

Academy of Scholastic Achievement

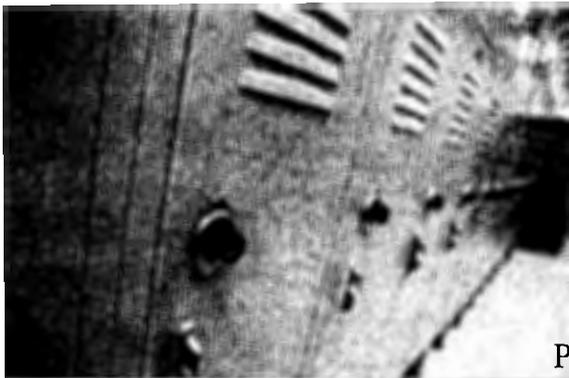
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Enrollment



Please read the following carefully if you are interested in attending

our school. If you have any questions, please refer to our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ), or call our Registrar at 773-921-1315.

Eligibility

In order to be eligible for enrollment at ASA, prospective students must:

- Be 16 years of age
- Have completed one year of high school
- Be a resident of Chicago
- Be willing to commit to a minimum 1-year residency
- Have a parent or legal guardian accompany them to the interview if they are younger than 18 years old

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Enrollment Procedure



Parents or legal guardians should accompany students at the time of registration. Once accepted, students will bring the following with them:

- A copy of your transcript from your previous high
- An official release/withdrawal form from your previous high school
- A copy of your birth certificate
- A copy of your current health records, including immunization records
- Proof of residency
- Parental proof of income
- A picture I.D.

Once enrolled all students will:

- Attend new student orientation.
- Take the STAR exam.
- Pay activities fee of \$150

The Lottery Process

Once all seats are filled, ASA uses a lottery system to place students if additional space becomes available. As a campus of Youth Connection Charter School (YCCS), ASA operates at all times in accordance with the Charter Schools Law and all other applicable federal and state laws. ASA does not discriminate students on the basis of disability, race, creed, color, gender, national origin, religion, ancestry, marital status, academic performance or the need for special education services. By law, ASA conducts a lottery for the enrollment of any new student.

All waiting/lottery applications are entered on the web lottery program at www.applytoyccs.com. Lotteries are conducted on a quarterly basis following the quarterly enrollment schedule provided by the YCCS Accountability Department. For more information on the lottery, please contact the ASA Registrar at 773-921-1315.

[Click here](#) for a list of frequently asked questions regarding eligibility and enrollment.

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FAQ

ELIGIBILITY

1. Who is eligible to enroll?

Acceptance into ASA is on a first-come first-serve basis or a lottery if all seats are filled. If you are interested in attending ASA, you must:

- Be 16 years of age
- Have completed one year of high school
- Be a resident of Chicago
- Be willing to commit to a minimum 1-year residency

2. What is the minimum credit I must have to enroll at ASA?

There are no minimum credits required for ASA enrollment. If you meet all eligibility requirements, an ASA representative will contact you to discuss your academic and credit history.

3. Do I have to be a high school drop-out to attend ASA?

No. ASA provides a two-year academic curriculum that is geared toward at-risk youth. Our specialty is providing high school students who are not succeeding in traditional public high school settings with a second chance at a general high school diploma. Many of our students come to us because they have dropped out, are pregnant, or have been chronically truant from school. Others, however, come to us because they prefer a small school setting and are seeking individualized study. We encourage you to visit our school to learn if it is right for you. To schedule a campus tour, please call Vanessa Bush Ford, Director, Resource Development, at 773-921-1315.

TESTING**1. What is the STAR and why do I have to take it?**

The STAR test is designed to measure basic reading and mathematics skills. ASA requires all enrolled students to take the STAR assessment because it helps us determine student achievement and design appropriate individual learning plans.

2. When can I take the STAR?

Tests are administered upon enrollment, mid-year and end of the year. Please call the school at 773-921-1315 for testing dates and times.

3. When will I get my STAR results?

ASA will call you within 24 hours of taking the test to inform you of your results.

4. What if I fail the STAR, can I still attend ASA?

Actually, you cannot fail the STAR. The test simply measures your achievement skill level in reading and math.

ADMISSIONS**1. What is the cost of admission?**

The annual student fee is \$150. This fee is paid at the beginning of the school year, prior to the first day of school.

2. What is the enrollment process once I am accepted?

ASA administers the STAR test to all enrolled students. The STAR is designed to measure basic skills. ASA uses the STAR to measure basic reading and mathematics skills.

Parents or legal guardians should accompany students at the time of registration. Accepted students must bring the following with them:

- A copy of your transcript from your previous high school (official or unofficial)
- An official release/withdrawal from your previous high school
- A copy of your birth certificate
- A copy of your current health records including immunization records
- Proof of residency
- Parental proof of income
- A picture I.D.

Once enrolled, all students will:

- Attend new student orientation
- Take the STAR exam
- Pay activities fee of \$150

GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. When does school start?

For the most part, ASA follows The Chicago Public Schools (CPS) regular track calendar. However, there are variations with regard to professional development days, report card pick-up days, etc. For specific dates, please refer to the ASA school calendar or contact the school at 773-921-1315.

2. Does ASA require uniforms?

Yes. ASA requires a uniform that consists of a blue polo shirt with the school's emblem. In addition, students are expected to come to school well-groomed, hair combed, dressed appropriately to support a learning environment free from distractions. All students must adhere to our dress code policy. Students are prohibited from the following on school grounds:

- Hats, baseball caps, bandanas or scarves
- Sagging pants; students must fasten their pants with a belt at the waist
- Clothing with gang symbols or inflammatory, suggestive or discriminatory language
- Combs, picks, rollers in the hair
- Uncombed or unkempt hair
- House shoes, flip flops or slippers
- Shorts, mini-skirts (all skirts must be knee-length or longer)
- Jackets, coats, or other outer-garments
- Clothing that exposes undergarments

Additionally, all students must wear their ASA identification badge at all times.

3. Is there free transportation to ASA?

No, students are responsible for their own transportation to and from school. ASA is accessible via public transportation and is close to several bus routes.

Homeless or low-income students may be provided bus passes through a partnership program ASA has with Chicago Public Schools (CPS). Other low-income students with transportation needs may be provided with bus passes based on available funds. ASA's counseling and social services department reviews and approves all bus pass requests.

4. Does ASA offer a hot lunch program?

Yes, ASA offers a free and reduced-cost cold breakfast and hot lunch program in collaboration with Chicago Public Schools (CPS) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

5. What are the expectations of parent involvement?

Parents are expected to be active participants in their child's learning experiences. ASA invites parents to monthly Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) meetings to learn about school news, upcoming events and explore opportunities for further involvement in school activities.

6. Does ASA offer a formal graduation ceremony?

Yes, ASA offers a formal graduation ceremony.

7. Does ASA offer a formal Senior Prom?

Yes, ASA, in conjunction with the Alternative Schools Network (ASN), offers a formal Senior Prom. Students must be in their senior year and in good academic and behavioral standing to be eligible to

attend.

ACADEMICS

1. My child has special needs, how will ASA address them?

ASA has a special education teacher staff who are on-site several days a week to collaborate with teachers, aid and modify lesson plans, and meet with students to discuss their individual needs. The special education teacher also provides one-on-one instruction, as needed. Additionally, ASA teachers differentiate their lessons to instruct students with special needs according to their alternative education plan (AEP).

2. What is an AEP?

The alternative education plan is an individual learning plan that is developed at the beginning of each school year with the student, parent/guardian and teachers. At ASA each student receives an AEP, which serves as a tailor-made blue print of a student's educational goals, expectations and performance objectives for the year. The AEP is a working document that is used throughout the year to monitor student performance, identify strengths and improvement areas, and discover any barriers to student success.

3. How do I know if my student's performance is improving?

ASA provides several ways to track student performance. The school distributes progress reports to students every five weeks. The reports indicate the student's academic grades as of that point in time and specify areas of improvement for students to focus on for the remainder of the quarter. Report cards are distributed every 10 weeks. Parents are required to pick up the report cards on designated pick-up days between 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. ASA also encourages parents to request parent-teacher conferences if they have questions or concerns regarding their student's academic performance.

4. How does ASA handle state/standardized tests?

ASA administers the following required standardized tests: STAR and ACT.

ACT: a national college admission exam, ASA requires all students to take the ACT upon completion of high school. The test is a combination of four subject area tests in Math, Science, English and Reading. The ACT includes multiple choice questions and takes approximately 3 hours and 30 minutes to complete. The ACT is administered on five test dates in October, December, February, April and June. ASA students are encouraged to take the tests in December.

STAR: Although not a standardized test, ASA administers the STAR to all students three times a year at the beginning, midpoint and end of the school year. ASA uses the test to measure basic reading, mathematics and language arts progression throughout the year. Students must score a minimum of 10th grade level to graduate.

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