



Wisconsin Tax Deduction for Private School Tuition Expenses

What is the tax deduction for private school expenses?

In 2013, the Wisconsin Legislature approved state budget bill (2013 Wisconsin Act 20) which established a tuition tax deduction for private school tuition. Beginning in the tax year 2014, parents with dependent children in a private school will be able to receive a tax deduction for tuition. This is great news for you, parents who make sacrifices to give your child(ren) the gift of a Catholic education.

Between January 1, 2017, and December 31, any tuition paid for a private education may be claimed on your tax return the next filing year. Up to \$4,000 for **each** dependent child in kindergarten through 8th grade and up to \$10,000 for **each** dependent child in grades 9 – 12 may be **claimed no matter what your income level**.

Who is eligible to claim the deduction?

Any dependent student paying private school tuition, no matter what the family income, is eligible if attending a private school under the Wisconsin Statutes.

What are the deductions limits per student?

Private school tuition expenses up to \$4,000 per dependent child in Kindergarten – Grade 8 and up to \$10,000 for each dependent child in grades 9 – 12 are eligible.

How much will this deduction benefit families?

The average Wisconsin family will see a tax cut around \$240 per elementary school student and around \$600 per high school student.

What if my child is transitioning from a private elementary school to a private high school?

Parents may only claim expenses paid for one grade between January 1 and December 31. Parents must decide which grade tuition expenses to claim for that year.

What recordkeeping information do I need to claim this deduction?

Parents need to ensure that their students' institution meets the WI state statutes definition of a private school. Parents will also need receipt(s) of payment for their tax records. The Department of Revenue will be providing a form for this deduction after the current filing season.

Because every family's tax situation is different, it is recommended that specific tax questions be directed to a certified public accountant.