## **ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

# **Admission Criteria for Catholic Schools**

Each school will have a written policy on student admission and requirements. Screening may be required for placement and/or acceptance.

Every Catholic child is given preference for a Catholic school education, presuming there is space available and that he/she can profit from the school program offered. Appropriate inclusion recognizes and affirms the unique learning styles of students with varying exceptionalities. We recognize the responsibility to provide a learning environment that fosters growth and considers the individual needs of the child. To the extent possible, the Catholic schools will serve children with special needs in general education classes.

Neither race, gender, nor national origin is to prevent a student from being accepted in the school. Non-Catholics are to be accepted on a space-available basis.

The administration has responsibility for admission of new students.

The criteria used to select new students in the elementary school (PK-8) is as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Siblings of presently enrolled students
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Parish members where the school is located
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Parishioners of regional parishes
- 4<sup>th</sup> Other Catholics
- 5<sup>th</sup> Non- Catholics

Admission of preschool/pre-kindergarten students into the PK-8 school program is at the discretion of the principal.

#### **Parishioner**

To qualify as a parishioner, at least one parent/guardian and their child must be:

- 1. registered in the parish,
- 2. baptized in the Catholic faith,
- 3. attend Mass regularly, and
- 4. support the parish in the best way they can, whether monetarily or in service.

#### **Proof of Legal Name, Age, and Custody**

Before any child is admitted to a school, the child's parent(s)/guardian(s) shall present the child's birth certificate to school authorities in order to verify the child's legal name and age. At least one parent/guardian of the child must sign the child's application for admission to the school. In case of divorce, records including a certified copy of the Decree of Divorce must be on file stating who has custody and when. In cases where the child's name differs from the birth certificate, additional and supporting legal documents will be required.

# **Name of Student**

Upon admission to a school, a student shall be registered under the name that appears on the student's birth certificate. This must appear on the attendance register, permanent record file, and report card. The student may use a "preferred" name on papers, reports, etc.

Administrative Handbook, Diocese of Salt Lake City Revised: December 2003 /Effective Date: January 2, 2004 Reviewed/revised 2011

# **Immunization for First Admission/Health Assessment Requirements**

Students enrolled in Utah Catholic schools must be properly immunized, unless the parent/guardian have obtained a medical exemption. The medical exemption form may be obtained from the student's physician. Utah Catholic Schools maintains the policy that students who have not been properly immunized or properly medically exempted from requirements of immunization are to be excluded from school until requirements are met. Utah Catholic Schools do not accept personal or religious exemptions.

It is the responsibility of the principal to require proper verification of immunization of all students. Schools shall use the official Utah School Immunization Record (USIR) form as the record of each student's immunizations. The Utah Department of Health shall provide copies of the USIR to schools upon request. Annual immunization statistical reports must be submitted to the Utah Department of Health.

Any student enrolling in Catholic schools within the Diocese of Salt Lake City are required to submit a Certificate of Immunization along with their application as a condition precedent to enrollment. If there is an outbreak of a contagious disease, students not immunized due to a medical exemption, may be required to stay home for a designated period of time. The duration of this time would be determined by the school after consultation with the Utah Department of Health.

It is required that kindergarten students have a health evaluation prior to entering school. It is recommended that students in grades 3, 7, and 10 have a health evaluation done.

## Age of Admission for Kindergarten and First Grade

A student entering kindergarten must be five years of age on or before September 1<sup>st</sup> of that year. A student entering first grade should be six years of age on or before September 1<sup>st</sup> of that year. An exception may be made if a student transfers from another state with a different age requirement.

## **Exclusion**

The principal is authorized to exclude from admission to kindergarten or first grade those pupils who, on the basis of objective testing conducted by the school, are unprepared for regular classroom work on that level.