

# Making Your Way in the Admission Process

## Important Dates in the Application Process:

### February 1

Cheshire Academy admission application deadline

### February 1

Cheshire Academy financial aid and scholarship applications deadline

### March 10

Notification of admission decisions and financial aid awards

### Early April

Revisit Days at Cheshire Academy for accepted students

### April 10

Students are asked to accept Cheshire Academy's offer of admission

# A Guide for Parents

In its 226-year history, Cheshire Academy has been known for its program of individualized attention for each student. Parents commend us for meeting students where they are in their academic and social development, and for serving the needs and aspirations of a range of learners. We do this exceptionally well.

As you consider what's next for your child, we sincerely hope you will give CA a close look knowing that we can make your experience during the admission process an easy one. Most students enter the Academy in their freshman or sophomore year; however, joining the school as a junior, senior, or postgraduate is also common, and for some, an opportunity to repeat a year. What all applicants share in common is a desire for top academics in a supportive and attentive high school environment.

Below are the steps to take in the quest for what's next: make a formal inquiry, schedule an interview, and apply. We are here to assist you throughout the process and we look forward to getting to know you and your child.

## 1) Inquire Online or by Phone

If you haven't already done so, please visit [CheshireAcademy.org/inquire](https://www.cheshireacademy.org/inquire) to complete our online inquiry form.

If you prefer, you can call our Admission Office at 203-439-7250 to express your interest in Cheshire Academy and receive more information.

## 2) Schedule an Online Interview

Please call our Admission Office at 203-439-7250 or send an email to [admission@cheshireacademy.org](mailto:admission@cheshireacademy.org) to schedule an online interview. We host candidates Monday through Friday.

During the online interview, an admission officer will speak one-on-one with the applicant for approximately 30 minutes. The talk is informal, and our goal is to get to know each student better and to answer any questions. After the interview, parents are welcome to join the discussion for interview feedback or to ask any questions about our programs or the admission process. The parent portion is optional, not required, and upon your request can also be scheduled at a separate date and time if that is more convenient for your family.

Once the online interview is complete, you are welcome to schedule an in-person campus tour. Tours are primarily conducted outdoors, as we need to limit the number of guests going into school buildings. **We look forward to welcoming you to our beautiful campus!**

## 3) Register for Standardized Testing (optional)

We believe that standardized test scores are only one component of a student's application and not a determining factor in predicting success at Cheshire Academy. We are aware that due to the pandemic, it has become increasingly challenging for students to register and sit for a standardized test. For the current admission cycle, Cheshire Academy will be test optional.

Students are welcome to submit standardized test scores, but this is not an application requirement, and those who choose not to do so will not be disadvantaged in the admission process. Should you choose to submit a standardized test, below are guidelines on suggested tests.

#### Students in the U.S

For 9th grade and 10th grade applicants, you may register to take the Secondary School Admission Test (SSAT) through the SSAT website or by phone (609-683-4440). Be sure to list Cheshire Academy as the school to which you are applying. We will also accept the ISEE for 9th grade and 10th-grade applicants in lieu of the SSAT. If you choose not to take the SSAT or ISEE, you may also submit results from State or County mandated testing from the past two years.

For 11th grade, 12th grade and PG applicants, you may submit results from the PSAT, SAT, ACT or State or County mandated testing from the past two years.

#### International Students

For applicants whose first language is not English, we **require a recent test of English aptitude**. The most common test our applicants take is the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) which can be done at a testing center or, temporarily for those in countries with public health concerns, via TOEFL's Special Home Edition test. Visit the ETS website or call 609-771-7100 for more information. Cheshire Academy's TOEFL code is 8672. Alternatively, we also accept a Duolingo Test, the IELTS, and Cambridge English Exam.

#### 4) Complete the Online Application

**Completed applications are due on February 1.** Cheshire Academy accepts SSAT's Standard Application Online (SAO), which can be found at [SSAT.org/sao](https://ssat.org/sao).

You may use the same login information created for testing (above) or set up a new one if not testing. You will be asked to provide:

- Applicant information
- Student essays

- A graded writing sample
- Parent questionnaire
- Transcripts for the current and the previous academic year (we request transcripts from all years of high school for those applying for 11th grade, 12th grade or a postgraduate year)
- Letter of recommendation from a current English teacher
- Letter of recommendation from a current math teacher
- Letter of recommendation from a current guidance counselor or principal
- Standardized Test results (SSAT, SAT, ACT, PSAT, TOEFL, etc.) as required or preferred (see Step 3)
- Application fee (\$60 domestic applications; \$150 international applications)

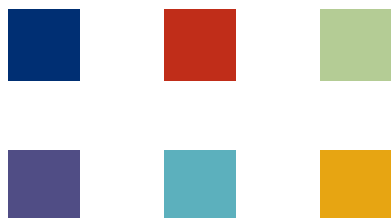
#### 5) Inquire About Financial Aid

The goal of our financial aid program is to provide access to those who qualify for need-based financial aid and may not be able to otherwise afford The Academy. This year, we awarded \$4.5 million in financial aid with an average award of approximately \$24,500.

Need-based financial aid is determined by School and Student Service for Financial Aid (SSS) and by Cheshire Academy's Financial Aid Committee. While we do have a generous financial aid budget, we cannot guarantee funding to everyone who qualifies. To be eligible for consideration in the first round of financial aid awards, you must complete your financial aid application by February 1.

To apply, create an online account through the SSS website at [SolutionsBySSS.com](https://solutionsbysss.com) and submit the Parent Financial Statement (PFS) online. Cheshire Academy's school code is 2362. If you have questions about submitting your PFS, call SSS Customer Service at 800-344-8328.

For more information, as well as forms and publications you can download, you will find links on the financial aid page of our website. You may also contact Rich Ferraro, Cheshire Academy's associate director of financial aid, at 203-439-7304.



**Grades 9-12 and Postgraduate  
Coed, Boarding and Day**

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