



Academics Plus Charter School

900 Edgewood Drive Maumelle, AR 72113

District Office 501-803-9730

High School Office 501-851-3333

Elementary Office 501-803-0066

Fax 501-851-2599

Application

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

Year of Proposed Enrollment: _____ Term: Fall Spring Applying for Grade: _____

STUDENT INFORMATION

First Name: _____ Middle Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Goes by: _____ Social Security Number: _____ Male Female

Ethnic/Racial Background (Optional) African-American Asian-American Hispanic/Latino
 Caucasian Middle Eastern Native American Other _____

Date of Birth (M/D/YY): _____ Age: _____ Present Grade: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Student's Home Phone: _____ Student's Cell Phone: _____

Living with (check all that apply): Both Parents Mother Father Step-Parent
 Grandparent Legal Guardian Foster Care Other _____

FAMILY INFORMATION

Father's Name: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Home Address (if different from applicant): _____

Home Phone (if different from applicant): _____ Father's email: _____

Employer: _____ Work Phone: _____

Work email: _____

Mother's Name: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Home Address (if different from applicant): _____

Home Phone (if different from applicant): _____ Mother's email: _____

Employer: _____ Work Phone: _____

Work email: _____

Check if appropriate: Father Deceased Parents Divorced Father Remarried
 Mother Deceased Parents Separated Mother Remarried



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EMERGENCY CONTACT (other than parents)

Name: _____ Relation: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Relation: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Relation: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Relation: _____ Phone: _____

_____ I give permission for the above listed individuals to check-out my student(s) in the case of an emergency
(Please initial)

APPLICANT'S EDUCATION

Name of Current School: _____ Dates of Attendance: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

School Contact Person: _____ Phone: _____

Previous Schools:

Name: _____ Location: _____ Dates Attended: _____

Name: _____ Location: _____ Dates Attended: _____

SIBLINGS

				<u>Attend(ed) APCS</u>		<u>Applying to APCS</u>		
Name: _____	Age: _____	Grade: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Name: _____	Age: _____	Grade: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Name: _____	Age: _____	Grade: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Name: _____	Age: _____	Grade: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

School District You Reside In: _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____



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Student
Survey

STUDENT SURVEY

Student Name _____ Grade applying for _____

In order to enroll a student at Academics Plus Charter School, the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and potential student are required to complete this form, sign and return it to the admissions office. This information will remain confidential.

PLEASE EXPLAIN ANY YES ANSWERS ON THE BOTTOM OF THIS PAGE

Yes No

- 1. Has the student ever been suspended, asked to withdraw or expelled from school or assigned to an alternative learning center or rehabilitation program?
- 2. Is the student currently ineligible to re-enroll in the school from which he/she is transferring?
- 3. Has the student ever been diagnosed as having Attention Deficit Disorder or any other learning disability?
- 4. Is the student now, or has he/she ever been, in consultation with a counselor, diagnostician or doctor concerning emotional or behavioral problems?
- 5. Does the student have a current IEP, 504 Plan or other SPED form on file?
- 6. Has the student ever been charged with the possession or use of illegal drugs or controlled substances?
- 7. Has the student ever been involved in, or the victim of, gang or cult related activities?
- 8. Has the student ever been accused of, or involved in, the possession of a dangerous weapon(s)?
- 9. If applicable, has the student ever had his/her driver's license suspended or revoked or been charged with Driving While Intoxicated, Driving Under the Influence or Minor in Possession?
- 10. Has the student ever been arrested or convicted by any civil authorities, including juvenile courts?

Comments:



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Please list student's club, organization and co-curricular activities: _____

Primary reason for wishing to attend Academics Plus Charter School: _____

I became aware of Academics Plus Charter School through:

- Personal Recommendation
- Newspaper/Magazine Ad
- Web Site
- Other _____

REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION

- Must meet minimum/maximum age requirements
- Must provide copy of birth certificate (or other state approved birth records) and shot records
- Must be able to provide own transportation to and from school

Academics Plus Charter School recognizes that quality educational opportunities for all families in Central Arkansas will enable students to compete and excel, both locally and nationally. By raising the bar at all grade levels through a highly focused curriculum to improve academic success, our students will leave high school "college ready".

If this application is accepted, I agree to abide by and honor the principles and policies of Academics Plus Charter School.

We agree to the immediate dismissal of this student from school for any misstatement or omission of information on this form.

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

APCS SCHOOL PHOTO/QUOTE/DEMOGRAPHICS INFORMATION AGREEMENT

I/We hereby grant permission for APCS to take/use my student's photo in school materials and promotions. Yes No

I/We hereby grant permission for APCS to release demographic information on my student to the public. Yes No

Student Survey



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RECORDS REQUEST FORM

Name of Student: _____ Grade: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Last School Attended: _____

Address: _____ City/State: _____ ZIP: _____

School Phone: _____ School Fax: _____

INFORMATION NEEDED

Withdrawal Grades

Discipline

Birth Certificate

Medical Information

Immunization Records

Standardized Testing Scores

Psychological Testing/Conferences/Diagnosis(including Speech/Language Assessments)

IEPs/AIPs/IRI/504 Plans

Report Cards

Official Transcript

Please forward all academic, health, psychological, (AIP or (IRI) records of the above names student. Thank you.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Please send records to:

Academics Plus Charter School
900 Edgewood Drive
Maumelle, AR 72113

Or Fax to: (501)851-2599

Records Request



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APCS is pleased to announce a program designed to help our school...

APCS Family Share Program!

This program will allow you to help our school maintain its standard of excellence. By devoting a small amount of your time or funds, you will be participating in a school wide effort to involve the families more in our school.

Program Details

Each **FAMILY** with children enrolled at APCS is asked to provide either:

10 hours of volunteer service at the school

Hours can be accrued at any time and in any amount. You can do all 10 hours in a single day or spread it out over the school year. If you choose to contribute money instead, that can be paid in its entirety or 1/2 at the start of school and the remaining at the end of the school year.

In order for your child(ren) to remain students here, this must be completed by all families enrolled. Please keep in mind that this is per FAMILY not per student so as to keep the amounts reasonable.

More information will be forthcoming about volunteer opportunities available.

When you sign in at the office, be sure to "X" the "Vol" column so that your time will be counted!

I have read this form and understand the expectations of this program.

Parent Signature

Date



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ADMISSION CHECKLIST

New student applications will be considered for admission after receipt of ALL of the following:
(Please check as completed)

- Completed and Signed Application
- Completed Student Survey
- Records Request or Copy of Transcript (Applicable for Kindergarten if attended Pre-K)
- Emergency Contact Form / Med. Consent Form
- Signed APCS Family Share Program Form (optional)
- Copy of most recent Report Card
- Copy of Birth Certificate & Social Security Card (or other form of ID)
- Copy of Immunization Records

ADMISSION POLICY

Applications are reviewed in the order they are received and applicants who provide complete admissions paperwork are accepted, given the availability of space in a class. The school may take other factors into consideration such as having a sibling in the school. The school admits students of any race, creed, national and ethnic origins to all rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school.

LOTTERY DRAWING

Enrollment for the next school year begins April 15. Based on the current known openings, a pool is created of all applications received by that date. A lottery system is used to fill each opening. Once all openings are filled, the remaining applications are chosen by lottery to determine their number on the waiting list. This waiting list will be maintained up to February 15 as openings may occur throughout the school year.

* Please note that after February 15, ALL applications are placed into the lottery pool.

CAMPUS TOURS

Campus tours can be done on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00am to 2:00pm, except during benchmark testing and finals weeks. Interviews with the Principal must be scheduled via the office. Please call the appropriate office numbers to schedule tours and interviews.

Students may shadow an APCS Student if they wish. These shadowing visits must be scheduled in advance via the front office to ensure that a student is available.

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This policy has been designed to uphold a standard that is both non-distracting and easily enforced. Academics Plus Charter School believes standards of school dress can influence pupil behavior and enhance a school's learning environment. As a result, the uniform policy of Academics Plus Charter School is strictly enforced from 8:00 am when school begins until 3:55 pm for Elementary School and 4:10 pm for 7th– 12th grades when school ends. This policy will also be enforced at all school sponsored activities. This policy provides school administrators, teachers, and parents with clear expectations regarding acceptable and appropriate apparel and appearance so that rules of dress and discipline can be enforced consistently. All required components must meet the dress code. Students may not “enhance” or add to the required uniform. Uniforms can be ordered through the school website or purchased at Wal-Mart, Kmart, Target, JC Penney, Sears, Burlington Coat Factory or other specialty stores.

Students are to come to school neatly groomed and appropriately dressed for all occasions. All clothes should be clean and free of holes and/or tears. Dress code checks will be conducted by each 1st and 2nd period teacher's classes. Random checks will occur on a regular basis by administrators, staff, and faculty.

Both male and female students are treated equally. Students will adhere to the following guidelines for all students in grades K-12.

TOPS

- Long or short sleeved solid white dress (oxford) shirts or plain white or navy blue polo shirts.
- Approved Academics Plus t-shirts/sweatshirts are allowed only on Fridays.
- An undershirt must be worn under the oxford dress shirt and the sleeves, if any, must not extend below the shirt.
- Undershirts must be solid white only
- Tucked in at all times
- NO HOODIES!

BOTTOMS

- **Type** - Pants, Shorts, Skirts, Skorts and Jumpers
- **Color** - Twill beige khaki color. Deviations from the specified uniform colors are not acceptable. For example, khaki cannot have substitutions of cement, brown.
- **Style** – Must be worn at the natural waist level, no cargo styles (lots of pockets).
- **Size** - Must be appropriately sized, neither too tight nor oversized.
- **Length** – Must touch the knee or lower.
- Denim, Sweatpants or jogging pants are not allowed on campus.
- Black or Brown belts must be worn for all garments that have loops, in grades 3-12.

HAIR ACCESSORIES

- Headbands and Bows may be worn (black, gray, navy or white).
- No headscarves, bandanas or hats allowed.

SHOES

- Enclosed toe & heel - primarily black, white or brown shoes are allowed.

****Further details are available in the student handbook****

U n i f o r m P o l i c y



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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Academics Plus Charter School (APCS) is to provide academically rigorous college preparatory program for all students regardless of race, ethnic origins, national background, or socioeconomic level. All children can learn when challenged by high expectations. We believe that attitude, behavior, effort and attendance, as well as ability, determine academic success.

What is a charter school? A charter school is a form of public school that is free from most of the restrictive laws that govern traditional public schools. This allows a charter school more flexibility to implement creative and innovative programs and policies. In return for this freedom, a charter school is held more accountable for student success. Funded like other public schools, a charter school operates under a contract detailing the school's mission, program, goals, students served, methods of assessment, and ways to measure success.

Who operates APCS? APCS is operated by Pulaski County Charter School Inc, a non-profit charter school educational foundation, dedicated to improving public education in Central Arkansas. APCS opened in Maumelle for the 2000-2001 school year and is continuing to operate under a chartered granted by the Arkansas State Board of Education which was renewed for 5 years in 2007. The charter's cap enrollment is 650 students.

How is APCS funded? APCS is funded with public money appropriated by the Arkansas Legislature just as any other public school. In addition, APCS relies on gifts and grants from private and philanthropic organizations and funds received from the federal government.

Is APCS held accountable for the use of public funds? Yes. All open-enrollment charter schools are audited in the same manner as traditional public schools. All financial and student data is reported through the Arkansas Public School Computer Network (APSCN) in the same way as public schools.

Who attends APCS? Most APCS students come from the three public school districts that serve Little Rock, North Little Rock, and Pulaski County. The remaining students come from outlying areas in Central Arkansas. On average, 25 percent of APCS students qualify for the National School Lunch program. In addition, APCS serves hot lunches to 225 students daily and hot breakfast to 40 students daily. While most students arrive to school each day via parent/guardian transportation, some utilize the Central Arkansas Transportation buses to and from school, and others are transported by private daycares.

Who teaches at APCS? All of APCS's teachers are either certified by the state of Arkansas or are Highly Qualified as defined by the State Board of Education. Over one third of our teachers hold Master Degrees or higher and two have Doctorate Degrees.

Is APCS really different from traditional public schools? Yes. APCS uses an extended school day and a highly focused curriculum to improve the academic success of the students. We also encourage

What is a Charter School?



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innovative teaching practices to increase opportunities for learning. We offer smaller class size and safe, nurturing environment.

Is APCS held accountable for student performance? Yes. APCS measures student academic performance through periodic assessments provided by the Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA). These assessments are aligned to the student standards set by the state of Arkansas and are administered throughout the school year. The NWEA results enable teachers to adapt their instruction to meet a student's specific needs. Assessment information is shared with parents during regularly scheduled conferences as well as throughout the school year. In addition, APCS students, along with all traditional public school students, take the annual Arkansas benchmark exams. APCS students consistently score much higher on these exams than all three of the surrounding school districts (LR, NLR, PCSSD). Teachers report student progress on coursework weekly through the Edline, which parents can access online for current grade information, assignments and other classroom information.

How long have charter schools been around? In the 1970s, an educator in New England proposed giving small groups of teachers contracts to allow for innovative teaching strategies to be put in place. In the early 1980s, schools in Philadelphia began creating schools within schools and calling them charters. Minnesota refined the idea, passing a charter school law in 1991. Arkansas passed a charter school law in 1995 and revised it in 1999. As a result of the legislative revision, the State Board of Education approved four charter schools to open in the fall of 2000. APCS was the first of these flagship schools and is the oldest charter school in Arkansas. Arkansas currently has 27 charter schools in operation.

Are there different types of charter schools? Yes. In Arkansas, there are two types. A conversion charter school is a traditional public school that is converted to a charter school. Conversion charters can only serve students from within the school's original district boundaries. APCS is the second type of charter school: an open-enrollment charter school. Open-enrollment charters are public schools that have not been established by a school district. Open-enrollment charter schools can serve students from across district boundaries.

Who can start a charter school? Arkansas law establishes the eligible entities as a public institution of higher education, a private nonsectarian institution of higher education, a government entity, or an organization that is nonsectarian in its program, admission policies, employment practices and operations, and is exempt from taxation under Section 501 (c)(3) of the IRS. APCS falls into that final category.

Who can grant a school a charter? In Arkansas, only the State Board of Education can grant a charter.

Can a private school become a charter school? No private or parochial school in existence on July 30, 1999 is eligible to become an open-enrollment charter school. In addition, private and parochial schools are not eligible for conversion charter school status.

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