

ADMISSION TO ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School is dedicated to integrating faith and knowledge in the rich tradition of Catholic education. We serve students in PreK3 through the 8th grades.

The school adheres to the policies stipulated by the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston and the Texas Catholic Conference Education Department. Texas state guidelines are followed regarding age requirements. Special education, gifted and ESL/bilingual classes are not available at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School. Admission to St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School is based on an individual review of each applicant.

The following policies have been formulated in relation to student admission:

1. Applications will be received in the spring semester for the following school year. Applications will also be received for the current year based on available openings. Applications are made through the school office and accompanied by a non-refundable application fee. Current students must reapply each year. New student applications must contain all required documents before a student is considered for admission. Applications and fees will be taken for available spaces only. Once classes are filled those wishing to be considered for vacancies will be placed on a waiting list. Applications for 8th grade are limited to returning students and new applicants transferring from another Catholic school or moving into the area.
2. Admission to St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School for returning and new students considers the developmental, scholastic, and behavioral qualifications of the applicant as well as the available openings in each grade level, the overall composition of the class, and the resources available to meet the student's needs. Applicants must show readiness to benefit from and contribute to the group learning environment present in our classrooms. Applicants must be English proficient for their academic grade level. Students entering PreK must be toilet trained.
3. New applicants are required to participate in admissions screenings determined by school administration. Screenings are conducted to place students appropriately within the school's program and to assure that the needs of the student can be met through available resources. Admissions screenings include the following:

Grade	Requirements
PreK, K & 1 st Grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> developmental readiness checklist<input type="checkbox"/> interview<input type="checkbox"/> English proficiency screening, if applicable
2 nd -8 th Grades	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> standardized tests in reading and math<input type="checkbox"/> writing sample<input type="checkbox"/> interview<input type="checkbox"/> English proficiency screening, if applicable

4. Age Requirements: 3K Pre-kindergarten – 3 years of age on or before September 1
4K Pre-kindergarten – 4 years of age on or before September 1
Kindergarten - 5 years of age on or before September 1
1st Grade - 6 years of age on or before September 1
2nd-8th - Successful completion of the previous grade
5. Elementary and middle school applicants must meet the following criteria:
 - a. Average of "C", 78% or better, in all academic subject areas
 - b. Standardized test scores appropriate to the grade level
 - c. Behavior ratings of satisfactory or better
6. Admission will be based on the following priorities:



- a. Currently enrolled students
 - b. Siblings of currently enrolled students
 - c. St. Anthony of Padua Parishioners – Higher priority will be given to parishioners who are currently enrolled in the parish’s Little Saints preschool program. Families will be considered for admission using the earliest date of parish registration.
 - d. Families in other Catholic parishes and/or Catholic schools - Higher priority will be given to families who are currently enrolled in the parish’s Little Saints preschool program.
 - e. Open registration - Higher priority will be given to families who are currently enrolled in the parish’s Little Saints preschool program.
7. All new students are admitted on a probationary basis according to Archdiocesan policy.
 8. Parents are expected to disclose to appropriate school personnel any significant information, which may affect their child’s education progress or the other students’ learning environment. Such information includes, but is not limited to, diagnostic evaluations, medications or specific family situations. Failure to disclose such significant information during the application process or as the situation changes may result in dismissal of their child.

TUITION GRANT PROGRAM

We recognize the need to keep Catholic education affordable for as many children as possible. A tuition grant program has been established and serves as the method for providing assistance to parish families and school staff whose children might otherwise be unable to afford a Catholic education. Tuition grants are based on need rather than academic excellence. Tuition grants are limited to students in K-8th grades. Families must be accepted into the school before requesting a tuition grant packet from the school office.

Families must complete the application process to be considered. An outside agency is used to review a family’s situation. Families are responsible for the nominal processing fee. Information and communication related to the tuition grant program is held in strictest confidence. The outside agency reviews and processes the Student Aid Form and supporting documentation. The agency sends a report to the school showing the amount the family can reasonably be expected to pay toward tuition. The sole purpose of the report will be for the awarding of available funds. From the funds available, the SAOP Tuition Grant Committee including the principal and pastor will award tuition grants taking into consideration each family’s need as presented in their respective report. Families are notified in writing of decisions.

A family must apply for a tuition grant each year. Tuition grants will be limited to a portion of the total tuition. Application fees are not covered by the tuition grant program. There will be no actual transfer of funds to the family once assistance is allocated. Instead the funds will be credited to the family’s tuition account in the school office. Families will be responsible for the balance of tuition to be paid in accordance with the tuition and fees policy. A family receiving a tuition grant is required to provide volunteer services to the school in support of various school activities.



Excellence...Strengthened by Faith