



## A Note from the Office of Admissions

The admissions process at Notre Dame is designed to build a diverse student body – from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 12 – that strives to fulfill all the major components of our mission as a Catholic, Marist, and International Baccalaureate college-preparatory school. Though Notre Dame serves a predominantly Roman Catholic population, applicants from other Christian denominations or non-Christian faiths are welcome.

Based on this approach, the Notre Dame Office of Admissions focuses on attracting students prepared to thrive in a rigorous academic program and interested in becoming a citizen of our learning community through their development in arts, athletics, leadership, and faith life. Notre Dame's model applicant challenges himself/herself to grow in all these areas.

Candidates for admission are evaluated based on four major criteria:

### 1. *Academic Progress*

- An applicant should carry a 'B' average and be rated favorably by his/her current teacher in terms of academic competency
- A transfer applicant to the Upper Division must have successfully completed the prerequisites to fulfill NDP graduation requirements

### 2. *Citizenship and Attendance*

- An applicant should be rated favorably by his/her current teacher(s) in terms of classroom behavior and participation, discipline record, leadership qualities and contribution to the school in the following ways:
  - Service / Leadership
  - Clubs / Activities
  - Arts
  - Athletics
- An applicant should have minimal tardies and/or absences on his/her record

### 3. *Standardized Testing*

- An applicant to Grade 9 must take the High School Placement Test, preferably in the fall of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade year
- A transfer applicant to the Upper Division will be evaluated based on results from testing conducted at his/her previous school(s)
- An applicant to grades 6, 7 or 8 must take the Iowa Test of Basic Skills, either at Notre Dame or at his/her school if it is offered, preferably in the fall of the 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> grade year
- An applicant to the Lower Division must be assessed for reading and mathematics by designated school administrators

### 4. *Fit/Mission*

- An applicant – and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) – must demonstrate clearly his/her ability to exemplify the school's mission, and also potential to grow and thrive through 12<sup>th</sup> grade at Notre Dame throughout each step of the admissions process:
  - Online application, including essays for applicants to grades 6 through 12
  - Interview
  - Shadow day (required for applicants to the Lower Division)

Notre Dame grants preference for admission to siblings of current students, children of alumni, and students from the Catholic schools and parishes in the Pontiac Area Vicariate.

Final admission decisions are made by the division Principals. For more information, please reference our Parent Handbook – <http://www.ndpma.org/handbook>