



*Integrating Classical Education with A Biblical Worldview*

## UNDERSTANDING ADMISSIONS

Haw River Christian Academy has an admissions policy that resembles the application process used in many other private schools and colleges. This enables the school to accurately identify and admit students from families who have clearly expressed convictions similar to the school's philosophy and academic standards regarding the education of children.

The selection and make-up of the school's student body is second only to staff in the impact it has upon the school's mission. The family-like atmosphere that HRCA seeks to foster and currently enjoys is due in great measure to the similarity of biblical convictions and principles taught and lived out in the homes of our students. As the Lord blesses us with growth and change, we want to do all that we can to cultivate and maintain this culture.

Please read the following steps carefully to understand your part in the admission process.

Refer to the Tuition and Fees schedule for financial information.

**1. Learn more about classical Christian education.** No other system of education has the track record of success that CCE offers, which will likely cause you to rethink what you know and how you view education. We encourage you to do your homework!

- Review the information provided in the admissions packet.
- Familiarize yourself with the information presented in the booklet, *"Discover Classical Christian Education: You'll Wish You Could Go Back to School."* (Inside the admissions packet.)
- Visit the Association of Classical Christian School's web site, [www.classicalchristian.org](http://www.classicalchristian.org)
- Watch the ACCS video, *"Classical Christian Education: The Old New Way"* on our web site, (under Academics).
- Dig deeper by choosing some titles to read from our suggested reading list on our web site.

**2. Corporation membership application, annual fee.** HRCA is a covenantal school model in which corporation membership requires at least one parent to be a professing Christian, as outlined by the Statement of Faith on the corporation application. The school's organizational and educational philosophy is also outlined. Corporation membership is a pre-requisite for enrollment in the school.

**3. School tours.** Parents/Guardians are required to participate in a school tour before or after submitting an application. A tour is held with the Director of Admissions and includes time to observe the applying grade level(s). Exceptions can be made only when proximity (*family is long-distance and relocating*) is a factor or the school year is not in session. The school offers regularly scheduled tours twice per month.

**Register online:** <http://www.hawriverchristian.org/tours-open-houses/>

*In the event that you need to cancel or adjust your visit, please call the school office.*

**4. Student application:** On January 1, we begin accepting applications for the next school year. Acceptance decisions are made in February-March. However, we welcome applications on the basis of seat availability during the current school year. The oldest sibling should be represented on the Student Application for Admission and sibling applicants may use the Sibling Application for Admission.

Refer to the Application Checklist for specific requirements to complete an application.

- **Pastor's Reference form, indicating a family's commitment to a church body.** This form must be completed by and mailed separately from the family's pastor.
- **Signed Parental Contract.** Parents/Guardians must be willing to cooperate with all written policies of HRCA. This is important in the areas of discipline, uniform code, schoolwork standards, and communication with respect to teachers and staff.
- **Organizational and Parent-Student handbooks.** It is imperative that parents read and scrutinize the foundational beliefs of HRCA as they seek enrollment for their children. These are available for review on our web site.

**5. Academic screening (K-12) & student visit (grades 3-12).** Every new student (*except for junior kindergarten*) is evaluated to determine academic and behavioral preparation for HRCA. The testing can take 30 minutes to 1 hour depending upon the grade level. The screening helps our teachers assess the likely success of a student for the applying grade and determines the grade placement of an accepted applicant. A summary of the testing results will be made available to the parents, including any recommendations or requirements for preparatory work before entering or during the school year.

To provide a good understanding of the classroom and culture of the school, student visits are scheduled for students in grades 3-12. These may be made in conjunction with the assessment day.

**6. Family interview.** Parents/Guardians are interviewed by the administration. Older students (grades 5-12) are expected to attend. The interview assists to evaluate the applicant's readiness for HRCA, based upon our mission, educational philosophy, and culture. Families must be prepared to discuss:

- A family's faith and how it aligns with HRCA's Statement of Faith.
- The family's educational philosophy.
- The family's understanding of classical Christian education, HRCA, and the ACCS.
- "Loco parentis" – A family's support, discipline, and talents.

**7. Acceptance and admittance.** The administration reviews all components of a family's fit for admissions – student application, pastor's reference, school tour, student visit, school records, recommendation letters, academic screening, and family interview. Correspondence regarding acceptance is done no later than March 31. Applications received thereafter will be handled within an expedited time frame, based upon availability.

In classes that are full, students who are accepted will be wait-listed. These students are admitted only when classroom seats become available. No further money is required until a student is admitted.

**A note about waitlists:** *Once a list is ranked, students are generally admitted in the order of their rank. However, several factors can result in the list being re-ordered. For example, the enrollment of current families with siblings in older grades, holding back a student in a grade, or the employment of a new teacher with a student in a full grade can result in the list being re-ordered.*

**8. Registration.** To secure a family's commitment for enrollment, a registration fee is due within 15 days of the acceptance letter.