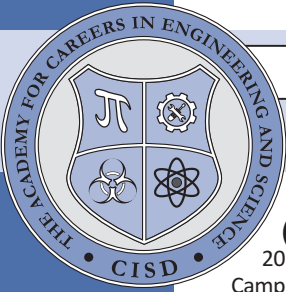


THE ACADEMY FOR CAREERS IN ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

Class of 2025 Application Packet

Academy for Careers in Engineering and Science ACES 8th Grade Application

2020
2021



The Academy for Careers in Engineering and Science (ACES) began its first full year of operation during the 2018-2019 school year on the Oak Ridge High School Ninth Grade Campus.

As a result, students in the Graduating Class of 2025 have the opportunity to be a part of the fourth class of the Academy for Careers in Engineering and Science (ACES). Along with the other two CISD Academies (The Academy of Science and Technology and the Academy for Science and Health Professions), the Academy for Careers in Engineering and Science will offer a core curriculum of STEM courses, research and exploration opportunities, and internship options. However, as with the two other Academies, ACES will have the opportunity to customize offerings beyond core requirements, and, thus, take on a unique culture of its own. Moreover, because of the alternating block schedule and unique offerings that already exist at Oak Ridge High School, especially in relation to the engineering design program, NASA partnership and Health Science Program, ACES will have the capacity to accept a class of 120-140 students. In addition, since students have the opportunity to enroll in 8 courses per year on the block schedule, students should be able to meet Academy requirements and pursue other extracurricular interests.

While a STEM Academy Program may not be a good fit for every student, such programs do provide unique and rigorous learning experiences in a close-knit school-within-a-school environment. In my experience, students have the opportunity to develop strong connections to each other without becoming totally socially isolated. In essence, Academy students are isolated together for their Academy courses but have the opportunity to interact with other students in their humanities, language and elective courses. In essence, the model we utilize is supportive but not constraining.

Academy program requirements are designed to insure a high level of rigor based on the utilization of a college readiness model of instruction. This approach gradually shapes course work to resemble college level courses during students' junior and senior years of instruction. As a result, the transition to collegiate study should be less difficult for students. As we become established, universities and scholarship programs will readily recognize the preparedness of our students.

ACES offers extensive opportunities for specialization in mathematics, engineering, science and other related areas including medicine, business, law, robotics, health science and computer science. These course opportunities should foster interest in STEM study and help encourage students to explore and apply their interests and abilities in an enriched learning environment. In the

end, the primary purpose of all of our CISD Academies, including ACES, is to maintain students in the STEM Pipeline to collegiate level STEM study.

ACES academic requirements are simple. Each year, Academy students must complete at least 3 academy courses. In each year, in actuality, most of these courses are required for graduation. In my experience, most Academy students take more than 3 academy courses their junior and senior years. Also, because of the extensive course offerings at Oak Ridge High School, we will be able to broaden our elective offerings for Academy credit in order to meet the needs of students on a more individualized basis. In addition, each year, Academy students must enroll in a research and problems course for local credit. This component can be fulfilled through participation in science fair, robotics, HOSA, computer science academic competitions, UIL academic competition, or other activities related to students interests. Also, over the four years of high school, students must complete 14 exploration (field trip, speakers, seminars, meetings, etc.) credits. Lastly, students must complete an internship in an area of career interest and accumulate at least 100 hours of community service. All of these requirements and

the CISD Academy Model represent research based approaches designed to foster interest in STEM study and maintain students in the STEM Pipeline. In addition, these efforts are similar to approaches utilized by most member STEM schools of the National Consortium of Secondary STEM Schools of which all CISD STEM Academies are members.

If you are seeking a challenging and rigorous academic environment with a strong focus on STEM education in a small school environment within a larger school setting, then the Academy for Careers in Engineering and Science might be for you. In addition, we have a strong commitment to producing well rounded students who participate in a variety of extracurricular activities while pursuing a strong academic program. I hope students and parents alike will seriously consider making application to the Academy for Careers in Engineering and Science. I look forward to meeting you in the future. Please contact our Academy office with any additional questions or inquiries.

Dr. Mike Papadimitriou
ACES Headmaster

APPLICATION PROCESS • CLASS OF 2025

Eligibility:

All students who will be in the 9th grade at Oak Ridge HS, Grand Oaks HS, College Park HS, or The Woodlands HS in August 2021 are eligible to apply for admission to the Academy Class of 2025. All students are provided the opportunity to apply. There is no additional cost for attending the Academy.

Qualifications for consideration:

An overall 80 average in junior high with an 85 average in science and math courses will be required. **Any entering Academy student must have completed Algebra I with an average of 85 for the course prior to the new school year.; summer acceleration for Algebra I is available at cost if selected to ACES program.** All applicants must take an entry PSAT 8/9 assessment (given to all 8th graders in CISD).

- In a few instances an applicant who may fall slightly below these qualifications may still apply, and seek, probationary/provisional entrance into the Academy for a preset timeframe at which time recommendations will be made by the Headmaster for full status or dismissal from the Academy.
- Private school/home school applicants may be asked to provide test data as part of the entry criteria.

Application Checklist

| | Yes | No |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Application Form completed | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Student Letter written & submitted | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Recent School photo of applicant..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Résumé..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Teacher recommendations | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Met Deadline: Friday, November 20, 2020..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

THE ACADEMY FOR CAREERS IN ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE (ACES)

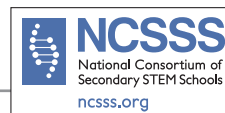
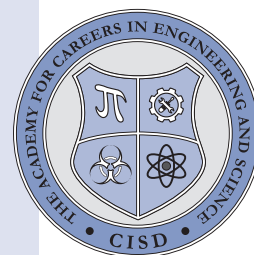
27330 Oak Ridge School Road • Conroe, Texas 77385

Phone: (832) 482-6700

Fax: (832) 482-6706

E-mail: aces@conroeisd.net

Website: <http://aces.conroeisd.net>



Teacher Evaluation Form *(May be downloaded from the ACES website.)*

Student name _____

Course(s) taught to student _____

Teacher name _____ School _____

| | Below Average | Average | Above Average | Excellent Top 10% | One of the few in my career |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Motivation and Task Commitment | | | | | |
| 1. Shows interest in science, math, technology, health professions | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Participates in science fair, DI, and/or other competitions or participates in other activities that show motivation/commitment | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Produces what is promised or required | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Accepts challenges | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Attacks problems creatively | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Interpersonal Skills | | | | | |
| 1. Understands viewpoints other than his/her own | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Accepts leadership roles | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Accepts follower roles | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Promotes cooperative behavior among peers | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Stays on task, pays attention, participates during class | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Personal Characteristics | | | | | |
| 1. Asks insightful questions | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Seeks help when necessary | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Shows pride in his/her work | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Shows respect for other people | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Manages time well (not a perfectionist or procrastinator) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Summary | | | | | |
| 1. Overall academic potential | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Overall character & personal promise | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Application Timeline & Application Elements

Application folder

Due on or before: Friday, November 20, 2020
3 p.m. in the Academy Office/ORHS

- **Application form** [see adjacent page]
- **Recent school picture**
- **Student letter**
 - *Why he/she wants to attend the Academy*
 - *Special qualities the student will bring to the Academy*
 - *Examples of activities, such as projects, awards and other things that show interest, motivation, and commitment in math, science, healthcare, leadership, & technology*
- **Two Teacher Evaluations**
 - *Ask teachers to complete the form (shown on the page to the left) or download a copy of the form from the ACES website.*
- **Student Résumé**
 - *Include all 7th and 8th grade academic courses*
 - *Extracurricular activities (in and out of school)*
 - *Leadership positions (in and out of school)*
 - *Awards (in and out of school)*
 - *Work experience*
 - *Community service activities (in and out of school)*

PSAT Assessment

- Applicants will be required to complete a standardized 8th grade PSAT 8/9 assessment. (*All CISD 8th graders take this exam.*)
- Private school students must complete the PSAT 8/9 if other standardized scores are not available.
- Student score results will be returned to parents

Applicant Interview

Dates: January 14, 15, 19 and 21, 2021
Monday - Friday • 4:30 p.m.

- Interviews will be held at Oak Ridge High School Library
- At least one parent **MUST** be present; both are welcomed
- The interview will elaborate on information in application letters and will measure the poise, communicative skills, and motivation/commitment of the student as well as the support of the parent/guardian(s) for the student and Academy program.

Note: Interviews might take place via Zoom, depending on the public health situation.

Discipline and Attendance Assessment

- Information as to each applicants discipline, behavior, attendance, demeanor, interest, motivation, and level of participation will be examined.

Notification of Status

Dates: February 14-28, 2021

- All applicants/applicant parents will be notified of their selection status in writing.

Invitations Returned to ACES

Dates: March 20, 2021

- Applicant acceptance or declination decisions must be returned in writing to the Academy Office by designated date. All completed travel, medical, and Internet permission forms are due by this date. Failure to submit all forms will act as a declination of the invitation issued.

Request for Reconsideration

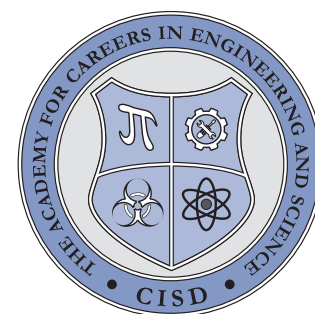
Dates: March 31, 2021

- A written request for reconsideration of a non-selection decision must be received at ACES by the designated date. The request must include a detailed explanation of why reconsideration is justified and evidence supporting the request.

Reconsideration Decision

Dates: April 15, 2021

- Reconsideration will be completed within 7 business days. The original decision may be affirmed or reversed. If reversed, the student may be selected or placed on the alternate/wait list.



Directions: This application is for current 8th grade students. Please print or type the information requested below. We need accurate phone numbers with area codes. If there are questions, please call the Academy Office at (832) 482-6700 or (832) 482-6703 or email the Academy Office at aces@conroeisd.net.

Note: An email account is needed. Should you currently not have an email account, please acquire one at Yahoo.com, Google.com, or Hotmail.com.

Student Information

Student name _____ CISD # _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Date of birth _____ Student email address _____

Junior high presently attending _____

- High School attendance zone:** Oak Ridge HS College Park HS The Woodlands HS Grand Oaks HS
 Private/Parochial in ORHS/CPHS/TWHS/GOHS attendance zones
 Will be moving into ORHS/CPHS/TWHS/GOHS attendance zone

Parent/Guardian Information

Father

Name _____

Work phone: (_____) _____

Home phone: (_____) _____

Cell phone: (_____) _____

Email home: _____

Email work: _____

Mother

Name _____

Work phone: (_____) _____

Home phone: (_____) _____

Cell phone: (_____) _____

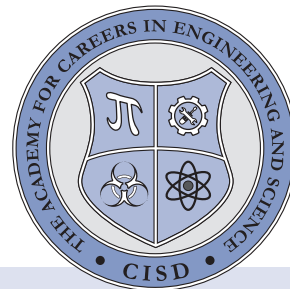
Email home: _____

Email work: _____

Preferred student/parent interview dates and assessment dates

Please indicate 1st and 2nd choices by writing 1 and 2 respectively. All interviews take place at the Oak Ridge High School Library. Dress for students is: Professional or professional casual; no jeans or shorts or athletic uniforms, please. The public health situation may require virtual interviews via Zoom.

- Thursday, January 14, 2021, beginning at 4:30 p.m.
 Friday, January 15, 2021, beginning at 4:30 p.m.
 Tuesday, January 19, 2021, beginning at 4:30 p.m.
 Thursday, January 21, 2021, beginning at 4:30 p.m.



Application submission deadline:

This application must be received by Friday, November 20, 2020 in the ACES Office on the Oak Ridge High School Campus by 3 p.m. Applications received after this date will be considered only on a space-available basis in July.