

Scholarship Policy

Background

Ave Maria College is a Catholic College for young women from Years 7 to 12. It provides a high quality, comprehensive education to young women from 12 feeder Catholic Primary Schools in the inner North West of Melbourne. The College has a Franciscan heritage, established by the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary in 1963. It is now governed by the Archdiocese of Melbourne, yet retains and upholds the Franciscan charism.

"...the Ave Maria College community encourages our young women to develop the goodness in themselves...with integrity and compassion we are driven to answer the Gospel call for justice for those in need....we are people of learning, we wish to guide each young woman to develop as a whole person, striving for excellence in all her endeavours..."

Rationale

Ave Maria College is pleased to offer a range of scholarships to students in order to support and enhance excellence in learning. The College recognises that excellence in education is both a right for our young women and a shared enterprise between family and school. In all our endeavours, we seek to inspire excellence and celebrate excellence as an expression of God's good gifts among us. In this context we seek to affirm and encourage the pursuit of academic excellence – for the individual and ultimately for the common good.

Intention

The College will

1. Award scholarships as a way of increasing access to enrolment to young women who will benefit from and contribute to, Catholic education at Ave Maria College.
2. Award scholarships to young women who demonstrate evidence of a commitment to Catholic education, reflecting a willingness to live, serve and lead the Franciscan values of the College.
3. Award scholarships to young women who demonstrate evidence and capacity for excellence in academic endeavour.
4. Award scholarships at the discretion of Principal, in consultation with the College Executive and College Board of Governance.
5. Award scholarships on the basis of a range of criteria, which take into account the merit and need of students.
6. Offer three levels of Scholarships:
 - a. Scholarships will be awarded annually for students entering Year 9 based on academic excellence and according to prescribed selection criteria
 - b. Senior School Scholarships will be awarded annually for students entering Year 11 based on academic excellence and according to prescribed selection criteria
 - c. Veritas Scholarship – awarded to student/s at other year levels, based on discerned need and at the discretion of the Principal.
7. The number of scholarships awarded will vary each year, based on the quality of applications and availability of funds.
8. Award scholarships which cover up to 100% of tuition fees until the end of Year 12, subject to exemplary performance and engagement in College life. A review of all scholarship recipients will be conducted annually.

9. Scholarships will not cover such costs as uniform, books, levies or any other co curricular activities unless specified.
10. Ensure that students awarded scholarships will be bound by the same rights and responsibilities as all students enrolled at Ave Maria College.
11. Require all applicants for Scholarships to understand and consent to the following Terms and Conditions:
 - a. Full completion of the Application and Selection process, including Academic Assessments, payment of Testing Fees and interview process (see Scholarship Protocols for details).
 - b. Provide in their application evidence of their suitability for a scholarship under the following areas:
 - i. Commitment to the spirit of Ave Maria College, according to our Mission
 - ii. Commitment to excellence in academic endeavour
 - iii. Commitment to being a role model to all as a young woman of Ave Maria College who fully participates in all aspects of College life
 - iv. Commitment to being an outstanding ambassador for Ave Maria College whilst at school and in the broader community.

Consequences

The College will:

1. Ensure that the awarding of scholarships adheres to the rationale and intent of the College Scholarship policy.
2. Ensure that all processes for application and awarding of Scholarships follow a clearly defined and transparent process.
3. Ensure that all recipients of scholarships have satisfactorily met the selection criteria and consent to its review on an annual basis.
4. Require that all recipients and their family understand and consent to the terms and conditions of an Ave Maria College Scholarship.
5. Require that confidentiality between the recipient's family and the College is maintained.
6. Require that any breach of this confidentiality by the family may result in the scholarship being rescinded.
7. Honour the provision of each scholarship whilst the student is enrolled at the College, subject to the student meeting the requirements of its provision.
8. Require that if a student withdraws from the College, the family will refund the value of the scholarship provided, in the current year.

Ratified: College Executive

Date: May 2017