

SCHOLARSHIP & TUITION GRANT PROGRAM

Tuition and fees for the 2011–2012 school year is similar to Diocesan high schools. There is no additional charge for non-Catholic students.

Base Tuition	\$5,550
Activity Fee	\$160
Lab Fee	\$100
Fund-raising Fee	\$300
Netbook Fee	\$150
Smart Tuition Fee	\$36
Total Tuition and Fees	\$6,296

The following provides brief information on scholarships/grants and the application process. Tuition grant applications, with instructions, will be available in January.

Awards for most grants are usually announced in early June

MVHS Academic Scholarships

A full four-year academic scholarship and a half four-year academic scholarship are available to members of each year's 9th grade class. Guidelines and an application can be requested by calling the Admissions Office at extension 115.

MVHS Grant

These grants are funded through our tuition assistance endowment fund and our Adopt-A-Student program. Grants are awarded for one year only and re-application must be made on an annual basis. Incoming 9th grade students will receive a grant application once they have been accepted and are officially registered for the program. 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students will be provided with reapplications. Application deadline is early April.

Josephine C. Connelly Achievement Award

These grants are funded through the Connelly foundation. Grant amount for 2011–2012 is \$1,850 per school year applied to each of the four years the student attends Mercy Vocational. The application selection process is administered at the elementary level. Every parochial school, including consolidated parochial schools, in the Philadelphia, North and Philadelphia, South Vicariates is eligible to participate. Please contact the elementary principal and/or teacher early in the school year for information on the application/selection process.

Charles E. Ellis Grant

For those students who are eligible, a tremendous funding opportunity exists through the Charles E. Ellis Grant and Scholarship Fund. Eligible students can receive significant funding for all four years. Applications are available from the Admissions Office or the Ellis Trust in January. Application deadline is usually mid April.

BLOCS/EITC Grants

This is EITC money that has been donated through the BLOCS organization for families of MVHS who qualify. Applications are available from the Admissions Office at the beginning of the second semester. Application deadline early April.

MVHS/EITC Grants

This is EITC money that has been donated directly to MVHS for Mercy families who qualify. The MVHS Grants and MVHS/EITC Grants are applied for using the same applications. Application deadline is early April.

Connelly Foundation Scholarships for Sophomores and Juniors

Two sophomores are recommended by their academic and shop teachers each year for outstanding academic grades, conduct, and attendance. These students receive a \$5,000 scholarship for junior year, and if they maintain the criteria, receive an additional \$5,000 for senior year.

2011–2012 Grant Eligibility Guidelines

Ellis Grants or MVHS Grants		BLOCS or MVHS EITC Grants	
Family Size (includes student)	Maximum Income	Family Size (includes student)	Maximum Income
1	\$20,036	1	\$ 72,000
2	\$26,955	2	\$ 84,000
3	\$33,874	3	\$ 96,000
4	\$40,793	4	\$108,000
5	\$47,712	5	\$120,000
6	\$54,631		
7	\$61,550		
8	\$68,469		
*6,919 for each additional person		*\$12,000 for each additional person	
<small>The family income guidelines above are based upon those used as the Aid to Families with Dependent Children low-income guidelines.</small>		<small>The family income guidelines above are based upon those developed by the BLOCS Office.</small>	

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Process and Guidelines

All applicants must register for and complete the Mercy Vocational High School Entrance Test. Please call the Admissions Office to register for testing. Applicant is required to submit a copy of his/her elementary transcript on the day of testing. Applicant must submit a minimum of two letters of recommendation from present principal and teacher.

Applicant must submit an essay, one-two typed, double-spaced pages. This essay must be submitted with the completed application. The essay must be signed and dated at the bottom by parent/guardian and student. The essay topic/guidelines for all applicants are:

- Why do you believe Mercy Vocational High School is the best choice for you?
- What do you expect/hope to achieve through an MVHS education?
- What qualities do you believe you possess that will lead to a successful four-year MVHS experience?
- In what ways have you been involved in and contributed to your school outside of the classroom (e.g. activities, sports, service, etc.) and in what ways will you do the same at MVHS?
- A copy of the applicant's first 8th grade trimester report card must be submitted with the application.
- An application fee of \$25.00 must be submitted with the application. Check or money order made payable to Mercy Vocational High School.
- Parent and applicant must agree to a scholarship interview with a member(s) of the Scholarship Committee.

Scholarship Awards will be based on the following criteria:

- The applicant's 7th and 8th grade academic performance.
- The applicant's entrance test results.
- The submitted letters of recommendation.
- The applicant's submitted essay.
- The Parent/Applicant interview.

Scholarship Progression Criteria

To be eligible for annual renewal of the scholarship, the following criteria must be met:

- Student must achieve and maintain academic honors status.
- Student must maintain excellent conduct and attendance records.
- Student must maintain involvement in school sponsored activities.
- Student must be approved for renewal by the Scholarship Committee.

Please complete (print) the following information:

Student Name _____ M F

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Number _____

Present School _____

Student's Signature _____ Date / /

Parent's Signature _____ Date / /

GETTING TO MERCY

By Car

From Northeast Philadelphia

South on Roosevelt Boulevard onto the Roosevelt Expressway at 9th Street. First exit (Fox Street) Turn left to first light (Roberts Avenue). Turn right to the next light (dead end into Henry Avenue). Turn left to the next light (Hunting Park Avenue). Turn left and Mercy Vocational is on the right.

From Kensington, Port Richmond, Fishtown

Follow Allegheny Avenue West crossing Broad Street to the 2900 block. Mercy Vocational is on the right.

From Center City

Follow Kelly Drive from the Art Museum area for approximately 4 miles to the first light (Hunting Park Avenue). Turn right to the second light. Mercy Vocational is straight ahead on the right.

From South Philadelphia and West Philadelphia

Broad Street or Market Street to Center City. Follow the above directions from Center City.

From Roxborough, Manayunk and East Falls

Follow Henry Avenue to the end (intersection with Hunting park and Allegheny Avenue). Turn left and Mercy Vocational is on the right.

From Chestnut Hill, Germantown, and Mount Airy

Follow Germantown Avenue to Hunting Park Avenue. Turn right to the 2900 block. Mercy Vocational is on the left.

From West Oak Lane and East Oak Lane

Follow Broad Street south to Hunting park Avenue. Turn right to the 2900 block. Mercy Vocational is on the left.

By Septa

Septa Routes 1, 32, 48, 60 and R all stop at Mercy Vocational High School.

Parking

Visitor parking for Open House is available on both sides of Hunting Park Avenue in front of the school. Additional parking is available in the Share Company parking lots across from the school at the 29th Street end of the Share building.

Private Transportation

Mercy Vocational High School is pleased to offer insured, reliable private transportation service, at an additional cost, as an alternative to Septa service. Presently MVHS has 1 private transportation route servicing a limited area of Philadelphia. The following is a list of parishes serviced:

Philadelphia South Vicariate

St. Anne	Sacred Heart	Annunciation
St. Adalbert	Epiphany	St. Laurentius
St. Gabriel	St. Monica	Holy Spirit
St. Nicholas	Mother of Divine Grace	St. Richard
Our Lady of Mount Carmel	St. Thomas Aquinas	

The route is customized each year. Boarding and drop-off locations are usually within walking distance of the student's home. The cost for 2011–2012 is \$1750 for the school year. The cost is added to the monthly tuition payment plan.

MERCY HIGHLIGHTS

Our Students

- Approximately 350 students from 55 zip codes in grades 9-12
- 99% reside in the City of Philadelphia
- Culturally diverse student body
- Welcoming to students of all faiths and backgrounds

Our Challenges

- 87% defined as “at-risk” by federal guidelines
 - 64% of families living at or below the poverty level
 - Annual Cost to educate each student: \$10,800
 - Annual Tuition charged per student: \$6,296
- 75% of our families receive financial aid towards their portion of tuition

Our School

- The ONLY co-educational Catholic career and technical education high school in the country.
- Founded in 1950 as a sponsored school of the Sisters of Mercy offering a non-traditional path to college.
- Four-year integrated academic and vocational/technical curriculum.

Vocational programs and certifications available:

Building Trades Academy

- **Carpentry: Cabinet Making & Framing** – Certification through the National Center for Construction Education and Research in Core Curriculum and Level I
- **Electricity: Residential; Commercial; with an introduction to HVAC**– Certification through the National Center for Construction Education and Research in Core Curriculum and Level I

Business Academy

- **Business Education** – MOS (Microsoft Office Specialist) Certification
- **Computer Technician** – CertiPort IC3! Internet and Computing Core Certification and CompTIA A+ Certification

Service Academy

- **Cosmetology** – State Licensed Program
- **Culinary Arts** – ServSafe Certification and National Restaurant Association Education Foundation ManageFirst Nutrition Certification.
- **Nursing Assistant Training Program** – State Board Certified
- Co-operative Education Program allows seniors to gain professional experience in their chosen career fields.
- Extensive guidance counseling and emotional support services.
- Caring, dedicated and experienced staff fosters an environment that is safe and conducive to learning.

(over)

Our Success:

- 99% graduation rate
 - 97% average daily attendance rate
 - MVHS is fully reaccredited by the Middle States Association until May 2014.
 - In June of 2011, MVHS graduated 75 students:
 - 96% of these students had successful outcomes after graduation.
 - 73% went on to post-secondary education, including trade schools and training programs
 - 15% directly entered full time employment
 - 5% are working and continuing their education
 - 3% entered the military
- Graduates were also awarded over \$1.1M in scholarships and merit awards to attend career and technical schools, community colleges and 4 year institutions of higher learning.

ENTRANCE REGISTRATION FORM

(PLEASE PRINT)

Student Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Present School _____

Present Grade _____

Parent Name _____

Phone Number _____

Email _____

I wish to register my son/daughter for Mercy Vocational High School's Entrance/Placement test on Saturday, November 19, 2011.

Parent Signature _____

Candidates for testing **must** be present by 8:45 am bringing with them the requested information and testing fee. Please call the MVHS Admissions Office at 215.226.1225 ext. 115 if you have any questions.

This form must be returned on or before November 14, 2011.