

wheaton academy admissions

Philosophy, Expectations and Process





Wheaton Academy Philosophy

Partnership

The mission of Wheaton Academy is “to nurture growth in our students through excellence, service, and relationships to the glory of God. Ultimately though, we understand biblically that “training up a child in the way they should go” is fundamentally the parents’ responsibility. Accordingly, we see Wheaton Academy as an available partner in the education process for parents who desire a consistent philosophy of Christian education for their child from the home, church and school. Consequently, the first step of the admission process at Wheaton Academy serves to determine if the home, church and school are in philosophic agreement. Our current Curriculum Guide, Student Handbook, and brochure “philosophy for the 21st Century” provide a good overview of our guiding educational philosophies.

Patterns

The second step in the admission process looks to identify the following patterns in the lives of students making application. While students are not expected to be perfect, Wheaton Academy is looking for students seeking this type of personal walk so they flourish within our school community. Wheaton Academy desires students who are:

- 1. Accountable to God** by actively working at building a nourishing and personal relationship with Jesus Christ, studying God’s word, maintaining an active prayer life, worshipping with fellow believers, thinking about what is true, noble, right, and pure, while living under the authority of God and their parents by obeying applicable rules.
- 2. Accountable to Others** by encouraging one another and building them up, communicating biblically with one another in the spirit of love, choosing friends and associates carefully, and demonstrating honesty and integrity by refraining from lying, stealing, cheating and gambling.
- 3. Accountable to Biblical Morality** by caring for their body as a “temple of God” refraining from the use of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, illegal drugs, abusing prescription drugs or any other harmful substance or activities, by maintaining biblical standards of morality in staying pure sexually until marriage, and by demonstrating self control by being quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry.



Academics



The third step in the admission process is to determine if the student and Wheaton Academy are a good academic fit. Wheaton Academy identifies itself as a college preparatory Academy with high academic standards and equally challenging expectations. Wheaton Academy students will take more courses and spend more time studying than most high school students. Students and parents should familiarize themselves with the Academy's academic and graduation requirements. In terms of preparation for college and life, we believe a rigorous high school experience is a good thing. Necessarily, Wheaton Academy students should be prepared to work hard.

At the same time, because our commitment is to serve the whole Christian family, we do not select students for enrollment solely on academic abilities. Certainly we need to determine if a student can be successful at Wheaton Academy, but we understand God has made each of us as unique individuals gifted with certain abilities. Some students will have abilities that will show up more readily in the classroom, while others will not. Our objective is to help every student discover and develop his or her God-given abilities.

When students have struggled academically in the past, have been identified with learning disabilities, or we simply project they may have difficulties with our curriculum, we will seek to understand if Wheaton Academy can meet their needs. We will compare the needs of the students (through past test results, our own placement test, report cards, teacher and reference input, parent's perspectives, and any other available resources) with the available support programs at the Academy. If a program of intervention and support is deemed necessary through Wheaton Academy support programs or outside programs, participation in these programs may become an ongoing prerequisite of enrollment.

Parents do need to recognize that Wheaton Academy may not be the best fit for every student. Additionally, Wheaton Academy reserves the right to determine whether or not a student is a good fit for admission, continued enrollment, or re-enrollment.

Next step: If Wheaton Academy sounds like a philosophical match and you desire a partnership between the Christian school, the Christian church and your Christian home, if the prospective student fits the description of the patterns described, and if the family desires a rigorous academic education, prospective parents should review the following policies and expectations for parents and students and then proceed according to the application process. Families should bring this document prepared to discuss and sign at their interview.





Parent Policies and Expectations

Believing that Christian education is a partnership between the Christian home and Christian school, and working in concert with the Christian church we affirm that:

- We are born-again, Bible-believing Christians who have accepted and continue to acknowledge Jesus Christ as our personal Lord and Savior.
- If only one parent is able to make this affirmation, both parents with authority for the child's education agree to not oppose the biblical teaching and guiding principles of the school.
- We have read and agree with the statement of faith of the school, and agree to have our child educated in accordance therewith.
- We have read the "Code of Conduct: Standards for Christian Living" in the Student Handbook and agree to hold our student accountable to these goals.
- We are and will remain in regular attendance and active fellowship with a Bible-believing church. Specifically, we will nurture our child's regular involvement in the local church.
- We commit to take an active role in the ongoing education of our child. We will make an effort to attend school functions and activities.
- We commit to support the school and our child in prayer and follow biblical principles of communication (Matt. 18). Specifically, we will address any dissatisfaction with the school by resolving the matter with the person or persons directly involved rather than begin to spread criticism or hold a negative attitude in our heart.
- We give the school authority to discipline our child within the bounds of the discipline policy and according to the "Code of Conduct" in the Student Handbook. As partners, we agree to support the school's efforts to nurture personal responsibility and accountability in our student.
- We agree to meet all tuition and other financial obligations. If we face potentially changing financial situations, we will communicate with the business office in a timely and open fashion.
- We agree to contribute financially to the school as the Lord provides and we are able.
- We agree to demonstrate and model respect for authority including good sportsmanship at Wheaton Academy athletic events.
- If at anytime we are no longer in agreement with Wheaton Academy school philosophy, standards or practices we agree to withdraw our student.
- We understand and are in agreement with the philosophy of Wheaton Academy as outlined in this "Wheaton Academy Admissions, Philosophy, Expectations and Process."

Father's Signature

Date

Mother's Signature

Date



Student Policies and Expectations

WA is a unique school. It exists to provide a learning environment that is consistent with the values of the Christian home and church. Consequently, students who desire to grow in their faith while becoming prepared for college and a life of service are encouraged to make application. As a student applicant to Wheaton Academy, I affirm that:

- I am a born-again, Bible believing, Christ-honoring Christian, or
- I don't know Christ as my personal Lord and Savior yet, but I desire to grow in my understanding.
- I have read and wholeheartedly agree to live by the "Guidelines for Christian Living" as outlined in the Wheaton Academy "Standards of Conduct."
- I will be regularly and actively involved in the life of a Bible-believing church.
- I have and will continue to demonstrate a pattern of positive influence on peers and a perceptible pattern of choosing good influences (whether it is people, music, movies, etc.) for myself.
- I have demonstrated (through report cards, teacher recommendations, standardized test scores, and a pattern of effort) academic readiness for the college preparatory curriculum at Wheaton Academy.
- I believe I am sufficiently mature to function appropriately in our school culture. I will demonstrate self control, respectful behavior and a proper sense of decorum as basic expectations of myself.
- I have demonstrated through past performance a pattern of excellence in effort. If this pattern has not been consistent, my family and I have a plan to share to address any deficiencies.
- In addition to my parents' desire, I want to be a student at WA in order to grow spiritually, academically, socially and physically for the ultimate purpose of using my life and gifts to honor God.
- I understand that Wheaton Academy reserves the right to withdraw my admission decision prior to the start of school if, by Wheaton Academy's judgment, my action, attitudes or beliefs are no longer aligned with Wheaton Academy standards or beliefs.
- I understand and am in agreement with the philosophy of Wheaton Academy as outlined in this "Wheaton Academy Admissions Philosophy, Expectations, and Process" brochure.

Student's Signature

Date



Application Process and Registration Procedures

In order for an appropriate admissions decision to be made, the following sequential steps are required of students and their families making application to Wheaton Academy. Students approved for the Fast Track admissions process should refer to the procedure list in that packet as it slightly different.

All freshman applicants applying for regular admission should complete the application by January 15. Interviews will be scheduled as applications are received through the month of February. Freshman acceptances will be made on the 15th and 30th of each month after the interview. When the freshman class becomes full, remaining applicants and new applicants will be placed in a waiting pool for possible consideration during the summer months. New freshman applications will be accepted after January 15th but will be considered only as space permits.



Transfer student applicants will be considered for the following semester as space permits.

1. A completed application form from the prospective student and family. Please reference our school website, www.wheatonacademy.org, for our online application and instructions.
2. The appropriate application fee. (Prior to January 15th, the application fee is \$25; after the 15th of Jan., the fee increases to \$50). This fee is non-refundable. Ordinarily, applications will be processed in the order of date of receipt of application and registration fee.
3. Three academic recommendations completed by current teachers (if you are a homeschooler, please contact the Office of Admissions for instructions). Teacher recommendations can be found in an email ready format form on our school website, www.wheatonacademy.org.
4. A completed recommendation from a current church leader or teacher. (Wheaton Academy will accept church evaluations from the youth pastor, the head pastor, an associate pastor, a lay leader or elder, or a Sunday-school teacher). This pastor recommendation can be found in an email ready format on our school website, www.wheatonacademy.org.
5. A current report card and one reflecting the last full school year of the student.
6. Standardized test scores from one of the following achievement tests: the California Achievement Test, the Explore Test, the Iowa Ba-



sics, the PSAT, the SAT, the ACT, the Stanford Achievement Test or any nationally normed standardized test.

- 7.** Additional information may be requested based on information given in the application. These may include an IEP, 504 Plan, custody papers, etc.
- 8.** An interview with Director of Admissions. (This interview will be arranged by the Office of Admissions once all of the application material has been received). Both parents and the student are required to attend the 45 minute interview.
- 9.** Once all of the information has been received and the interview completed, the student and family will receive a letter of decision within fifteen days.
- 10.** Financial aid materials are available once the student has started the admissions application process. If a family has financial need, the financial aid application can be completed at the same time admissions application is being made. Please refer to the school website "Admissions" tab for further information on financial aid.
- 11.** The accepted student's "spot" will only be held with receipt of a deposit equal to 5% of the student's tuition (put toward the first month's tuition) by the date set in the letter of acceptance. The deposit must be sent directly to the Business Office with the words "Deposit" on the memo line.
- 12.** After acceptance, all prospective students entering grade 9 will be given a series of placement tests in February, March or April to determine where the new student fits within our curriculum.
- 13.** Course selection materials will be sent to the accepted students in early spring. Parents and students will complete these materials online. Students accepted prior to March will be invited to Curriculum Night in early March.
- 14.** In order to comply with state regulations, each year the school requires that all students entering school for the first time in high school be examined by the family physician before school starts. The completed physical report is to be presented by August 1st. Health records are transferred with scholastic records when students change schools.



The mission of Wheaton Academy is to nurture growth in our students through relationships, excellence and service to the glory of God. Specifically, we intend to partner with the home and church to produce students who have:

1. A personal, vibrant and growing relationship with Christ.
2. Adopted and continue to cultivate a thoroughly biblical worldview.
3. Begun to discover, explore and practice their God-given gifts and abilities.
4. Acquired the knowledge, understanding and wisdom necessary for further study and to become prepared to represent the Lord effectively in their life calling.

Wheaton Academy seeks to achieve its mission as a school by providing an educational program characterized by biblical values and traditional educational standards using innovative curriculum centered on a caring student/teacher relationship.

Wheaton Academy admits students of any race, color, national or ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, scholarships, athletic and other school programs.



WA **Wheaton Academy**
900 Prince Crossing Road
West Chicago, IL 60185
630-562-7501
wheatonacademy.org