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## Club Support of Saint Mary's

Alumnae clubs set a leadership example when they focus their fund-raising efforts on Saint Mary's. There are a variety of giving opportunities for alumnae clubs which include Saint Mary's College Annual Fund, scholarship funds, the Alumnae Memorial Scholarship Fund, and the Student Emergency Contingency Fund. For personal giving opportunities, please direct alumnae to the College website: [www.saintmarys.edu](http://www.saintmarys.edu).

### Did you know? ...

Income from tuition, fees, room and board covers about 80% of the College's annual operating expenses. Additional revenue is provided by earnings from the College's general endowment fund, summer programs and miscellaneous rentals.

The Annual Fund provides additional resources to close the gap and meet the needs of the College.

The Annual Fund provides the College with the additional resources needed to meet the most important financial need of the College—financial aid and scholarships for students. Financial aid has become a critical factor in the ability to attract and enroll the qualified students that Saint Mary's has traditionally served.

Colleges and universities are often evaluated based on the success of their alumnae support. When the percentage of alumnae who give to the College is high, and the level of support is

significant, corporations and foundations are more likely to join in support of the College

Over 90% of Saint Mary's full-time students receive some type of financial assistance in the form of scholarship, grant, loan and work opportunities.

## SPECIAL GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

### Alumnae Memorial Scholarship Fund

Established in 1994 by past and current members of the Alumnae Association Board of Directors, this endowed fund provides over \$15,000 in scholarship assistance to current students. Preference is given to relatives of alumnae. The fund is open to all donors.

### Alumnae Club Scholarship Fund

To qualify as a personal tax deductible contribution, gifts to an Alumnae Club Scholarship Fund must be made payable to Saint Mary's College, with the restriction to the club fund indicated on the memo line.

### Student Emergency Contingency Fund

This fund provides assistance for items not covered through other sources, such as books, medical emergencies, personal crisis, etc. (There is a critical need at the College for this type of fund.) The fund is administered by the director of Financial Aid. Contributions of any amount may be restricted to this fund.

## **Annual Fund**

Gifts to the Annual Fund make an immediate impact by supporting the greatest need of the College—financial aid and scholarships. The Annual Fund year runs concurrently with the fiscal year of the College, June 1-May31. A gift may also be made in memory or in honor of a family member, classmate or friend.

## **ALUMNAE CLUB SCHOLARSHIPS**

As a member institution of the College Board, Saint Mary's has agreed that financial aid will be awarded to properly qualified students after careful consideration of financial need. The primary purpose of an alumnae club scholarship is to provide financial assistance to students who otherwise would be unable to pursue their education at Saint Mary's. It is the College's recommendation that a grade point average not be specified in the agreement because it often prevents the award from being made or creates a circumstance where a previous recipient might lose her funding because she has temporarily experienced academic difficulties. First-year students through seniors are eligible for consideration.

All conditions specified by the club for awarding the club scholarship should be compatible with Saint Mary's institutional policy.

There are two types of scholarships available to alumnae clubs—an annual scholarship with a specified amount awarded every year, or an endowed scholarship. A minimum of \$50,000 is required to set up an endowed fund. Realistically, it is attainable by a few of our larger alumnae clubs. However, an annual scholarship is certainly an attainable goal for most alumnae clubs.

### **Establishing an Annual Scholarship**

A minimum of \$500 is required to establish and fund an annual alumnae club scholarship. The alumnae club should notify the Alumnae Relations Office no later than December 31 prior to the academic year in which the award is to be granted. A member of the professional staff will assist in working out the details of your individual club scholarship to best accommodate your club's size, financial capabilities and interests, and to insure that it conforms with College policy.

The Financial Aid Office chooses a recipient based on financial need and any other special conditions of a particular club that have been outlined in the agreement. The selection of the recipient shall be made by the Financial Aid Office due to the confidential nature of determining financial need. NOTE: The alumnae club scholarship is awarded as part of the total financial aid package. It is not an additional award, over and above the financial aid package.

The selection of the recipient is generally made in the fall, after enrollment has been confirmed. It has been the experience of the Financial Aid Office that sometimes, after awards have been announced during the summer, the student sometimes does not enroll at the College. Therefore, announcement of the award is best made after the opening of school.

The Financial Aid Office informs the recipient of the award. Upon receipt of the recipient's written permission, the Financial Aid Office then notifies the Alumnae Relations Office. The Alumnae Relations Office informs the club which may then plan some form of public recognition via a club newsletter or at a club event, which may coincide with a time when the student is at home.

For more information regarding endowed or annual scholarships, please contact the Alumnae Relations Office.