

SHILOH CHRISTIAN SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

WHAT IS SHILOH'S APPROACH
TO ADMISSIONS? WHY DO I
NEED TO UNDERSTAND THE
PROCESS?
HOW DO I APPLY?



WHO WE ARE

Shiloh is a thriving community we call the Shiloh Family. We desire to find like-minded families who want to partner with us to develop the next generation of Godly leaders. **Prior to applying, please take a moment to understand our Purposeful Enrollment Approach and Admissions Criteria.**

----ADMISSIONS APPROACH

Purposeful Enrollment is the framework by which all admissions decisions are made at Shiloh Christian School. We are looking for families who will grow our culture spiritually, academically, athletically, and in the arts. Families who align with these ideas will be considered for enrollment.

#1 MISSION

The mission of Shiloh Christian School is to develop Godly leaders who engage their culture and change it. We strongly adhere to the belief that all truth is God's truth. God the Father must be recognized as the Creator and organizer of the universe before true mastery of worldly facts can be established. We are an evangelical christian school that desires to share the Good News of Christ with our students and families. We desire students who share these beliefs and desire to further God's Kingdom.

#2 PHILOSOPHY

Shiloh Christian School believes that Christian education is the process of teaching and learning conducted by Christian teachers in an environment where God and His Word are the highest authority. The primary objective is to bring all knowledge into a living relationship with the Truth of the Word of God. We believe it is our responsibility to nurture the growth of our students in spiritual, academic, social, and physical parameters. The entire learning process should produce individuals who are capable of being both productive members of society and contributing members of the body of Christ. We desire students who want to continually develop their minds and hearts through a Biblical worldview.

#3 PARTNERSHIP

Shiloh is a partnership in the educational process for parents who desire a consistent Biblical worldview in the home, church, and school. As a Christian school, we value the church and believe it offers an extension of community and is a primary avenue for spiritual growth and development. The partnership of the home, church, and school form a solid foundation as we pursue excellence in Christ. Our website, Statement of Faith, and Parent/Student Handbooks provide an overview of our guiding principles. Families are encouraged to review these resources as they consider applying to Shiloh Christian School. We desire families and students who are active participants in a Bible-teaching church and seek the Lord within their homes.

#4ACADEMICS

Shiloh Christian School is dedicated to academic excellence and the continual improvement of its academic offerings. Shiloh holds state, national, and international accreditation. Whether students are in an elementary classroom or a college English class, you can be confident they are receiving a first-class education taught by fully licensed, degreed, and certified teachers. Our dedication to academic excellence becomes apparent as our students continually score above state and national averages on standardized testing, and our graduates are granted acceptance into some of the most prestigious academic institutions of higher learning in the country. Each class at Shiloh is taught through the lens of a Biblical worldview, integrating God's truth into all that we do. We desire students who want to explore, create, and develop their mind through Biblical immersion and an academically challenging and intentional learning environment.

Shiloh Christian School is a college preparatory school with high academic standards and challenging expectations. We believe in hard work, rigorous courses, and advanced opportunities as we prepare students for college and life. At the same time, Shiloh is committed to serving Christian families and does not select students based solely on academic abilities. We understand that God has uniquely gifted each student. Through the admissions process, we strive to determine if a student can be successful at Shiloh Christian School. We also seek to understand if Shiloh can meet the needs of each student. Our desire is to see all of our students succeed academically; therefore, we will compare a student's needs with our available learning services. Shiloh Christian School may not be the best fit for every student. We reserve the right to determine whether or not a student is a good fit for admissions, continued enrollment, or re-enrollment.

#5 SERVANTLEADERSHIP

Shiloh Christian School is rooted in servant leadership and provides opportunities for students to develop leadership skills beginning as early as PreK4. Students are given leadership roles within their classrooms and their grades. Elementary students are taught to be leaders in their words, actions, and example. All students learn the fundamentals of leadership and a Biblical worldview through weekly chapels. Secondary students have the opportunity to grow their personal and team leadership skills through extracurricular leadership programs. We dive deep as we look at Christ as the ultimate model of servant leadership. At Shiloh Christian School, we want to reach beyond our walls. Shiloh students serve adults and children across Northwest Arkansas by teaming up with local organizations to make a positive difference in our community. We desire students who want to engage their culture and change it through servant leadership.



#6 INVOLVEMENT

Shiloh encourages its students to explore and cultivate all of their God-given gifts and talents through elementary "specials" classes and secondary extracurricular activities. Students who are involved are more likely to find their niche and quickly engage in the Shiloh Family. Students can choose to experience the arts through field trips and compete in the arts through band, choir, drama, and many special musical programs throughout the year. Athletic opportunities begin at the youth level and culminate in over 22 varsity sports for males and females. We strive to use athletics to glorify God and spread the gospel through our play. Whether it's robotics, STEM, arts, or athletics, we desire students who are involved and active in the Shiloh Family.

#7 COMMUNITY

We cultivate community within the Shiloh Family. Just as the body of Christ is made up of many different members, the Shiloh Family is made up of families and students from all different backgrounds that have come together with a common goal to develop and educate the next generation of godly leaders. This is not an easy task nor one that is taken lightly. We desire to maintain the culture, values, and "small town feel" of the Shiloh Family while we grow and embrace new families. We are committed to finding the right families who will partner with us and further our mission.

-ADMISSIONS CRITERIA & WAIT POOL

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

Shiloh Christian School is an evangelical christian school that seeks to enroll students who are committed to success in the educational programs of the school. Admission to Shiloh is selective and based on factors which include family values, previous school performance, pastor recommendations, testing results, and a record of exemplary behavior in school, at church, and in the community. In evaluating an applicant and making admissions decisions, the following areas are considered:

- Availability of space in the class/grade
- Academic profile of the applicant and the class/grade
- Church references
- Potential contributions of the applicant to the school community
- Extracurricular interests of the applicant
- Character of the applicant as portrayed in admissions interactions
- Sibling relations
- Involved alumni

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ADMISSIONS WAIT POOL

Shiloh has been blessed with growing enrollment. We desire to see our school grow, as well as honor our current Shiloh Family. Our "right size" approach involves controlled class sizes, student-to-teacher ratios, and scheduling flexibility. There is a predetermined classroom capacity for every grade level at Shiloh. This may limit the number of available spots each year, and the number of applicants can exceed availability in a designated grade level. Our goal is to maintain optimal class size in each grade level, and the Admissions Wait Pool enables us to achieve this goal. The Admissions Wait Pool is an unranked group of students who have been selected during the admissions process, and we prayerfully hope these students will be able to join our school as space becomes available.

Once selected for the Admissions Wait Pool, families can expect to be notified of grade level openings for the upcoming school year by April. Families remaining in the Admissions Wait Pool after grade level openings are filled will stay in the wait pool and will be notified if openings occur in the future as space can become available anytime throughout the school year due to life changes. Admissions Wait Pool students do not need to reapply from year to year. Their application will remain open until an opening is offered or the family requests for their application to be withdrawn.

If you believe your student and family would be a good fit at Shiloh, please read through our Admissions Process and Timeline and make a note of important dates!

IT'S A GREAT DAY TO BE A SHILOH SAINT!



ADMISSIONS PROCESS & TIMELINE

STEP#1 VISIT CAMPUS (OPTIONAL)

There's nothing like seeing Shiloh Christian School in person. We want you to leave with a better understanding of our academic, arts, and athletic programs, but we really want you to experience our culture! When you walk our hallways, you'll see how the Bible and education go hand-in-hand. You'll experience the Shiloh Family in action as we live out our core values and work together to further God's Kingdom. Shiloh Christian's Admissions team provides prospective families with personal tours and Discover Shiloh events. Please note that Discover Shiloh events are by registered appointment only. For more information on Discover Shiloh, visit our website shilohsaints.org/admissions/discovershiloh/.

STEP #2 APPLY ONLINE

Each year, applications will open on November 1 at 8am and close on November 15 at 8am. All applications received during this time will be given equal opportunity for admissions.

*Should it be determined after Shiloh's current family re-enrollment period which ends on March 1 that space is still available for the coming school year, late applications for available grade levels will open on March 15 at 8am and will close on April 1 at 8am or when a grade level is deemed full at the discretion of Shiloh Leadership. This will be communicated on Shiloh's website and social media platforms.

On November 1, start your online application under Parent Quicklinks on our homepage shilohsaints.org. The \$125 online application fee is payable upon submission.



STEP#3 SUBMITREQUIREDDOCUMENTS

You may upload supporting documents to the application or email them to admissions@shilohsaints.org. Supporting documents must be submitted by December 1 to be considered for admissions.

Required Supporting Documents:

- Birth Certificate
- Social Security Card
- Immunization Record
- Most Recent Standardized Test Scores (Rising 1st 12th Grade applicants)
 *Please include any standardized progress monitoring assessments from the current school year as well i.e. Map Growth, STAR, Atlas, ACT Aspire, Benchmark, etc.
- Previous Year's AND Current Year's Report Card / Transcript (Rising 1st-12th Grade applicants)
- Previous Year's AND Current Year's Attendance Report (Rising 1st 12th Grade applicants)
- Previous Year's AND Current Year's Behavior/Disciplinary Report (Rising 1st 12th Grade applicants)
- 504/IEP, Accommodations Paperwork * (If applicable)
- Custody Information (If applicable)
- Supporting Documents (Optional any additional information families would like the Admissions Committee to know to assist in getting to know the applicant.)

STEP#4 REQUEST REFERENCES

References will be completed online. Applicants should utilize the below links to request appropriate references. All references should be submitted by December 1 to be considered for admissions. Applicants may be considered for admissions without a *Pastor Reference Form*, however, church membership is a key element of Shiloh's Admissions Criteria.

PreK4/Kindergarten need to provide/request the following:

- PreK4/Kindergarten Preschool Assessment Form (to be completed by current preschool if applicable)
- PreK4/Kindergarten Parent Assessment Form (to be completed by ALL parents)
- Pastor Reference Form (to be completed by a pastor of the church you currently attend)

Rising 1st - 12th Grade Applicants need to request the following:

• Pastor Reference Form (to be completed by a pastor of the church you currently attend)



^{*}Documents must be dated within the last year.

STEP#5 ADMISSIONSPROGRESS DETERMINED

The admissions committee will meet to determine whether applicants with completed files will progress to the next level of admissions. ALL applicant families will receive an email (to the email address provided on application) with the admissions committee's decision in early January.

All decisions are made without explanation or comment. If the student is selected to continue the process, they will proceed to the next step. Applicants that do not progress to the next level may reapply if they desire the following year.

STEP#6 SCREENING/TESTING

All PreK4, Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grade applicants will complete screenings/testing. Rising 3rd - 12th grade applicants will only complete testing if it is determined that further testing is needed. Testing requirements and available testing dates will be communicated with the applicant by email. Applicants will sign up to attend a screening/testing session before March 1. If you are unable to make one of the available testing dates, please reach out to admissions@shilohsaints.org to determine if additional testing is available.

STEP #7 FAMILY INTERVIEW

Applicants will be sent family interview dates by email. Applicants will sign up to attend a family interview with Shiloh Administration before March 1. If you are unable to make one of the available interview dates, please reach out to admissions@shilohsaints.org to determine if additional interview times are available.

During the family interview, all families will be asked to sign the **Parent Policies and Expectations***, and students in rising 5th-12th grade will be asked to sign the **Student Policies and Expectations***. If a family/student is unable or unwilling to sign the Policies and Expectations, they will not be considered for the Admissions Wait Pool.

* Parent and Student Policies and Expectations can be reviewed at the end of this document.







STEP#8 ADMISSIONS WAIT POOL DETERMINED

Families selected to enter the Admissions Wait Pool will be notified by mid March. ALL applicant families will receive an email (to the email address provided on application) with the admissions committee's decision. All decisions are made without explanation or comment. Applicants that are not selected may reapply the following year.

**If the Admissions Committee determines that the Admissions Wait Pool is weak in a particular grade level, late applications for available grade levels will open on March 15 at 8am and will close on April 1 at 8am. This will be communicated on Shiloh's website and social media platforms.

Once in the Admissions Wait Pool, families can expect to be notified of grade level openings for the upcoming school year by April. Families remaining in the Admissions Wait Pool after grade level openings are filled will stay in the wait pool and will be notified if openings occur in the future as space can become available anytime throughout the school year due to life changes. Families notified of an opening will have 48 hours to accept before the opening is offered to another family in the wait pool. Admissions Wait Pool students do not need to reapply from year to year. Their application will remain open until an opening is offered or the family requests for their application to be withdrawn. Wait Pool students receive the same non-discrimination status as all families at Shiloh.

Shiloh Christian School admits students of any race, color, national, and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. Shiloh Christian School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national, and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, tuition assistance, and athletic or other school-administered programs. As a private religious institution, Shiloh Christian School reserves the right to deny admission to any applicant whose academic preparation, character/person conduct, or family values is determined to be inconsistent with the principles, purposes, and objectives of the School.

STEP #9 ACCEPT OPENING/COMPLETE ENROLLMENT

Once notified of an opening by email/phone, families will have 48 hours to accept the opening. Please notify the Admissions team by phone 479-725-4240 or by email at admissions@shilohsaints.org. They will assist you in completing the final steps of enrollment which include creating your parent portal account, selecting your tuition plan, and submitting your \$300 New Student Enrollment Fee. You will have an additional week to complete these final steps of enrollment.



ADMISSIONS TIMELINE QUICK REFERENCE

Admissions for 25/26 School Year

- September 10, 2024 Discover Shiloh Available 9am, 2pm, 5pm (optional)
- October 22, 2024 Discover Shiloh Available 9am, 2pm, 5pm (optional)
- November 1, 2024 Application window opens at 8am.
- November 15, 2024 Application window closes at 8am.
- December 1, 2024 All Required Supporting Documents and Reference Forms Due.
- January 10, 2025 Admissions Progress will be determined/communicated.
- January 18-March 1 Testing and Family Interview Window.
- March 15, 2025 Admissions Wait Pool determined/communicated and Limited/Late Applications window opens at 8am (if needed).
- April 1, 2025 Initial grade-level openings will be communicated and Limited/Late Application window closes at 8am (if needed).

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do you decide who is accepted to attend Shiloh Christian School?

The Admissions Committee considers the complete application file, in addition to class size and dynamics, ability to meet the student's needs, and potential for an excellent partnership between home, church, and school.

When can I apply?

Each year, applications become available on November 1 at 8am and close on November 15 at 8am. If space is still available in certain grade levels, there will be a late application window from March 15 at 8am until April 1 at 8am or when a grade level is deemed full at the discretion of Shiloh Leadership. This will be communicated on Shiloh's website and social media platforms.

When do I pay the \$125 Application Fee and \$300 New Student Enrollment Fee?

The \$125 Application Fee must be submitted with the online application. You will be prompted to pay when the application is complete and ready to submit. The New Student Enrollment Fee will not be paid until you have been selected for the Admissions Wait Pool, offered an available opening, and wish to accept it.

Do you accept students mid-year?

Should space become available mid-year, students will be selected from the Admissions Wait Pool and notified of the opening by email or phone call. Families notified of an opening will have 48 hours to accept and one week to complete their enrollment before the opening is offered to another family in the wait pool.

What can I do to prepare my child for the admissions process?

The admissions process is designed to give the Admission Committee the best overall picture of your child. The most valuable thing you can do for your child is follow the process and have all required forms and references submitted before the deadline. We are here to help every step of the way. Please contact admissions@shilohsaints.org at any time if you have a question.

What does it mean if my child is selected for the Admissions Wait Pool?

Application numbers often exceed the number of spaces available in any given grade. After review of the complete application, testing, and interview, a qualified applicant will be selected for the Admissions Wait Pool. When space becomes available in any grade level, we will offer the opening to a student within the Admissions Wait Pool. Families notified of an opening will have 48 hours to accept and one week to complete their enrollment before the opening is offered to another family in the wait pool.

If I am in the Admissions Wait Pool waiting for an opening, do I have to reapply each year?

No, Admissions Wait Pool students do not need to reapply from year to year. Their application will remain open until an opening is offered or the family requests for their application to be withdrawn. Updated supporting documents may be requested.

If I am offered an available spot and decline, am I guaranteed a spot for the following year?

If you are offered an available spot, but decline the offer, you will not be guaranteed for the following year. You will need to reapply and complete the admissions process again. Your former acceptance may be taken into consideration, but decisions for available space will be made based on the most qualified applicants for the current year.

I have a student with a 504, IEP or diagnosed learning disability. Will Shiloh consider them for admissions?

Shiloh is committed to serving Christian families and does not select students based solely on academic abilities. We understand that God has uniquely gifted each student. Through the admissions process, we strive to determine if a student can be successful at Shiloh Christian School. We also seek to understand if Shiloh can meet the needs of each student. Our desire is to see all of our students succeed academically; therefore, we will compare a student's needs with our available learning services. Shiloh Christian School may not be the best fit for every student. We reserve the right to determine whether or not a student is a good fit for admissions, continued enrollment, or re-enrollment. Students receiving services at Shiloh are supported with a Directed Services Plan and must be able to operate in a standard classroom setting. We are not set up to offer one-on-one instruction or to provide para professionals. Shiloh's Directed Services program is limited and can only serve 10% of the students in each grade level. It is in high demand and is currently at maximum capacity at all grade levels.

Is church a requirement?

As a Christian school, we value church and believe it offers an extension of community and is a primary avenue for spiritual growth and development. The partnership of the home, church, and school form a solid foundation as we pursue excellence in Christ. For our Admissions Process, a Pastor Reference Form should be completed by the pastor of a church you are members of/currently attending. Applicants may be considered for admissions without a Pastor Reference; however, church membership is a key element of Shiloh's Admissions Criteria.

Is Cross Church membership a requirement?

Families do not have to attend Cross Church; however, we do believe that the fluid extension of community and spiritual growth is beneficial when partnering with Cross Church families. Shiloh Christian School is a ministry of Cross Church and church members receive a discounted rate on tuition.

Can a student be considered for admission if they have been suspended, expelled, or enrolled in a residential program?

Shiloh Christian School has a policy that requires a student to operate in a standard, in-person learning environment with a clean record for at least one year before the student can be considered for admission.

Does Shiloh accept LEARNS ACT funds?

Shiloh has been approved by the State of Arkansas to receive funds as a private school through the LEARNS ACT. For more information on the Learns Act, please go to shilohsaints.org/admissions/arkansas-learns-act/ or the State website learns.ade.arkansas.gov/.

Does Shiloh offer financial aid or scholarships?

Shiloh offers tuition assistance for any student in grades K5-12. Tuition Assistance is based on financial need and requires a separate online application to complete which can be accessed at https://online.factsmgt.com/aid. If you qualify, it will cover up to 30% of the tuition. The Tuition Assistance Committee meets in early June to determine assistance and notifies the family by mid June.

I've been selected from the Admissions Wait Pool for an available opening at Shiloh. How do I complete enrollment?

Please notify the Admissions team by phone 479-725-4240 or by email at <u>admissions@shilohsaints.org.</u> They will assist you in completing the final steps of enrollment which include creating your parent portal account, selecting your tuition plan, and submitting your \$300 New Student Enrollment Fee. You will have an additional week to complete these final steps of enrollment.

DEVELOPING GODLY LEADERS WHO ENGAGE THEIR CULTURE AND CHANGE IT.

PARENT POLICIES & EXPECTATIONS

(All applicant families will be asked to sign the Parent Policies & Expectations at the Family Interview.)

Believing that Christian education is a partnership between the home, the Christian church, and Shiloh Christian School, we affirm that:

- We have accepted Christ as our personal Lord and Savior and believe in the infallible Word of God.
- If as parents with authority over our child's education, we are not able to make the affirmed statement above, we agree to support the Biblical teachings and guiding principles that Shiloh Christian School takes from the Bible to educate our child.
- We have read and agree with the Statement of Faith of the school, and agree to have our child educated in accordance with it.
- We have read the Parent/Student Handbook and agree to hold our student accountable to these standards. We give the school authority to discipline our child within the boundaries of discipline outlined in the Parent/Student Handbook. As parents, we agree to support the school's efforts to nurture personal responsibility and accountability in our student.
- We commit to honoring and building up the Shiloh Family through our words, actions, and example.
- We understand that regular attendance and active fellowship with a Bible-teaching church is encouraged at Shiloh.
- 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 agree to demonstrate and model respect for authority and others including good sportsmanship at Shiloh Christian athletic events and activities.
- We commit to support our school in prayer.
- We commit to follow Biblical principles of communication. We will address dissatisfaction with the school by resolving the matter with the person or persons directly involved rather than holding a negative attitude in our hearts or spreading criticism.
- We understand that information disclosed in the admissions process will only be accessed by official school personnel for the purpose of determining acceptance and to support the student's academic, spiritual, social, emotional, and physical needs upon acceptance.
- We agree to meet all tuition and other financial obligations. If we face potentially challenging financial situations, we will communicate with the Shiloh Business Office in a timely and open manner.
- If at any time we are no longer in agreement with Shiloh Christian School's philosophy, standards, and practices, we agree to withdraw our student.
- We understand that Shiloh Christian School reserves the right to withdraw our student's enrollment at any time if, by Shiloh Christian's judgment, our student's actions, attitudes, or beliefs are no longer aligned with Shiloh Christian School's standards or beliefs.

We understand and are in agreement with the philosophy, standards, and practices of Shiloh Christian School as outlined in this document.

STUDENT POLICIES & EXPECTATIONS

(All 5th - 12th grade applicants will be asked to sign the Student Policies & Expectations at the Family Interview.)

Shiloh Christian School provides a Biblical, education environment that is consistent with the values of the Christian church and Christian home. Students who desire to grow in their faith, prepare for college and life beyond, and develop leadership skills through a life of service are encouraged to apply. As a student applicant to Shiloh Christian School, I affirm that:

- I have accepted Christ as my personal Lord and Savior and believe in the infallible Word of God, OR
- I do not know Christ as my personal Lord and Savior yet, but I desire to grow in my understanding.
- I have read and agree to live by the guidelines outlined in Shiloh's Parent/Student Handbook.
- I commit to honoring and building up the Shiloh Family through my words, actions, and
- example.
- I have and will continue to demonstrate a pattern of positive influence on peers and will choose good influences for myself including people, music, movies, etc.
- I believe that I am sufficiently mature to function appropriately at Shiloh Christian School. I can and will demonstrate self control and respectful behavior.
- I will strive for academic excellence and work hard to apply the God-given abilities and talents I have been blessed with. I will show effort in all that I do.
- In addition to my parents' desire, I want to be a student at Shiloh Christian School to grow spiritually, academically, socially, and physically for the ultimate purpose of using my life and gifts to honor God.
- I understand that Shiloh Christian School reserves the right to withdraw my enrollment at any time if, by Shiloh Christian's judgment, my actions, attitudes, or beliefs are no longer aligned with Shiloh Christian School's standards or beliefs.

I understand and am in agreement with the philosophy, standards, and practices of Shiloh Christian School as outlined in this document.

Student Signature & Date

