholarship was created to inspire current and future students to strive for academic excellence and to forge a bond with alumnae who value the Academy of Saint Elizabeth experience—an experience they view as a source of strength, friendship, and appreciation. With this sense of connection in mind, this Scholarship is awarded to a junior at the Academy and is intended to offset college search expenses, such as application fees, travel expenses to colleges for interviews, etc., and various graduation costs.

- **Eligibility:** Any Academy of Saint Elizabeth junior who completes an application and authorization form, demonstrates academic excellence, and submits an essay (not to exceed three typed, double-spaced pages) by January 11, 2018, in which she introduces herself and discusses her aspirations and expectation for her college experience, will be considered.
- **Value of the Scholarship:** This is a one-time award of an amount that will be announced at the time of notification and presentation of the scholarship to the awardee in April, 2018. The recipient of the scholarship will be determined through the evaluation of academic records, a required essay, and an interview. All essays will be evaluated by a class of 1967 committee.