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 2017-2018, we have students from China, Taiwan, Japan, and Korea. We have 10 international students, which make up about 10% of the total high school student body.

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 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR?

Tuition for the year: $15,000
Application fee: $100
New Student Enrollment deposit: $1,000
Optional homestay: $9,000
ESL: No additional cost (limited time offer)

HOW CAN I MAKE PAYMENTS TO THE SCHOOL?

You can pay by writing a check to The City School or by Flywire, an international payment platform which conveniently offers multiple payment options. Please follow the link at the bottom of our international webpage for more information about Flywire or go to www.cityschool.flywire.com to make a payment.

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?

Yes, we have leveled ESL classes for students who will benefit from the extra language support. ESL classes are being offered for no additional charge for the 2018-2019 school year.

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

No, it is not. However, it is strongly encouraged in order to give us a complete picture of your abilities. Generally, we look for a TOEFL score of 50 or higher. Please contact us for our minimum score standards for other English proficiency tests. If you are unable to provide scores at the time of application, you may be asked to take an English exam after acceptance for placement purposes.

WHAT ADDITIONAL HELP AND SERVICES DO YOU OFFER INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS?

International students have extra support and guidance from our International Student Coordinator on staff, as well as English Language training through our ESL program. 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 contact us for a full list of recent acceptances.

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

Purchase your flight ticket. Do some research about the city and get in touch with your host family. The International Coordinator will meet with you and your family the week before school starts for a New International Student Orientation. At the orientation, we will provide you with uniform requirements and school supply list. General orientation for all new students and Back-to-School Night for new parents take place in the last week of August.

DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION THAT IS NOT ANSWERED HERE? JUST CONTACT MS. YUN, INTERNATIONAL COORDINATOR, AT 215-731-1930 OR JYUN@CITYSCHOOL.ORG.