



This message is being sent to all SCS 7th and 8th grade families registered in Renweb.

Dear Parents: Applying for high school can be overwhelming for both students and parents. Outlined below are the steps for applying to Catholic High Schools.

In addition, the Diocese of Dallas Catholic Schools Office publishes a useful resource, the "[Catholic High School Admission Guide](#)." This guide includes important admission information and dates for our local Catholic High Schools. I encourage you to utilize it as you research the various schools. Please let me know if you have any questions. Y para los papás que se sienten más cómodos comunicando en español, hay que saber que entre Sra. Valdez, Srta. Nuñez y yo, estamos aquí para servirles. -Mrs. Hernandez

Applying to Catholic High Schools: A Step-by-Step Guide

First Step - Visit the High Schools

*This year, you will have two opportunities to attend the annual *Catholic High School Preview Night*. Attending this event is a great way to get information about multiple Catholic high schools at once. **SCS 8th Graders are required to attend the session at St. Elizabeth of Hungary.** The 2019 events will be held on:

-October 7, 6:00-7:30 PM @ St. Rita Catholic School, 12521 Inwood Road, Dallas

-October 21, 6:00-7:30 PM @ St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic School, 4019 South Hampton Road, Dallas

*8th grade students have already visited Bishop Dunne. The students will visit the following local Catholic high schools during the school day. Transportation and lunch are provided by the high schools. Permission slips will be sent home prior to each visit.

October 24 – Cristo Rey (note that this is the same day as the Open House at The Highlands. We request that the 8th Graders come to school that day to complete the Cristo Rey visit).

November 14 – Bishop Lynch High School

**Representatives from The Highlands are tentatively scheduled to come to SCS on 10/28*

*The high schools also host Open Houses in the fall (typically on Sundays), as well as other admissions events. Check the individual school websites for specific information (links below).

*While geographically some schools might make more sense to apply to than others, we'd like to share the links for all schools. Many of the schools offer transportation, so we want to make sure all schools are included:

[Bishop Lynch High School](#)

[Jesuit College Preparatory School](#)

[John Paul II High School](#)

[Ursuline Academy of Dallas](#)

[Bishop Dunne](#)

[Cistercian Preparatory School](#)

[Cristo Rey](#)

[The Highlands School](#)

Second Step - ISEE Entrance Exams

*Parents need to register their student for the ISEE exam: <http://erblearn.org/parents/admission/isee>. 8th graders will take the Upper Level test. It is recommended that you register for the exam in the fall, as space is limited at the testing sites.

*It is beneficial for students to take the exam in January of their 8th grade year so they can maximize their preparation.

*Bishop Dunne, Bishop Lynch, Jesuit, John Paul II and Ursuline will only accept ISEE scores from the winter or spring testing dates of a student's 8th grade year. **They will not consider scores prior to December of a student's 8th grade year for application to 9th grade.** Please note that if an 8th grade student has taken the ISEE already, or if a family cannot get refunded for a test for which they have already registered, these high schools will be happy to work with those families individually, however, for all others, they will adhere to the policy of accepting only one score taken between December and the school's published deadline.

*SCS middle school teachers will offer ISEE preparation during the second quarter for any 8th grader who is interested. Some ISEE prep is done during regularly scheduled classes. Parents should make arrangements by contacting Mrs. Valdez at evaldez@stcecilia1935.org.

*SCS will hold mock interview sessions to assist 8th graders with their interview skills.

Third Step - Transcript Requests, Recommendation Forms, and Application Packets

*We recommend applying to at least two high schools.

*Each high school has its own application packet and process. The Catholic Schools Office "[Catholic High School Admission Guide](#)" contains detailed information with regards to the application process, deadlines, fees, etc.

For Bishop Dunne, Bishop Lynch, Cistercian, The Highlands, Jesuit, John Paul II, and Ursuline:

In an effort to simplify the application process for families and feeder schools, these schools have partnered with an online admissions service, Ravenna Solutions. This system allows families to submit all admissions materials in one place at one time. For you, the time-consuming task of sending transcripts

and recommendations will be simplified significantly. Feeder schools can submit transcripts one time and the transcripts will be sent to all of the schools that an applicant has designated. There will be no need to send separate transcripts to each high school. If you would like to find out more information about Ravenna, you can visit their website at www.ravennasolutions.com.

For all other high schools:

- Submit transcript requests to Ms. Nuñez (cnunez@stcecilia1935.org) in the SCS office.
- Submit recommendation forms directly to the people filling them out.
- Information will be sent directly to the high schools. Postage envelopes are not needed.
- The deadline to submit forms/requests to SCS is Friday, December 6, 2019 to guarantee that paperwork will be submitted in time to meet the high school application deadlines.**

Fourth and Final Step - High School Decision Letters

- *The high schools typically email or mail their decision letters the Friday before Spring Break.
- *Please do not be upset if your child is not accepted to his/her first choice school. Trust that the students end up at the school where they will be most successful.

Prayer for the Future

*Loving God, each day as I step further into my future, give me the courage,
knowledge and patience that I need.*

*Remind me that you always journey with me and that you will never lead me into anything
that you won't lead me through.*

Thank you for the gift of my life. May the way I live be my gift back to you.

In Jesus' name, Amen.