

Hamilton Christian School FAQs

Must a student be Christian to attend Hamilton?

Christ-centered – HCS is unapologetically Christian. At HCS, truth revealed in the Scriptures is integrated into every subject. Our goal is to produce graduates with Christ-like character who can analyze, understand, evaluate, and influence the world around them based upon the eternal truths of God’s Word.

Non-Christians may enroll at HCS with the understanding that no one is exempt from regularly scheduled school activities including Bible classes and chapel services. HCS is a non-denominational, independent school; and an effort will be made to teach non-sectarian doctrine such as that reflected in the Statement of Faith below. Middle and high school Bible classes may discuss sectarian issues in a non-threatening, respectful manner.

What is the average class size at Hamilton Christian?

Average teacher to student ratio is 1 to 8 overall. Our goal is to keep class sizes small with no more than twenty elementary students per classroom.

Do your teachers possess valid Louisiana teaching credentials?

All of our teachers have state-mandated credentials for what they are teaching. We are the only accredited Pre-K3 through 12th grade school in Lake Charles. Our teachers also seek continuing education through professional development opportunities.

Does Hamilton administer standardized tests?

We use the Stanford Standardized test. Our students consistently score above average. In 2016/2017 two age groups scored nearly two grade levels above the average for that test. Grades 1-10 are given the Stanford Achievement Test each spring. Eleventh grade takes a pre-ACT exam. Seniors are encouraged to take the ACT test as many times as possible.

Does Hamilton use Common Core standards?

HCS has not adopted Common Core standards. The curriculum can best be described as a “classical education.” Attention is given to components of standardized testing which require concerted preparation.

Does Hamilton follow a curriculum required by the state?

The Curriculum Committee chooses textbooks for a variety of publishers including Abeka Books, Bob Jones University Press, and McGraw/Hill. An effort is made to ensure that the Christian worldview is reflected, especially in areas such as history and science. Other courses, such as mathematics and Spanish, use state textbooks that better prepare students for standardized testing. Hamilton does not teach Common Core.

What is Hamilton Christian School's tuition?

Tuition varies as students advance through their schooling.

Tuition for Pre-K3, Pre-K4 and Kindergarten is \$4,400 per student annually.

Tuition for 1st through 5th grade is \$4,580 per student annually.

Tuition for 6th through 8th grade is \$5,110 per student annually.

Tuition for 9th through 12th grade is \$5,862 per student annually.

What fees are charged in addition to tuition?

Online registration and online enrollment fees are taken by the FACTS corporation. Students re-enrolling each year are exempt from the online application process as well as the online fee. The online enrollment/reenrollment fee is taken annually.

A capital improvement fee of \$550 is assessed annually per family as well as a \$400 per student book and supply fee. Each student in grades 6 through 12 are assessed an annual technology fee of \$150 annually.

The registration fee is \$100 for student entering Pre-K3, Pre-K4 and Kindergarten. Students entering the 1st through 12th grade changes. By July 2019, registration will stand at \$400 per family.

Middle school student athletes are assessed \$275. High school student athletes are assessed \$300 regardless of how many sports are played. Students participating in only cheer are assessed a \$170 fee.

Are there tuition discounts of any kind?

Yes, there is a 5% discount on tuition if full payment is made by the end of May. Also, second and third children receive a \$200 discount in tuition. Lastly, the maximum family liability for tuition is three (3) students. Children must live in the same household and/or be claimed on the same tax return.

Does Hamilton offer tuition assistance?

Hamilton Christian offers two academic scholarships per year. One middle and one high school student is eligible for a scholarship for tuition based upon academic excellence. To qualify, a middle school student must score at least a 24 on the ACT, and a high school student must score at least a 28. The scholarship is for tuition only, not fees. A limited number of need-based scholarships are available in Louisiana through the ACE scholarship program. See www.acescholarships.org, click on "Become a Scholar" and then click on the state of Louisiana in the U.S. map for information.

Do Hamilton Christian students wear uniforms?

Yes, uniforms are to be purchased from Dennis Uniforms at www.dennisuniforms.com or call (800-854-6951). More information concerning P.E. uniforms, outerwear, and free-dress days can be found in the Handbook.

What is Hamilton's policy on immunizations?

Registration cannot proceed without complete records. Parents choosing not to immunize their children for religious, philosophical, or medical reasons must submit a form documenting their non-participation with the understanding that in the event of an outbreak, their children would not be allowed attendance at school.

Does Hamilton offer additional academic programs such as English as a Second Language or those specifically designed for students with learning differences?

Hamilton does not offer ESL. Students whose first language is not English must demonstrate complete proficiency in English in order to be admitted. Hamilton does not have programs specifically designed to serve the needs of all students with learning differences. All IEP's must be submitted during the admission process so that it can be determined whether or not Hamilton will be a good fit for your student.

What is Hamilton's Special Education policy?

The school is not able to offer special education due to limited resources and the high cost of a lower teacher/pupil ratio needed for students with special needs. Any IEP will be considered, and parents will be informed as to the items the school can and cannot meet.

What is the birthday cut-off for students?

Students entering Pre-K3 must be 3 years old on or before September 30. Students entering Pre-K4 must be 4 years old on or before September 30. Those entering kindergarten must be 5 years old on or before September 30. Those students entering first grade must be 6 years old on or before September 30. Hamilton is academically rigorous. We want our students to succeed at Hamilton to flourish, growing in wisdom, stature, and favor with God and others.

What time is morning drop-off?

Children can be dropped off starting at 7:30 am each school day. The tardy bell rings at 7:55 am.

What are Hamilton's school hours?

Classes meet from 7:55 am – 3:05 pm. Students must arrive after 7:30 am., because teachers are not on duty until that time. The first bell rings at 7:50 am, and the tardy bell rings at 7:55 am. Pre-K begins pick-up at 2:50 pm. Any student not picked up by 3:30 pm will go to after-care.

Does Hamilton offer after-care?

After school care is available at the rate of \$7 per day. Payment is automatically processed monthly through your FACTS account. There is no need to reserve a space for your child for after-care ahead of time. This care is available for all grades. After school care hours are from 3:30 pm until 6:00 pm.

Does Hamilton have an in-house lunch service?

Hamilton offers hot lunches every day. Students have the option of bringing lunch from home or pre-purchasing lunch in the cafeteria. Menu selections must be made in advance using forms from the cafeteria. Cost is \$3.50 (subject to change) per meal and includes choice of milk, orange juice, or water. Parents may eat for \$3.50 (subject to change) if notice is given on the menu selection sheet. Grades Pre-K3 – 3rd are not allowed to bring any cold drinks (Coke, Dr. Pepper, Sprite, etc.). Lunch must be eaten in the cafeteria unless an alternate location is approved and supervised by an attending staff member.