

# Admissions and Financial Aid

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The Dunham School seeks to enroll students with demonstrated academic ability, character and potential to make a contribution to our school community. The purpose of the admissions process at Dunham is to provide prospective students, their families, and the school with sufficient information about one another in order to make a proper decision regarding enrollment. Admission decisions are based on information submitted by the applicants, their parents, teachers, other adults, and schools. Members of the Admissions Committee carefully review the application file of each candidate.

## CAMPUS VISITS

A preliminary interview with the Director of Admissions and a tour of the campus begins the admissions process. Appointments for campus visits and tours should be made in advance by calling (225) 767-7097 ext. 324.

## THE ADMISSION PROCEDURE

Applicant packets are available through the Admission Office. All forms included in the packet should be completed by the appropriate persons and submitted to the Director of Admissions for evaluation. It is the responsibility of applicants and their parents to have all application materials submitted by the deadlines. Information obtained during the Admissions process remains confidential.

Upon receipt of the application and the appropriate fee, a date for testing will be scheduled by the Admissions Office.

Following the successful completion of the entrance exam and upon receipt of the documents requested in the applicant packet, applicants in grades 5-12 and their parents will then be scheduled for a personal interview with the Principal. Parents of applicants in grades PreK-4 may be scheduled for a personal interview with the Principal.

The applicant packet for Pre-Kindergarten-Grade 4 includes:

- ◆ Application
- ◆ Teacher Recommendation
- ◆ Principal Recommendation
- ◆ Personal Recommendation
- ◆ Transcript and Records Release

The applicant packet for Grades 5-12 includes:

- ◆ Application
- ◆ Applicant Statement
- ◆ Math Teacher Recommendation
- ◆ English Teacher Recommendation
- ◆ Principal Recommendation
- ◆ Personal Recommendation
- ◆ Transcript and Records Release

## ENTRANCE EXAMS

The Educational Records Bureau CTPIV standardized test is used as our entrance exam for Grade 3-12 applicants and helps the Admissions Committee gauge ability. These scores, combined with academic records and teachers' recommendations, help us to gain a broad measure of the student's past and future potential for academic success. Applicants for grades 3-12 must achieve a national norm minimum percentile of 75. A cumulative GPA of 2.50 is also required for all transferring Upper School (9-12) students. Applicants for Pre-Kindergarten through Grade Two are evaluated using early childhood assessment materials.

In addition to demonstrated academic ability, applicants in grades 5-12 are also evaluated on the basis of their character, motivation, and contributions they have made at their former schools, in their communities and in their homes.

## ADMISSION DECISIONS

Priority Consideration: Students whose files are complete by January 10th will be given priority in consideration for the places available each year. Admission decisions for candidates whose files become complete after the January 10th priority deadline are made as each application is processed until all available places are filled. After that time, accepted students are placed in a wait pool. They will then be admitted if spaces become available.

Early Decisions: An exception to the Priority consideration application deadline of January 10 is the Early Decision process which takes place in October and November. The school offers early decisions for grades Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten, Sixth and Ninth. Applicants whose files and screening/testing are completed by the published application and test dates may be offered placement for the following for the following school year. A signed enrollment commitment and a non-

refundable deposit of \$750 will secure the placement. Tuition payments will begin in March in accordance with the payment option selected at enrollment.

## ADMISSION POLICY

The Dunham School has a long-standing policy of non-discrimination and admits students of any race or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities accorded students at the School. The Dunham School does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, gender, or ethnic origin in its educational program or any of its school activities.

## FINANCIAL AID

The School seeks to make Dunham affordable to qualified students. Financial Aid is available for accepted students with proven financial need. Financial assistance funds, however, are limited. It is important that families who wish to be considered for financial assistance submit the completed application by the March 10 priority deadline if they are to receive the maximum amount of aid for which they are eligible.

Applications for Financial Aid may be accessed from the home page of The Dunham School website. To be considered for financial aid, families must provide the following information:

- ◆ A completed FAST application
- ◆ In addition to the FAST application, a copy of the family's Federal Return (Form 1040) and all supporting schedules must be received by FAST before request will be evaluated.
- ◆ If a family is divorced, both parents must submit financial information including spousal income if remarried.

New students in need of financial aid must be accepted for admission to the school and enrolled before an official award is made. Admission decisions at Dunham are made without regard to a family's financial situation.

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For more information or to arrange for a campus visit, please contact:

**DIRECTOR OF ADMISSION  
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