

Austin High School's Academies Application

Student Application
for the 2017-2018 School Year



Stephen F. Austin High School

“Tradition Of Excellence Since 1881”

AUSTIN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



1715 West Cesar Chavez • Austin, Texas 78703-4699 • (512) 414-2505

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in one of four academies at Austin High. Each of our academies offers students an integrated and challenging curriculum focusing on a specific curricular lens:

- *Academy for Global Studies*
- *Academy for Classical Studies*
- *Academy for Science & Innovation*
- *Academy for High Technology*

We have limited enrollment, and the application materials submitted will help ensure students are academically ready and can be successful in each program. To be considered for enrollment in the 2017-18 school year, your application must be completed in full and turned into the AHS Main Office by: **Wednesday, February 1, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.**

This application packet includes:

1. Application Checklist
2. Student Information Form
3. Selecting and Ranking Academy Choices
4. Essay Instructions
5. Academies Selection Procedure
6. Blank essay pages

You can find more information about each of our academies at our academies website:

<http://www.austinhigmaroons.org/our-programs/new-academies>.

Sincerely,

Amy Taylor, Principal
Austin High School

Application Checklist

Please be sure to read this carefully and provide all supporting documents with your application. *Incomplete applications will not be considered for review.*

All applications must include the following:

- Student Information Form** – Please print legibly.
- Interest Essay and Quote Analysis Essay** written in the student's handwriting on the lines provided (please see further instructions on the essay instruction pages).
- Copy of student's report card** from the Fall 2016 semester of school
- Copy of student's most recent STAAR scores** (or equivalent nationally-recognized standardized exam)

All students who turn in a completed application and meet the minimum criteria will be considered for acceptance. Please see the acceptance procedure page in this packet for more information.

Applications may be hand-delivered to the Main Office on the 2nd floor at Austin High School or mailed to:

**Austin High School
1715 W. Cesar Chavez St.
Austin, TX 78703**

HAND-DELIVERY - Applications must be received by 5:00 p.m. on February 1, 2017.

MAILED - Applications delivered by mail must be postmarked on or before February 1, 2017.

STUDENT INFORMATION FORM

PLEASE PRINT NEATLY

STUDENT INFORMATION

Name: _____

School Presently Attending: _____ Current Grade Level: _____

AISD Student School ID (if applicable): _____ Adult T-Shirt Size: _____

Student Date of Birth: _____ *Ethnicity: _____ Male _____ Female _____

Home Address: _____
Street Address (with Apartment Number)

PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Email: _____ Relation to Student: _____

Home #: _____ Work #: _____ Cell #: _____

Does student reside with this parent/guardian? Yes, full-time _____ Yes, part-time _____ No _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Email: _____ Relation to Student: _____

Home #: _____ Work #: _____ Cell #: _____

Does student reside with this parent/guardian? Yes, full-time _____ Yes, part-time _____ No _____

TRANSFER INFORMATION

****For the 2017-18 school year, Austin High academies will be open to a limited number of curriculum transfers. If you live outside of the Austin High attendance zone and are hoping to transfer to Austin High in order to attend one of the academies, please fill out the following information:**

Name of **high school** you are zoned to attend based on your primary residence: _____

Transportation outside of the Austin High attendance zone will not be provided. Please indicate how you plan to get to Austin High:

Private Vehicle City Bus Other (please explain): _____

**Ethnicity reporting is optional; information is used for local, state and federal reporting and has no bearing on admission.* In accordance with the Title VI Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX Education Amendment of 1972, section 504—Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1992, the Austin Independent School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex or handicap.

**** 40 spots for students outside of the attendance zone will be accepted in the academies where space is available according to the application criteria/rubric.**

Selecting and Ranking Academy Choices:

Select the academies for which you are applying and rank your choices:

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Academy for Global Studies | Rank #: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Academy for Classical Studies | Rank #: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Academy for Science & Innovation | Rank #: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Academy for High Technology | Rank #: _____ |

Essay Instructions:

For the Austin High School application to be complete, complete essay #1. Then, complete one additional essay specific to each academy for which you would like to be considered.

Remember to rank your academy choices above as space may not be available in your first choice.

- Each applicant will write essays on the paper provided.
- All applicants will respond to essay prompt 1, then complete additional essays specific to each academy.
 - Students applying for 1 academy = 2 essays
 - Students applying for 2 academies = 3 essays
 - Students applying for 3 academies = 4 essays
 - Students applying for 4 academies = 5 essays
- Please **do not write your name** anywhere on the essay.
- Essays should be written neatly in your own handwriting. *Students with dyslexia or dysgraphia who have documented accommodations are allowed to type responses. If you type your response, please double-space, use a legible 12-point font, and attach it to the following essay forms.*
- Each essay should be a **minimum of 200 words** in length but **not longer than 400 words.**
- Please be specific and incorporate examples in your responses.

Students must write in their own handwriting on the lines provided.

ESSAY PROMPT 1:

Explain why you are interested in applying for one of the academies at Austin High.

ESSAY PROMPT 2:

Academy for Global Studies:

Select **one** of the following quotes and analyze how it reflects a global issue or approach to a global education.

“One little person, giving all of her time to peace, makes news. Many people, giving some of their time, can make history.” - Peace Pilgram

“We may have all come on different ships, but we’re in the same boat now.”
- Martin Luther King, Jr.

“If we do not change our direction, we are likely to end up where we are headed.”
- Chinese Proverb

Academy for Classical Studies:

Select **one** of the following quotes and explain what you think it means and how it relates to you and society as a whole.

“Without humility there can be no humanity.” - John Buchan

“For me, justice is the prime condition of humanity.” - Wole Soyinka

“All labor that uplifts humanity has dignity and importance and should be undertaken with painstaking excellence.” – Martin Luther King, Jr.

Academy for Science & Innovation:

Select **one** of the following quotes and explain what you think it means and how it relates to education that values curiosity, collaboration, and scientific thinking.

“Innovation distinguishes between a leader and a follower.” - Steve Jobs

“For good ideas and true innovation, you need human interaction, conflict, argument, and debate.” - Margaret Heffernan

“It is the tension between creativity and skepticism that has produced the stunning and unexpected findings of science.” - Carl Sagan

Academy for High Technology

Select **one** of the following quotes and explain what you think it means and how it relates to you as a lifelong learner. (forms of submission may include writing or a digital product saved to a flash drive with the student’s first and last name clearly labeled)

“There was a time when nails were high-tech. There was a time when people had to be told how to use a telephone. Technology is just a tool. People use tools to improve their lives.” - Tom Clancy

“One machine can do the work of fifty ordinary men. No machine can do the work of one extraordinary man.” - Elbert Hubbard

“If we teach today as we taught yesterday, we rob our children of tomorrow.”
- John Dewey

Academies Selection Procedure

CURRICULUM TRANSFERS:

Students who live outside of the Austin High attendance zone and who are seeking a curriculum transfer for an academy will be assessed separately from those living in the attendance zone. Depending on the number of applications, these students may be required to meet a higher level of academic readiness in order to be accepted. There will be a wait list for curriculum transfer students. Up to 50% of curriculum transfer spots will be reserved for students coming from Title 1 schools (contingent upon number of applicants who meet this criteria).

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION:

Essays.....	40%
Grades.....	20%
Advanced Coursework Taken	20%
STAAR scores (or comparable standardized test).....	20%

SAMPLE RUBRIC				
Essay 1 Graded using a rubric by at least two graders.	1 Below Average	2 Average	3 Above Average	4 Exemplary
Essay 2 Graded using a rubric by at least two graders	1 Below Average	2 Average	3 Above Average	4 Exemplary (rarely are 4's given for this)
Advanced Courses Dependent on courses offered at middle school	1 Took no preAP (or advanced) courses offered	2 Took some preAP (or advanced) courses offered	3 Took most preAP (or advanced) courses offered	4 Took all preAP (or advanced) courses offered
Grades On their first semester report card from 8 th grade	1 Mostly C's, No F's	2 A's, B's, and 2-3 C's, No F's	3 Mostly A's and B's, One C, No F's	4 Mostly A's, No C's, No F's
STAAR Scores or equivalent standardized test if coming from out-of-state or private school	1 Failed only one STAAR test in:	2 Passed ALL STAAR tests with Level II Satisfactory scores	3 Passed ALL STAAR tests with Level II Satisfactory scores and 1 Level 3 Advanced scores in:	4 Passed ALL STAAR tests with Level II Satisfactory scores and 2 Level 3 Advanced scores in:
				Total Score: /20









