



October 10, 2008 - Regis College Announces New Scholarship for Catholic High Schools

Scholarship aims to strengthen links of Catholic secondary and Catholic higher education

Weston, MA. - In a letter to Catholic high school heads and principals, Mary Jane England, MD, the president of Regis College, and Mary Grassa O'Neill, the secretary of education in the Archdiocese of Boston, have jointly announced the new Regis College Presidential Scholarship for students at Catholic high schools within the geographic area of the Archdiocese.

The announcement came on the heels of the recent archdiocesan celebration of "Catholic schools week." The Regis College Presidential Scholarship is a full-tuition scholarship for four years. It will be awarded to one student, either a young woman or a young man, at each Catholic high school in the Archdiocese's geography.

"Especially in the current economic climate," said Mary Jane England, "Regis College is pleased to be able to offer Catholic high school students another opportunity to continue their education and deepen their grasp of the Catholic intellectual and social tradition. This scholarship aims to strengthen Catholic identity across the spectrum from Catholic secondary education to Catholic higher education.

"We all want to expand this generation's ability to cultivate a Catholic mind in the arts, sciences and professions," England added, "and its deep connection to service. As the Sisters of St. Joseph of Boston who founded Regis College put it, ultimately the service of the 'dear neighbor' is at the heart of all Catholic education."

To be eligible, the student should

- Possess a 3.3 GPA (recalculated by the Regis College Office of Admission) and an 1100 (Critical Reading and Math sections) on the SAT or 24 on the ACT.
- Go through the regular application process at Regis College as a prospective resident student and be accepted;
- Be nominated by the head of the school (principal or headmaster/mistress or president or chief administrator) by January 15; and
- Continue to meet the criteria while matriculating at Regis.

Cardinal Seán P. O'Malley said, "Regis College is a leading Catholic institution committed to creating opportunity for students who seek to make a real and tangible impact in our society. We are blessed by the generosity of Regis College with the Presidential Scholarship as it is going to dramatically improve the chances for students to realize their dreams."

Mary Grassa O'Neill commented that "The granting of these scholarships will help draw some of the best students from area Catholic high schools to a Catholic institution of higher education traditionally known for quality education."

Ellen M. O'Connor, chairperson of the Regis College board of trustees, identified "the enthusiasm of the whole board" for this kind of outreach. "At a time when parents are wondering how their high-achieving daughter or son will be able to go to college, this scholarship provides a way to help students fulfill their educational aspirations. It's a strongly Catholic statement of hope and commitment in the tradition of the Sisters of St. Joseph."

The announcement of the new Regis scholarship also comes toward the end of the archdiocesan bicentennial year when local Catholics are closely watching the upcoming beatification process for John Henry Cardinal Newman. "Newman understood that knowledge was good for its own sake, and he also opened up paths so that those who had been denied education could gain it," England added. "This scholarship will help do the same."

For further information on the scholarship, contact admission@regiscollege.edu.



Regis College

Regis College is a Catholic co-educational community that prepares undergraduate, graduate and continuing education students for engagement and service in a changing world. In the School of Arts and Sciences and the School of Nursing and Health Professions, approximately 1,600 students are enrolled in 24 undergraduate majors, graduate degree programs in education, communication, leadership and service, health product regulation, public administration and nursing, and a doctorate in nursing practice. U.S. News and World Report ranks Regis in the top tier of universities with master's programs in the North. The National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) lists Regis among benchmarking colleges for the quality of educational experience. The National League of Nursing recently identified Regis College as a Center of Excellence in Nursing Education. The College also provides accredited pre-school and kindergarten programs, and a Life Long Learning Program (LLARC) for retired seniors. Visit Regis on the Web at www.regiscollege.edu.

The Archdiocese of Boston

The Diocese of Boston was founded on April 8, 1808 and was elevated to Archdiocese in 1875. Currently serving the needs of approximately 2 million Catholics, the Archdiocese of Boston is an ethnically diverse and spiritually enriching faith community consisting of 292 parishes, across 144 communities, educating approximately 46,000 students in its Catholic schools and 156,000 in religious education classes each year, ministering to the needs of more than one million patients annually in Catholic hospitals and 200,000 individuals through its social service outreach. Mass is celebrated in nearly twenty different languages each week.

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