

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



WHAT MAKES YOUR SCHOOL UNIQUE?

We have a unique vision. The City School was started with the goal of providing the children of Philadelphia with an excellent education grounded in the Christian faith. We desire to be accessible across race, socio-economic background, academic ability, and faith tradition. We heartily welcome international students into our family.

We also have a unique location in the heart of Philadelphia. Philadelphia is one of the oldest and largest cities in the country and the birthplace of our nation, making it a wonderful place to explore the history of America while experiencing its present. Moreover, we are just a few hours away from other important cities like New York and Washington DC. There are many cheap and convenient travel options so that students can easily visit and explore.

WHO IS CONSIDERED AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT?

A student requiring an I-20 is considered an International Student at The City School.

WHAT IS THE PROFILE OF A TYPICAL CITY SCHOOL INTERNATIONAL APPLICANT?

A typical international student here is applying to enter 9th, 10th, or 11th grade, has proficiency in English, and is willing to work hard. S/he also likes the city atmosphere and a diverse environment.

TELL ME ABOUT YOUR CURRENT INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS.

For 2019-2020, we have students from China, Taiwan, Honduras, and Korea.

WHAT GRADES CAN INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS APPLY FOR?

We accept international students applying through 11th grade. For 12th grade placement, only applicants who want to transfer from another U.S. school will be considered. We also have openings for middle and elementary grades. The application requirements are slightly different for those grades; please contact us.

HOW BIG IS EACH CLASS?

The average class size is 15 students, making discussions and student engagement an important part of the City School experience. Our high school has 8:1 student to teacher ratio. We take a special interest in every student and give care and attention to each student so that s/he can thrive.

WHAT ARE YOUR TUITION AND FEES FOR 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR?

Tuition for the year: \$20,000

Application fee: \$100

New Student Enrollment deposit: \$1,000

Optional homestay: \$9,000



HOW CAN I MAKE PAYMENTS TO THE SCHOOL?

You can pay by credit card, wire transfer, or with a check made out to The City School. Please note there is a \$2 surcharge on all credit card charges and a \$10 surcharge on all wiring. Please contact the International Coordinator for instructions on how to make wire transfers or credit card payments.

DO YOU COORDINATE HOMESTAYS?

Yes, we can match you with a homestay for \$9000/year. Our host families are Christian families who provide safe, welcoming, and caring homes. They are personally known by the staff and have gone through a careful screening process. Please request homestays at the start of the application process.

ARE THERE ADDITIONAL FEES?

City School students are required to wear school uniforms, and a complete set of uniforms can be purchased for about \$300. Detailed information will be provided at the International Student Orientation. Other fees, such as for sports registration and field trips, are minimal and collected during the year.

DO YOU HAVE AN ESL PROGRAM?

We've had leveled ESL classes for all first-year students and are looking to reinstitute that program, which will benefit those needing extra language support. ESL classes are optional for students with a certain TEOFL score.

ARE ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY TESTS LIKE THE TOEFL REQUIRED FOR ADMISSION?

Generally, we look for a TOEFL score of 60 or higher. Please contact us for our minimum score standards for other English proficiency tests. Acceptance with certain test scores will require ESL classes at an additional fee.

WHAT ADDITIONAL HELP AND SERVICES DO YOU OFFER INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS?

International students have extra support and guidance from our International Student Coordinator on staff, and they may be eligible to participate in ESL class at an additional cost. International students also have access to our college guidance counselor, trained therapist, and a number of homework assistance opportunities.

WHAT COLLEGES ARE YOUR GRADUATES ACCEPTED TO?

Recent graduates have been accepted to some of the top national and local schools, including Brown University, Curtis Institute of Music, Juilliard School, Oberlin College, University of Pennsylvania, Temple University, and St. Joseph's University. Please visit our website for a fuller list of recent acceptances.

<https://cityschool.org/admissions/international/>

I HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED AND COMPLETED THE APPLICATION PROCESS. NOW WHAT?

Complete the Enrollment Checklist, which includes paying the \$1000 enrollment fee, signing your enrollment and completing consent forms. When your checklist is completed, we will issue your I-20 form to apply for your visa. Research about the city and get in touch with your host family if you have one. New International Student Orientation is the last week in August and more information about schedules, supplies and uniforms will be provided.

DO HAVE A QUESTION THAT IS NOT ANSWERED HERE? CONTACT THE ADMISSIONS DIRECTOR, KIMBERLY JONES AT 215-792-6224 OR KJONES@CITYSCHOOL.ORG.