

CORE Pack Admissions Policy

The Saint Paul's School CORE Pack program provides a quality, modified, inclusive education in a Lasallian Catholic community for students with developmental exceptionalities seeking a high school certificate of achievement. Ideally, the program is a six year term with students spending their first two years as pre-freshmen. Parents desiring such a Catholic educational opportunity for their sons should follow the application guidelines outlined. Additional information is available by contacting the CORE Pack Director, or Principal.

A student will be admitted based on an evaluative assessment reflecting reasonable confidence the program will meet the unique needs of each applicant. To be considered for admission, it is imperative that the student's family actively commit to supporting the program and adhere to the admission requirements outlined in Appendix 1 (See appendices: CORE Pack Enrollment Agreement). Once all necessary documents have been received, parent and teacher interviews completed, and a shadow day has occurred, the CORE Pack Admissions Committee will meet to review the applicant, and determine his eligibility for the program. *The committee consists of the CORE Pack Director, Principal, Assistant Principal, CORE Pack faculty and the Student Services Coordinator.*

Program Standards

- The student/teacher ratio shall not exceed 6:1
- Student Mentors are used to support the needs of students in the classroom, but are not considered 1:1 paraprofessionals. *Mentors are not expected to assist students with toileting needs.*
- The CORE Pack program is committed to providing an educational experience that meets the individual's needs without impeding the needs of the other students in the program.
- While the CORE Pack program is not equipped to provide therapies such as ABA, Speech or OT, the CORE Pack and the Administrative teams may make allowances for the parents to provide those services in order to ensure a student's success.

Inquiry

To ensure the students admitted into the program are set up for success, the application process encompasses both the student and his family. Any questions about the program should be directed to the CORE Pack Director.

The Application Process consists of several parts. They include the following:

Online Application: submitted using the Admissions Portal.

Student Records: The family is required to submit the following documents:

- A. Previous school records including the most recent Individualized Education Plan, recent evaluations, behavior intervention plans, and teacher narratives.
- B. Current parish/county assessment (psychological, academic, speech, physical/occupational therapies, behavior and social history). *A waiver is not sufficient for evaluations over 3 years old.*
- C. A letter of reference from either a teacher or administrator at the student's current school.
- D. A current proof of residency (i.e. energy/gas bill, cable bill etc.)
- E. Upon a complete review of records provided, the CORE Pack Director along with the Administration may request further information and determine whether additional assessments are necessary. Arrangements and payment for any additional assessment are the responsibility of the applicant's family.

School Visitation: Prospective students will be scheduled to participate in a shadow day visit for the purpose of determining program eligibility. The student will be expected to follow the typical schedule of a CORE Pack student. A meeting with the parents will also be scheduled.

Admissions Assessment Form: to be completed by the CORE Pack faculty once the student has completed their on campus visit.

Observations: After the initial shadow day visit and parent interview are completed, there may be a need for more qualitative data to be gathered. If this is the case, the CORE Pack Director will set up a site observation at the student's current school. This will be discussed with the parents at the time of their meeting.

CORE Pack Enrollment Agreement: The parents of the student applicant must agree to the terms set forth in the enrollment agreement, and sign prior to enrollment. This agreement is filed with student records, and should be renewed annually. (See appendix 1)

Admissions and Retention Requirements and Considerations:

- I. The student must be at least 13 years of age and no older than 20 at the start of the school year. Preference will be given to younger students who will have time to grow in the program.
- II. A formal Saint Paul's application must be completed.
- III. The student must visibly demonstrate abilities that are consistent with the goals of the Saint Paul's School CORE Pack Program.
- IV. The exceptionality of the applicant should fall within the mild to moderate range.
- V. Considerations will be given to the following student characteristics and abilities:
 - A. The ability to actively and independently participate in a conversation with attention to answering questions and expressing ideas.
 - B. The ability to work in group settings with a minimum amount of distractions to others and disruption to the school environment.
 - C. The ability to independently perform all activities of daily living such as personal grooming and hygiene, *most importantly toileting*.
 - D. The ability to transition throughout the 40 acre school campus with peers and minimal adult support.
 - E. Demonstration of interest in the learning process, curiosity and motivation.
 - F. Demonstration of the desire to participate in social interactions with peers.
 - G. The ability to participate in all school activities, including school Masses.
- VI. Other Considerations:
 - A. Enrollment is contingent on the student's ability to successfully acclimate himself to Saint Paul's culture.
 - B. Upon enrollment, the student continues to demonstrate he will not take up a disproportionate percent of staff time.
 - C. The administration, faculty and student's family all believe the student will benefit in a meaningful way from participation in the program.

Student Acceptance

- I. Upon completion of the admissions requirements and submission of the applicant, the Saint Paul's School Admissions Committee considers the applicant.
- II. A recommendation for acceptance is dependent upon available openings and the above criteria. The recommendation is forwarded to the Saint Paul's School Admissions Office for review and final approval.
- III. Acceptance is probationary for the first year and reviewed annually.