

PROSPECTIVE FRESHMAN EMAIL: 4.20.20

Subject: 100% Tuition Coverage for New Students for Fall 2020

Dear NAME,

Peace and Blessings!

So much of your life has been disrupted by the coronavirus: You've missed out on your last prom, your last sports season, your last theater production, as well as senior week, commencement exercises, and graduation parties—all that makes your last semester in high school so memorable.

Please know that you have been in my thoughts and prayers as you cope with the loss of those last, precious high school moments. But as sorry as I am about that—and I truly am sorry—I am also concerned that you may miss out on the important “firsts” in your future.

That first day as a college freshman . . . the first time moving into a new dorm . . . the first friend you make, that forever friend . . . the first class in your new favorite subject with your new favorite professor . . . the first mission trip that meant more than you imagined . . . the first scrimmage with your new teammates—who are also your brothers and sisters in Christ . . . the first time you encounter Jesus here at Franciscan . . .

I am so concerned, in fact, that Franciscan University has made an unprecedented decision.

Franciscan University of Steubenville will cover 100% of your tuition after scholarships and grants for fall 2020, through Step in Faith, our COVID-19 response plan.

Franciscan University has never done anything like this before. I seriously doubt we'll ever do it again. It is a step in faith, and it won't be easy for the University—or for you.

Going off to college can be scary even in a normal year. This year will require more than the usual courage and confidence in God's protection to leave home.

As you'd expect, Franciscan University follows recommended guidance for creating and maintaining a healthy environment and responding to COVID-19. More importantly, our Franciscan University community is small and exceptionally caring, so we notice and tend to the needs of students more readily than large state schools.

Again, this is a step in faith—one I hope you'll take with Franciscan University this fall.

You have this unprecedented opportunity now, NAME, because I don't want you to miss out on the Franciscan “firsts” that I experienced in my undergrad years here—the vibrant faith community sharing in Masses, Festivals of Praise, eucharistic adoration, and faith households; the excellent academic formation; the challenge to grow as a Catholic; the serious and silly late-night conversations; the lessons learned on the playing field; and so much more.

All of these have an irreplaceable value. A value I want you to experience at Franciscan University of Steubenville—a value I hope our Step in Faith plan can help you to embrace in our academically excellent and passionately Catholic community.

Please know you remain in my prayers—and that I can't wait to welcome you to Franciscan this fall!

Peace,
Father Dave

Father Dave Pivonka, TOR
President
Franciscan University of Steubenville